

Minutes
Arkansas State Board of Optometry
Office of the Attorney General
Little Rock, AR

May 17, 2007

Dr. Morris opened the meeting with all Board members present, Dr. Howard Flippin, Executive Director, Ann Booker, Board secretary, Mr. William Trice, Board Attorney, Dr. Roy Ashabranner and Dr. Charles Mc Waters were also present.

Dr. Coffee made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Dr. Smalling made a second. Amendments to the minutes were made and the motion passed.

Dr. Charles McWaters and Dr. Roy Ashabranner continue to be in compliance with the Medical Foundation contracts. They both will be present at the next Board meeting.

A complaint by Dr. Martha Gore was addressed and it was determined the complaint should be directed to other agency's such as the Insurance commission.

Mr. Trice discussed the lack of an exemptions for doctors licensed in another state to practice in this state at a federal facility. Other health professions have this exemption. This would include educational exemptions.

The next scheduled date for Board Examinations will be July 14, 2007.

Questions concerning confidentiality between a doctor and patient should be discussed with the doctors' attorney. There were also questions concerning licensed optometrist practicing if he or she is convicted of a felony or misdemeanor. The Board would deal with each individual case as it relates to the statute.

Dr. Haas made a motion to investigate the possibility to have Dr. Flippin as our lead investigator. The decision is to be made on information presented at the next Board meeting. Dr. Smalling made the second and the motion passed.

Dr. Haas made a motion to leave the Board officers the same. Dr. Smalling made a second and the motion passed.

Recent legislative bills that have an impact on the practice of optometry were review by Dr. Haas. They include HB 1216, 1282, 1323, 2567, and SB 189, 680.

Dr. Smalling discussed globalization of optometry, licensure by endorsement, and competency.

Mr. Trice said other Boards had not addressed the new rules concerning record retention by State Boards. The new rules will be in effect July of this year. Dr. Hubbard recommended the issue be address at a Board meeting in the near future.

Dr. Smalling and Dr. Flippin will be attending the ARBO meeting in Boston. The Board has already approved the travel and expenses for Dr. Flippin. Dr. Smalling will be reimbursed by ARBO.

Dr. Coffee made a motion the Board be paid for one days travel and expenses. Since a full Board will not be present at the next meeting (Board Examinations) Dr. Coffee moved the Board be paid one day expenses and over-night if necessary Dr. Smalling made a second and the motion passed.

Dr. Morris adjourned the meeting.

Dale Morris, O.D., President

Kenneth Hubbard, Jr., OD, Secretary