

**MASSACHUSETTS BOARD REGISTRATION IN OPTOMETRY  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 16, 2016  
1000 Washington Street, Boston  
Conference Room 1C

**Board Members:**

Paul Elliott, OD, Chairman  
Scott Peterson, Esq., Secretary  
Bruce Rakusin, OD

**DPL Staff:**

Michael Hawley, Executive Director  
Monique Brown  
Sheila York, Board Counsel

Others in attendance: Kim Sullivan [MSO]

Members Absent: Gordon Price, OD

Meeting Called to order at 10:34 am

**Evacuation Procedure:**

Mr. Hawley discussed safety procedures in the event of emergency.

**Review of Minutes: January 20, 2016:**

Dr. Rakusin moved to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2016 meeting as amended. Dr. Elliott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Report From Executive Director:**

1. E-Licensing: Mr. Hawley gave an update regarding E-licensing for the Optometry Board and its licensees. The implementation date has been pushed out from August to October.
2. Mr. Hawley also spoke about CE audit. Mr. Hawley obtained a list from OE Tracker. Mr. Hawley is not sure the print-out differentiates practice management, clinical, and distance vs. live requirements.
3. Mr. Hawley updated the Board on staffing changes at Professional Credentialing Service [PCS]. Tara Elkins is the new contact person at PSC for the Optometry Board. Mr. Hawley reported that the application process for new licensees is still experiencing delays.

**Board Counsel's Report:**

1. Update on regulation process: Sheila York provided the Board with an update on the Board's proposed regulation changes pursuant to Executive Order #562. Sheila York reported that the lawyers in Housing and Economic Development (HED) are reviewing the proposed changes to the regulations. After the HED review, the proposed regulations will go before Administration and Finance (A&F) for review.

**Discussion:**

The Board discussed the upcoming ARBO conference in Boston.

**Correspondence:**

1. The Green Sheet from ARBO.
2. Letter from Dr. Antoinette Parvis re: mandatory enrollment in MassHealth. The MassHealth application requirement was imposed by the Legislature via statute not by the Board. The Board cannot change statutory law. If an individual is seeking a change in statutory language, he or she must contact members of the Legislature. Information about the MassHealth application requirement is available on the MassHealth website. Sheila York will draft a response.

**Wall Certificates:** None

**Open Session for topics not reasonably anticipated:**

1. Update from Mass Society of Optometrists. Kim Sullivan from Lynch Associates provided an update on the recent efforts of MSO.

**Investigative Session [Closed Session per M.G.L. c. 112, Section 65C]**

**At 11:30 AM, Dr. Rakusin moved to go into investigative session [Closed Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, Sec. 65C] to discuss OP-16-002 and SA-OP-16-003. Dr. Elliott seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

At the end of the closed session, the open meeting resumed.

During the investigative session, the board voted to take the following actions:

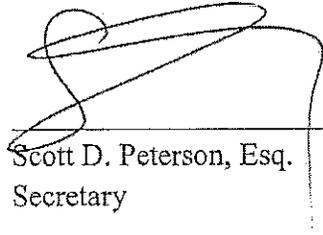
OP-16-002 – Dismiss.

SA-OP-16-003 – Close - no further action at this time.

**Next Meeting: May 18, 2016**

**A motion to adjourn was made at 12:00 PM, by Dr. Rakusin, seconded by Dr. Elliott. The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,



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Scott D. Peterson, Esq.  
Secretary

Documents used in public session:

Agenda

Draft board minutes dated 01/20/2016

Letter from Dr. Parvis dated 2/25/16

Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry The Green Sheet, vol. Spring 2016