

State of New Hampshire
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION
DIVISION OF LICENSING AND BOARD ADMINISTRATION

Board of

7 Eagle Square, Concord, NH 03301-4980

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2022

The regularly scheduled meeting of the New Hampshire Board of Optometry was at 7 Eagle Square in Concord on January 11, 2022. Unless otherwise indicated, the members present were:

Dr. Guy R. Lessard, O.D., President
Dr. Andrea L. Murphy, O.D.
Dr. Scott Krauchunas, O.D.
Dr. Alan Goode, Public Member

Absent members:

Christine Donahue, O.D. (OPLC administrative staff has contacted Dr. Donahue via email to complete orientation and required documents; no response has been received)

Others present:

Jenna Wilson, Board Administrator
Jessica Whelehan, Board Administrator
Victoria Davies, Fraud Investigator (former Board Administrator)

PUBLIC SESSION:

Dr. Lessard called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM.

1. REGULAR BUSINESS:

a. Approval of Public Minutes from the November 16, 2021 Board meeting:

Dr. Murphy moved to approve the 11/16/2021 Public meeting minutes at written; motion seconded by Dr. Krauchunas. 3 Members in favor, Mr. Goode abstained; motion passed.

2. INTERVIEWS/HEARINGS WITH THE BOARD: NONE

3. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Expiration of Standing Order Part 402 - Continuing Education: Dr. Krauchunas moved to issue a Standing Order to allow licensees to submit up to 100% of Continuing Education for the current renewal period ending 6/30/2022; Dr. Lessard seconded it. 4 members in favor, motion passed.

The Board noted that virtual continuing education will need to be extended beyond the current renewal period due to the COVID-19 health pandemic. Dr. Lessard moved to issue a Standing Order authorizing licensees to: 1.) Obtain Continuing Education credit hours through virtual or alternative means in 2022 to be reported in accordance with Opt 402.03; 2.) report and apply those credit hours in 2023; and, 3.) submit and apply those credits earned for their 2024 renewal requirements.

- b. Chris Fields, O.D.: Petition for Waiver related to continuing education requirements:** Dr. Krauchunas moved to accept the Petition for Wavier and allow licensee to apply 13 credit hours of Continuing Education earned in 2021 to fulfill 2020 requirements. Licensee must resubmit all other listed hours in accordance with Opt 402.03. Motion was seconded by Dr. Murphy; 4 members voted to grant the waiver, motion passed.

4. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

5. APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:

- a. Sayyeda Mavani, O.D.- Initial License Application: Dr. Murphy moved to grant a license on the initial application to Dr. Mavani. Motion was seconded by Dr. Krauchunas; 4 members voted in favor, motion passed.
- b. Darshita Patel, O.D.- Initial License Application Dr. Murphy moved to grant a license on the initial application for Dr. Patel, O.D. Motion was seconded by Dr. Krauchunas, 4 members voted in favor, motion passed.
- c. Alexander Van Dyck, O.D - Initial License Application: Dr. Krauchunas moved to conditionally approve Dr. Van Dyck's Initial Application for Licensure, pending passing of the New Hampshire Jurisprudence Exam. Dr. Lessard seconded; 4 members in favor, motion passed.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

Upon motion of Dr. Krauchunas and Dr. Murphy seconded, the Board voted to enter into non-public session at 9:10AM for the purpose of discussing investigations of alleged licensee misconduct and as authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c), RSA 91-A:3, II (e), and Lodge v. Knowlton, 119 N.H. 574 (1978). Roll call vote: Dr. Lessard – Yes; Dr. Murphy – Yes; Dr. Krauchunas –Yes; and Mr. Goode – Yes.

RESUME PUBLIC SESSION:

At 9:55AM the Board returned to public session. Dr. Lessard moved to seal the non-public minutes, and Dr. Krauchunas seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously seal the minutes of the non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3. Roll call vote: Dr. Lessard –Yes; Dr. Murphy – Yes; Dr. Krauchunas –Yes; and Mr. Goode – Yes.

6. **2022 MEETING SCHEDULE:** The Board discussed the posted 2022 meeting schedule and identified rule Opt 105.01 which provides that the Board shall meet at least 6 times per year. The Board noted that many new optometrists graduate in the month of May so there will be more applications to review from May to October. Therefore, the Board discusses changes and additions to the meeting schedule. Upon motion of Dr. Lessard and second by Dr. Krauchunas, the board voted to amend the 2022 meeting schedule to the following: January 11, March 8, May 24, June 28, August 23, October 4, and December 13, 2022. 3 members voted yes, 1member abstained; motion passed.
7. **ADJOURNMENT:** Upon motion by Dr. Lessard, seconded by Dr. Murphy, the Board voted to end the public meeting. Dr. Lessard adjourned the meeting at 10:00AM