



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
*Olympia, Washington 98504*

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OPTOMETRY  
Minutes of Meeting

A meeting of the Washington State Board of Optometry was called to order at 9:20 a.m. on Monday, September 30, 2013, by Karen Preston O.D., Chair. The meeting was held in Conference Room 307 at the Department of Health, Center Point Corporate Park, 20425 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South, Kent, Washington.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Karen Preston, O.D., Chair  
Michael Noble, O.D.  
Robert Gander, O.D.  
Michael Van Brocklin, O.D.  
Judy Chan, O.D.  
Roy Brock, Public Member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Linh Tran, AAG  
Judy Haenke, Program Manager  
Erlaine Diaz, Program Support  
Josh Shipe, Customer Service Center Manager

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Brad Tower, Tower and Associates  
Ken White, O.D.  
Donald Shute, O.D.  
Denis Holmes, O.D.  
Linda Medeski, O.D.

OPEN SESSION:

**9:00 a.m. Call to Order**

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Disciplinary case review was moved to 11:00 a.m. Additional correspondence items were added under: 10.4, 10.5, and 10.6. The Agenda was approved as amended.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

2.1 April 5, 2013 meeting minutes.

The minutes were approved as written.

2.2 June 3, 2013 meeting minutes.

Meeting minutes were approved with an editorial correction in Item 5, and Item 16 was amended to read: "The board voted to remove the photo on applications". The June 3, 2013 minutes were approved as amended.

2.3 July 24, 2013 meeting minutes

The minutes were approved as written.

2.4 August 28, 2013 meeting minutes

The minutes were approved as written.

2.5 August 29, 2013 meeting minutes

Judy Chan, OD did not attend this meeting. Meeting minutes were approved as amended.

**3. Karen Preston, O.D., Chair**

Dr. Preston informed the board that Washington did not have representation at Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO). She provided information about Optometric Education (OE) Tracker which will help monitor continuing education in Washington state. ARBO offered to send someone to provide information, including pros/cons, when utilizing the OE tracker. The board voted to have this presentation at the next meeting.

Dr. Preston announced reappointments for Dr. Chan and Dr. Noble and newly appointed Chris Barry, OD.

**4. Kirby Putscher, Acting Executive Director**

Not present.

**5. Linh Tran, AAG**

Ms. Tran will provide information to the board regarding how the Medical Assistant Health Care Practitioner Attestation Form should be completed at the next meeting.

**6. Judy Haenke, Program Manager**

Ms. Haenke presented the dashboard to the board. Ms. Haenke informed the board about the Board and Commission Leadership Training on October 21, 2013 at the Department of Health office in Tumwater. Dr. Preston will be attending.

**7. Vision Therapy and Neuro-Visual Processing Rehabilitation**

The Board reviewed and discussed Dr. VanBrocklin's amendment on the proposed policy statement. The following changes have been made to the statement:

- The first sentence in the first paragraph was amended to read: "*Vision therapy which includes neuro-visual processing rehabilitation service is within the scope of practice of optometry in the State of Washington.*"
- Include RCW 18.53.010 to the first sentence in the second paragraph.
- The last sentence of the second paragraph was amended to read: "*The scope of optometric practice is not in any way governed or constrained by the*

*category or classification boundaries such systems, nor by their applicability to or use by any other category of health care provider.”*

The revised proposed policy reads:

Vision therapy, which includes neuro-visual processing rehabilitation services, is within the scope of practice of optometry in the State of Washington. Such services include but are not necessarily limited to (a) therapeutic procedures to develop strength and endurance, range of motion and flexibility, or to achieve neuromuscular reeducation of movement, balance coordination, kinesthetic sense, posture, or proprioception for sitting and/or standing activities, (b) development of cognitive skills to improve attention, memory, and problem solving and promote adaptive responses to environmental demands, (c) sensory integrative techniques to enhance sensory processing and promote adaptive responses to environmental demands, (d) developmental screening and testing, and (e) neurobehavioral status examinations.

The scope of optometric practice in Washington is defined by the legislature under RCW 18.53.010 to specifically include the provision of vision therapy. Vision therapy, which includes neuro-visual processing rehabilitation services, is not determined or limited by private or public third-party coding systems or sets, such as Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS), or any other system of organizing medical diagnostic and/or treatment services. The scope of optometric practice is not any way governed or constrained by the category or classification boundaries of such systems nor by their applicability to or use by any other category of health care provider.

Ms. Tran informed the board the policy statement is advisory. The board voted and approved the revised policy statement. Ms. Haenke will send the proposed policy forward for review in preparation for filing with the code reviser and look into posting a draft of the policy statement on the Optometry webpage.

## **8. Continuing Education - Action**

### **8.1 Review of Continuing Education Rules**

The Board discussed two strategies involving their continuing education laws. The Board voted to wait to make a decision until COPE presents other strategies to the Board. Until then, the board voted Dr. Noble and Dr. Van Brocklin to be the ad hoc committee for development of proposed continuing education rules.

### **8.2 Grand Rounds**

The board reviewed and discussed a Grand Round monitoring form example. Ms. Haenke will prepare a proposed form for the Board's consideration.

## **9. March 22-23, 2014, Post Graduate Seminar - Action**

9.1 The board discussed potential speakers and topics for the March 22-23, 2014 seminar. Dr. Noble will begin contacting potential speakers for the 2014 event.

**10. Correspondence: Action.**

10.1 Request for Lists/Labels: Optometric Physicians of Washington  
The Board approved this request for a period of five years.

10.2 Request for Lists/Labels: Eyemart Express  
The request was not approved.

10.3 Request for List/Labels: Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry  
The Board approved this request.

10.4 Biotissue is requesting confirmation that CPT Code 65778 is within the Scope of Practice of Optometrists  
The board discussed and determined that amniotic membrane tissue therapy is within the scope of practice of optometrists. Dr. Preston will provide the letter of response.

10.5 Out of state OD's presenting the topic and conducting "Wet Lab".  
Following discussion the Board determined that for the actual demonstration in a "wet lab" utilizing a patient, the procedure would need to be performed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist licensed in the State of Washington.

10.6 Question regarding Optometrists supervising work of an Orthoptists.  
Optometrists can supervise orthoptists as long as it fits the policies within the orthoptist association. Ms. Haenke will provide the draft letter to Dr. Preston for final approval.

**11. The Board accepted comments from the audience on issues of significance to the profession**

Brad Towers briefly informed the board regarding legislation involving insurance. This will not affect licensees.

**12. Continuing Education**

12.1 The Board approved the following continuing education

- Restore Vision Center: Current Concepts in LASIK and PRK Management (3 hours)
- Northwest Eye Surgeons: ORA Improving Refractive Outcomes After Cataract Surgery (1 hour)
- Spokane Eye Clinic: 2013 Eyecare Update for Optometric Physicians (4 hours).

12.2 The reviewers for continuing education for the next CE meeting dates are Dr. Chan, Dr. Noble, and Dr. VanBrocklin.

**13. Review of Draft Standard Bylaws.**

The Board voted to accept the bylaws as written.

**14. 2011-1013 UDA Report – Supplemental Information**

Ms. Haenke provided the board with the UDA report.

**15. Suicide Assessment, Treatment & Management Training Study**

The Board reviewed the summary for information. The board discussed a possible presentation at Kane Hall.

**16. Set Meeting and Hearing Dates for 2014.**

Regular board meetings will be held on March 21, June 2, September 29 and December 1, 2014.

**The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.**