

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners  
(July 12, 2022)**

The following are the minutes of the meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners (“LSBOE”) held on July 12, 2022, commencing at 9:30 a.m. The Annual Meeting had originally been scheduled and conducted on June 24, 2022, but following the conclusion of the meeting, during the board meeting which was conducted following the Annual Meeting it was learned that the agenda for the meeting had not been posted 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Upon the recommendation of A.J. Herbert, counsel for the Board, the actions taken at the Annual Meeting were considered voidable and the meeting was rescheduled to July 12, 2022, following proper notice and posting as required by the Open Meetings Law.

Board members in attendance were:

Jeff Anastasio, O.D.  
Chris Wroten, O.D.  
Jerry Gerdes, O.D.  
David Heitmeier, O.D.  
Dale Benoit

Others in attendance were:

Gary Avallone, O.D. (by videoconference; not counted as present or towards the quorum)  
A.J. Herbert, Counsel for the LSBOE  
Nicole Simmons, Legal Assistant to A.J. Herbert, for the purpose of taking the minutes  
Those members of the public listed on the guest sign-in register

A quorum being present, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.

Dr. Anastasio moved the Board to ratify all actions taken at the June 24, 2022, Annual Meeting, since those actions were taken without the notice required by the Open Meetings Law and were thus otherwise voidable. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wroten and passed unanimously by those members of the LSBOE present at the meeting.

Dr. Anastasio asked if any member of the public wished to address the Board. In response, Camille Buras, O.D. noted that previously, the Annual Meeting of the LSBOE were conducted in conjunction with a meeting of the Optometry Association of Louisiana (“OAL”), and that this allowed greater awareness by the optometrists in the state of the activities of the LSBOE. Dr. Buras indicated that if the LSBOE could not conduct its Annual Meeting concurrently at the same location as the OAL meeting, perhaps it could be done nearby so that more optometrists could conveniently attend. Dr. Anastasio thanked Dr. Buras for his input.

Dr. Anastasio asked if there was any further comment from the public. Rob Janot, representing the OAL, asked the Board to promote greater awareness of the meetings of the LSBOE. Dr.

Anastasio thanked him for the comment and noted that the board was considering several ways of making the optometrists in the state aware of the role of the LSBOE.

Dr. Janot also suggested that the LSBOE should consider a full-time Executive Director rather than a part-time Secretary/Treasurer.

There being no further actions to be taken, the Annual Meeting of the LSBOE was concluded.

ATTEST:

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Gary Avallone, O.D.  
Secretary/Treasurer