

# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY EXAMINERS

JULY 12, 2019

OFFICE OF GRAVES THEUS- ALEXANDRIA, LA.

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 AM by President Avallone.

The roll was called and a quorum was present. Present were members Avallone, Anastasio, Wroten, Roy, and Sandefur. Also present was Graves Theus. Absent was member Dale Benoit.

Upon motion by Dr. Wroten/Anastasio the minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as presented by unanimous vote.

Stanton Optical's refusal to produce patient records was discussed, & upon motion by Drs. Sandefur/Roy the Board will have Mr. Theus make one further request for the documents, and if Stanton continues to refuse, the Board will levy a fine of \$5000.00 for each prescription that Stanton has testified that Dr. Smith signed, and that Dr. Smith has testified that he did not sign. Passed unanimously.

Employment contracts with Krewe Optical were discussed in light of information provided by Mr. Gravel's firm. After dialogue, a motion was made by Drs. Sandefur/Anastasio to request that Dr. Ta at Krewe Optical produce any and all records regarding her employment status with Krewe Optical. Passed unanimously.

MyEyeDr was discussed. After reviewing the employment contracts of the Doctors of Optometry associated with MyEyeDr, the Board decided that no further action was warranted, as there was no violation found.

Telemedicine was discussed in light of the Legislature's directive to professional boards to promulgate rules regarding its practice in Louisiana. Drs. Avallone & Sandefur will begin a draft of the rule needed to satisfy this law.

Filing of Budget & Accompanying materials on Legislative Auditor's website by CPA - a discussion was held regarding Eric Vicknair's e-mail as to what documents he is filing. The Board asked Mr. Theus to investigate the Legislative Auditor's

website to determine the filing requirements for state boards. The Board also directed Dr. Sandefur to ask the following of Mr. Vicknair:

- a-) Provide copies of all filings for the year 2018
- b-) Provide a list of all documents that are **required to be filed**
- c-) Ask if Mr. Vicknair files for any other state boards?
- d-) Ask if Mr. Vicknair is familiar with the document: "Report on Agreed upon Procedures"
- e-) Inform Mr. Vicknair of the fact that other boards are filing regularly on the Legislative Auditor website.

The Licensing Examination was discussed. Relative weights assigned to each section/test were agreed upon. There was also discussion of offering a second exam; possibly developing an alternative pathway to licensure aside from taking the Board's clinical exam; and given recent Rule revisions, the critical necessity to further revise Rules and policies so that only those who have met the requirements for licensure are allowed to take the Board exam.

Election of Officers was held, and Dr. Mark Roy was elected President and Dr. James Sandefur was elected Secretary, both by unanimous vote.

Jennifer Floyd, O.D. inquired regarding eyelash application. The Board instructed Dr. Sandefur to send a letter to Dr. Floyd informing her that if the application is for a medical reason, it is within the scope of practice of Optometry.

Licensure by **Endorsement** was discussed, and several changes to a draft policy were suggested. Mr. Theus will make the requested changes and forward the policy to the Board for review/approval.

New Business. Dr. Avallone suggested that the Board office keep a log of phone calls, license verifications, license applications, complaints, etc. and that this be **included in the minutes in the future**. The Board **also requested** that a "Financial Report" be included in the agenda and minutes of **meetings in the future**.

There being no further **business** the **meeting** was adjourned at 11:40 AM.