

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

December 20, 2007

Dr. Morris opened the meeting with all Board members, Howard Flippin, Executive Director, Ann Booker, Board secretary, and Bill Trice, Board Attorney present. Laura Meyer of Wal-Mart, Vicki Farmer of the Arkansas Optometric Association, Bradley Diner, MD of the Medical Foundation, Vickie Walters of the Medical Foundation, Allison Hall, OD, Tim Norton OD, Roy Ashabranner, OD, and Charles Mc Waters, OD were in the audience.

Dr. Hubbard made a motion the minutes be approved as printed. Dr. Coffee made the second and the motion passed.

Mr. Trice informed the Board that the Hearing on TK's Beauty & More, for selling contact lenses without a license had been postponed due to illness in Mr. Young Lee's family. Mr. Lee admitted guilt and offered to pay a fine of \$2,000, present information concerning individuals involved in selling the contact lenses, lens inventory, and any other information, the Board may require.

Dr Hubbard made a motion to accept Mr. Lee's offer of \$2,000 to be paid in 60 days, informs the Board of all involved in the sale of the contact lenses, and contact lens inventory. Dr. Coffee made a second and the motion passed.

According to Dr. Diner, Dr. Mc Waters and Dr. Ashabranner were in compliance with the Board order and the Medical Foundation directives. The Medical Foundation has had a problem with Dr. Mc Waters and other doctors failing the drug testing for amphetamines because they were taking OTC energy drinks. Some drinks contain the OTC amphetamine phenylpropanolamine. Dr. Mc Waters was unaware of the ingredient and has discontinued the product.

Dr. Flippin presented the results of the office reviews and discussed them with the Board. After the discussion,

Dr. Haas made a motion to ask Dr. John Witherspoon and Dr. Wayne Ridings of Conway to come to the next Board meeting to discuss contractual agreements with the Board. Lease agreements are to be returned to the Board within seven days of receiving the request. Mr. Spears made a second and the motion passed.

Dr. Haas made a motion to send a letter, prepared by Mr. Trice, informing the Doctors of the deficiencies found on office review. The deficiencies will be listed in the letter and the doctors are to inform the Board of how the deficiencies were corrected within 60 days of receiving the letter. Dr. Coffee made a second and the motion passed.

The Board office received an application from Dr. Cathy Edwards. Dr. Flippin is to ask Dr. Edwards what actions she was requesting since she is not eligible for licensure.

The Board office received a letter from Dr. Tamara Morris requesting the Board wave the uncompleted four hours of her CE licensure requirement for renewal this year due to a prolonged illness of her newborn baby.

Dr. Coffee made a motion to wave the uncompleted four hours CE for Dr. Tamara Morris license renewal. Dr. Haas made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Norton came before the Board for questions concerning two DUI's in the last several years. (One resulting in conviction and one in DL suspension) He is willing to follow any directions given by the Board.

Dr. Hubbard made a motion that Dr. Norton enter the voluntary treatment program established by the law and enter into a consent decree with the Board to voluntarily participate in the Arkansas Medical Foundation evaluation and for a period of five years, or less, if recommend by the Arkansas Medical Foundation, with Board updates at each meeting. Mr. Spears made a second and the motion passed.

The Board reviewed Board policy concerning licensure after passing the Board Examination.

Examination fee includes processing the application, administration of the test, and issuance of the basic license, with the expiration date at the end of the current period that the license is issued. An applicant will have 3 months after completion of the exam to complete the requirements of licensure. The applicant may request an additional 3 months when the Board is presented with an additional \$60 administrate fee with an updated application. Dr. Hubbard made a motion to follow the policy recommendations. Dr. Smalling made the second and the motion passed.

Dr. Haas made a motion the Board pay travel expenses and one night for Board members who attend the ARBO meetings at SWCO and SECO in the Spring. Dr. Smalling made a second and the motion passed.

Dr. Coffee made a motion, the Board be paid for one day's travel and expenses for attending today's meeting. Mr. Spears made a second and the motion passed.

Dr. Morris adjourned the meeting.

Dale Morris, O.D., President

Kenneth Hubbard, Jr., O.D., Secretary