



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 9:10 a.m. on Monday, June 10, 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.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Roy Brock, Public Member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jason Howell, Assistant Attorney General  
Lisa Hodgson, Executive Director  
Judy Haenke, Program Manager  
Erlaine Diaz, Program Support

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

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

OPEN SESSION:

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

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Additional correspondence items were added under: 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, and 11.4.  
The Agenda was approved as amended.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

### **2.1 March 22, 2013 meeting minutes.**

The minutes were approved as written with one correction of the name of the Chair.

### **2.2 May 15, 2013 meeting minutes.**

The minutes were approved as written.

### **2.3 June 5, 2013 meeting minutes**

Karen Preston, O.D. requested that the minutes of the June 5, 2013, meeting be available for approval at the September 30, 2013, meeting.

## **REPORTS:**

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

Dr. Preston presented a plaque to Dr. Gander in appreciation for his service as a member of the Board for the past six years. Dr. Preston announced that she will be attending the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry meeting later this month as the Board's representative.

### **4. Lisa Hodgson, Executive Manager**

Ms. Hodgson gave a brief biography on the new secretary of the Department of Health, John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH. She also provided an overview of the Citizen Advocacy Center (CAC) meeting scheduled for October 29-30, 2013. The purpose of the Citizen Advocacy meeting is to educate and train board members. All board members are encouraged to attend. Ms. Hodgson presented the budget and performance measures to the board

### **5. Jason Howell, AAG**

Mr. Howell discussed the dispensing optician unlicensed exemption in RCW 18.34.010 and its effect on regulating medical assistants. Mr. Howell was asked to clarify when employees have to be registered as a medical assistant to work in an optometry office. Mr. Howell and Ms. Haenke will work on the response to the questions and will post answers on the Department of Health website Frequently Asked Questions.

### **6. Judy Haenke, Program Manager**

Ms. Haenke reported on the current applications for the upcoming vacant board position. Interviews will be scheduled with those who have applied. Dr. Gander volunteered to participate on the interview panel.

## **9:30 A.M. PRESENTATION:**

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

The Optometric Physicians of Washington (OPW) presented its policy on Vision Therapy and Neuro-Visual Processing Rehabilitation. OPW requested that the board adopt or write a policy statement that states vision therapy and neuro visual processing rehabilitation services are within the scope of practice of optometry in Washington State and can properly be performed and bill by optometric physicians. Following discussion the Board agreed that a meeting would be held on July 10, 2013 by conference call to further discuss the proposal.

**10:00 A.M.            DISCUSSION**

**8.        Legislative Update**

Ms. Haenke updated the board with the following House Bills:

**HB 1609:** Renaming the Board of Pharmacy to the Pharmacy Quality and Commission. . References to the Board of Pharmacy in the Optometry Act are being changed to reflect the renaming to the “Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission.” There is also a reference to the board of pharmacy in the optometry rule: 246-851-610 which will need to be changed. The Board authorized staff to begin the process to file a CR 105 to correct the reference through the expedited rule making process.

**HB 1518:** This bill provides certain disciplining authorities with additional budget development, spending, and staffing authority.

**9.        Medical Assistants.**

The board discussed implementation of the new rules relating to medical assistants. The Board questioned how the Medical Assistant Health Care Practitioner Attestation form should be completed. Specifically, the Board asked what information should be on the initial form for an assistant who was newly employed and would revised forms be required as the medical assistant is competent and trained in each procedure delegated? Jason Howell, AAG, will research this question.

**10.      March 23-24, 2013, Post Graduate Seminar.**

10.1 Speaker Evaluations

The Board reviewed evaluations from those who attended the seminar.

10.2 Seminar Expenses

In the future, updated expense reports will be available for the Board’s consideration.

10.3 Selection of 2014 Seminar Chairperson

Michael Noble, O.D. was appointed as chair for the 2014 seminar.

**11.      Correspondence: Information/Action.**

The Board of Optometry considered an inquiry whether military optometrists who are not licensed in Washington State could volunteer at a homeless clinic by an existing exemption or possibly through the “good Samaritan” clause.

Following discussion, the Board did not find any legal exemption in the law relating to optometry that would authorize an unlicensed optometrist to practice optometry in Washington without a license. The Board is not able to make any determination regarding the “Good Samaritan” clause since it is outside the Board’s jurisdiction.

**11:50 a.m. Open Forum**

**12. The Board will accept comments from the audience on issues of significance to the profession**

**12:45 Discussion**

**13. Continuing Education**

13.1 Russo CME Conferences

Following discussion, the Board determined that it would individually review requests from optometrists who attend Russo CME conferences for CE approval.

13.2 Adding The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology to the list of courses that are presumed to qualify for credit: WAC 246-851-110

The board deferred the discussion to the meeting on September 30, 2013, when it would review continuing education rules to determine if the rules should be updated or revised.

13.3 Procedure for review of courses related to grand rounds or clinical observation.

This discussion was deferred to the September 30, 2013, meeting.

13.4. Approval of Continuing Education Audits

The board delegated Judy Haenke to review CE audits. Audits that do not comply with the requirements will be brought to the Board for further review.

13.5 Continuing education reviewers and dates for next quarter.

Dr. Michael Noble, Dr. Michael VanBrocklin and Dr. Robert Gander will act as reviewers for the next quarter. Meetings will be held on July 24, 2013 and August 28, 2013

**14. Signature Delegation.**

The board reviewed Signature Delegation. Staff explained that the board's decision-making and authority was not affected by signing the Signature Delegation form and that the purpose in approving the form is to give DOH staff the authority to carry out the administrative functions of the board's decisions. Following discussion the board approved the Delegation of Signature Authority form as it was presented. Karen Preston, OD, Chair, will sign the form.

**15. Review of Draft Standard Bylaws.**

Ms. Hodgson presented the draft standard bylaws to the board for review. The Governor's office recommends the boards have bylaws on how a board conducts business at meetings. She informed the board of an incorrect RCW referenced in the draft which will be corrected. The board voted to table the draft bylaws until next meeting for further review and approval.

**16. Photograph requirement on Licensure Applications.**

The board voted to remove the photo on applications.

**17. Efficiency Debriefing**

**Adjournment**

Karen Preston, O.D., Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:25 PM.