

Minutes

Arkansas State Board of Optometry
Victory Building, Room 445
1401 W. Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR
February 14, 2019

Dr. Bryant Ashley, Board President, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm with all Board members present except for Dr. Shane Ford. Others present were Dr. Howard Flippin, Board Executive Director, Ms. Bonita Wineman, Board assistant, Mr. Kevin O'Dwyer, Board attorney, Ms. Debbie Hensley of the Arkansas Optometric Association, and Drs. Allison Hall, Thomas M. Dvorak, and Ryan Wood.

Dr. Ashley introduced the four candidates taking the Board exam—Drs. Tiffany V. Brown, Jacob Bowen, Jessica Haynes, and Zac Faust. They were excused to another room to take the tests.

Dr. Smalling presented the minutes of the November 29, 2018 Board meeting.

Dr. Ginger made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. White made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Flippin gave the board an accounting update. He reported that 518 OD's had been relicensed as of February 1, 2019. Paper applications were down to 20 from over 40 last year. Dr. Roy Ashabranner had been given an extension due to illness. Dr. William Butler has not renewed and has not been located. Dr. Samuel Presley did not renew on time and the Board office is holding his application. Drs. William Larry Adams, Rebecca Bills, Michael Curtis, Larry Grace, Michael James, Luther B. Keller, Danielle Ledet, John T. McHaney, Dusty McIver, Jerry Moon, Randy Moss, Faith Smith, Dan Speir, Roger Totten, Richard Wike, and Douglas Wood did not wish to renew their licenses.

Dr. Smalling made a motion to accept Dr. Flippin's report. Dr. Ginger made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Smalling made a motion that Dr. William Butler come before the Board on failure to renew timely and failure to keep the Board informed of contact information. Dr. Ginger made a second. The motion passed.

Ms. Rosy Susani, owner of Stringz Eyebrow Threading, appeared before the Board. She was appealing her \$5000 fine and explaining why she was not present for the Board hearing. Her fine was reduced to \$484.75.

Dr. Ginger made a motion to amend her fine to cost of the investigation. Mr. Gentry made a second. The motion passed.

Mr. O'Dwyer opened the hearing on rules and regulation changes in relation to prescribing controlled substances. No one spoke for or against the proposed changes.

Dr. Hennessey made a motion to adopt the new regulation. Mr. White made a second. The motion passed.

Mr. O'Dwyer continued the hearing with a regulation to allow an immediate temporary license to active duty military or their spouse upon application to the Board. No one spoke for or against the proposed regulation.

Dr. Hennessey made a motion to approve this regulation. Dr. Ginger made a second. The motion passed.

The hearings were closed.

Ms. Usha Budhathoki, owner of Usha's Eyebrow Threading, appeared to appeal her fine from previous hearing.

Dr. Hennessey made a motion to amend her \$5000 fine to the cost of investigation. Her fine was reduced to \$385.02.

Dr. Ginger made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Ashley introduced Dr. Thomas M. Dvorak, applicant for licensure by endorsement, to interview with the Board.

Dr. Hennessey made a motion to approve his application for licensure by endorsement. Mr. Gentry made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Ashley introduced Dr. Ryan Wood, applicant for licensure by endorsement, to interview with the Board.

Dr. Hennessey made a motion to approve his application for licensure by endorsement. Mr. White made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Hennessey led a discussion on content of Board minutes. By common consent, the Board Secretary/Treasurer was directed to make minutes more contrite.

Dr. Flippin reported on the possibility of listing particular items in the background check which would disqualify licensure by endorsement applicants.

After discussion, Dr. Ginger made a motion to not change the policy. Dr. Hennessey made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Ashley brought the Board back to a discussion of Dr. Samuel Presley late license renewal.

After discussion, Dr. Hennessey made a motion to allow Dr. Samuel Presley to be licensed temporarily until his appearance at the April 25 Board meeting. Dr. Smalling made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Smalling reminded the Board of the ARBO regional meeting in New Orleans on February 23, 2019 that he will be attending. He also reported that he had been reappointed to the ARBO COPE Committee which is now made up of six Association of Regulatory Boards in Optometry (ARBO), three Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) and three American Academy of Optometry (AAO) members. Our first conference call was last week and a face to face meeting is scheduled for April 27-28 during the ArOA meeting. He reported that he will be at the Board meeting on Thursday, April 25, but he will not be present for the Jurisprudence course on April 27.

Dr. Hennessey made a motion to pay per diem and mileage for Board meetings for the 2019 calendar year. Dr. Ginger made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Hennessey made a motion to pay per diem and mileage for today's meeting. Mr. White made a second. The motion passed.

There being no further business, Dr. Hennessey made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Ginger made a second. The motion passed.

Next Board meeting will be April 25, 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Dr. Bryant Ashley, President

Dr. Robert W. Smalling, Secretary/Treasurer