



## **Board of Optometry Regular Meeting Minutes**

**June 24, 2022**

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**Board members present:** Glen Owen, OD, Chair  
Bill Prothero, OD, Vice-chair  
Bob Davis, OD, MBA  
Palwinder Kaur, OD  
Beth Rollinger, MHA, MS, OTR/L, Public Member

**Board members absent:** Keren Yang, OD

**Staff members present:** Lorelei Walker, Program Manager  
Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director  
Rachel Campbell, Fee Manager  
Ashley Bell, Health Services Consultant  
Jeff Wise, Policy Analyst

On June 24, 2022, the Board of Optometry met via web conference. Notice of the meeting was published on the [Board of Optometry website](#) and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv.

## OPEN SESSION:

### 9:00 a.m. Open Session

Dr. Owen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### 1. Call to Order and Decision to hold the June 24, 2022 Meeting Virtually

The board discussed the rescission of [proclamations 20-28](#), which allowed for virtual meetings during COVID. Dr. Davis motioned that “we vote to authorize the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting to continue remotely under the provisions of [ESHB 1329](#).” The motion was seconded and adopted.

#### Welcome and Introductions

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Davis moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and adopted.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes – March 4, 2022 business meeting

Dr. Davis moved to approve the March 4, 2022 business meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and adopted.

#### Reports

#### 4. Glen Owen, OD, Chair

Dr. Owen shared that this is Dr. Kaur’s first meeting with the board, and the board should expect a new member to be appointed shortly with the ending of Dr. Davis’ term.

#### 5. Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director and Lorelei Walker, Program Manager; Department of Health

Credentialing- due to heavy workload, credentialing supervisors were not able to provide reports or attend board meetings.

Budget- Rachel Campbell, Fee Manager, Health Services Quality Assurance, provided information about the fee study process. The fee study for optometry will begin in July 2022, with a CR-101 goal of December 2022, and a fee effective goal of fall 2023. The actual revenue was higher than anticipated in March, and lower than anticipated in January. Expenses have increased in AAG services compared to the biennium projections. Ms. Poppy Budrow, Budget Analyst, will prepare a revised projection model.

Legislative updates- [Substitute Senate Bill 5753](#) will be codified in [RCW 18.54.030](#), which will become effective on July 01, 2022.

#### 6. Noelle Chung, AAG

No new updates

#### 7. Open Forum

No comments from the audience on issues of significance to the profession.

#### 8. Health Equity Continuing Education Legislation

Ashley Bell, Department of Health, provided a report on [Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5229](#), which requires the department to establish minimum standards for health equity continuing education programs. This bill also requires each profession to adopt rules to

require health equity continuing education at least once every four years. A CR-102 is expected to be filed in summer. A public hearing will likely occur in fall. A CR-103 is expected to be filed at the end of the year. Ms. Bell encouraged the board to open their rules when the CR-102 is filed with the code revisor.

## **9. In-Person Board of Optometry Business Meetings**

The board discussed information related to resuming in-person quarterly meetings. On June 01, 2022, Governor Inslee rescinded [proclamations 20-28](#), which allowed remote meetings in lieu of the in-person meeting requirement per the [Open Public Meetings Act \(OPMA\)](#). [Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1329](#) passed during the 2022 legislative session, amending the [OPMA](#) to permit remote meetings for board when an in-person meeting cannot be held with “reasonable safety” during a declared state of emergency. Dr. Prothero suggested addressing the decision to hold in-person meetings at the beginning of future board meetings.

## **10. COVID-19 Emergency Topics**

The board identified and discussed optometry COVID-19 issues.

## **11. Continuing Education (CE) Rulemaking Proposal**

The board continued rulemaking to consider an increased number of online courses and other miscellaneous changes to [WACs 246-851-090 through -235](#). Dr. Prothero, Dr. Kaur, and Dr. Davis volunteered to participate on a subcommittee, and will work with staff to continue reformatting the continuing education rules.

## **12. Jurisprudence Exam Revisions**

The board reviewed draft jurisprudence exam questions to address new regulations and discussed next steps in updating the exam. Ms. Walker will continue to revise the exam, and the subcommittee committee will follow-up on the updated draft. After approval, Mr. Dan Frank, Policy Analyst, will upload the changes online.

## **13. Recruitment and Mentoring**

The board discussed plans for the three positions that expire September 19, 2022 and discussed mentorship and training for new members. Interviews for Dr. Davis’ position concluded on June 22, 2022. The governor has offered to extend Dr. Prothero’s appointment for another year. The board will consider requesting that Dr. Kaur’s next term is two years and subsequent term is three years, so that the board’s term dates do not continue to expire at the same time. Dr. Prothero offered to mentor Dr. Kaur.

## **14. Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry Updates**

Dr. Owen and Dr. Yang reported out on their virtual attendance of the June 12-14, 2022 annual conference. Dr. Owen shared that many states are considering or refuting the idea of licensed optometrists prescribing marijuana. Dr. Owen also discussed dispensing privileges related to embedded contact lenses.

## **15. Agenda-Building**

The board reviewed its tracking table for board business and discussed priority items for the September 09, 2022 agenda.

- [WAC 246-851-410](#)

- Continuing education rules- The subcommittee will plan to meet two times before the next meeting.
- Two-year budget history
- Jurisprudence exam- The subcommittee will plan to meet before the next meeting.
- COVID-19 emergency topics
- CR-101 for healthcare equity substance use monitoring programs

**Adjournment of Open Session**

Dr. Prothero motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:31 p.m. The motion was seconded and adopted.

**Submitted by:**  
Loralei Walker, Program Manager  
Board of Optometry

**Approved by:**  
Glen Owen, Chair  
Board of Optometry

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