

Board of Registration of Dispensing Opticians

Public Session Minutes

Date: June 5, 2024 Time: 10:00 a.m.

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Dispensing Opticians (“the Board”) was held via Videoconference and Conference Call pursuant to section 40 of chapter 2 of the acts of 2023, signed into law on March 29, 2023.

Board Members Present:

William Carleton, Board Chair

Jesse Ellis

Deborah Black

Alicja Prachanronarong

Staff Present:

Sheila York, Board Counsel

Lauren McShane, Chief Investigator

Thomas F. Burke, Executive Director

Margaret McKenna, Board Staff

Christian Carl, Board Staff Intern

Board Members not Present:

Mark Davini, Board Secretary

Housekeeping:

- Board Chair William Carleton called the meeting to order at 10:11 am and established a quorum via calling attendance: Jesse Ellis, Deborah Black, Alicja Prachanronarong, and William Carleton. All members participated remotely via Cisco Webex.

Board Minutes:

- Approve agenda from June 5, 2024: **Mr. Ellis moved to accept the minutes and Ms. Black seconded. The motion to approve the June 5, 2024 agenda passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Not Present”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Yes”.**
- Public Meeting Minutes from May 1, 2024: **Mr. Ellis moved to accept the minutes and Ms. Prachanronarong. The motion to accept the May 1, 2024 minutes passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Not Present”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Yes”.**

Correspondence:

- National Commission of State Opticianry Regulatory Boards (NCSORB) practical examinations for Massachusetts applicants.

The Board reviewed correspondence from the National Commission of State Opticianry Regulatory Boards (NCSORB) stating it will no longer accept Massachusetts exam applicants effective June 1, 2024. The Board instructed staff to remove the exam vendor information from the online application. Read and filed.

Application Review:

- At 10:17 a.m. the Board was scheduled to meet with applicants for licensure and reviewed applications and additional documentation. Below is a list of the candidates for review and the motion and roll call vote for each:

Daniel Medeiros – After review of Mr. Medeiros’ application, Mr. Ellis moved to approve him for licensure. Ms. Prachanronarong seconded. Motion passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Not Present”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Yes”.

Naomi Schuman - After review of Ms. Schuman’s application, Mr. Ellis moved to approve her for licensure. Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Not Present”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Yes”.

Avonell Liam Cook - After review of Mr. Cook’s application, Mr. Ellis moved to approve him for licensure. Ms. Prachanronarong seconded. Motion passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Not Present”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Yes”.

Alisha Lafrance - Board member Alicja Prachanronarong recused herself from this discussion and left the meeting. After review of Ms. Lafrance application, Mr. Ellis moved to approve her for licensure. Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Not Present”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Abstain”.

Ms. Prachanronarong rejoined the discussion at 10:30 a.m.

Discussion:

- **Dispensing optician apprenticeship policy – review**

The Board reviewed the draft policy on apprentice training and licensing requirements. The executive director encouraged board members to submit additional topics and/or questions for review at a subsequent meeting.

- **Review of draft interpretation of 235 CMR 4.04(6) *Lens hardening, including drop ball testing***

The Board discussed different methods for apprentice opticians to receive instruction on lens hardening and drop ball testing. The Board acknowledged that not all apprentices have access to a laboratory for hands-on training. The Board agreed that the supervising mentor and apprentice should seek lab training at an off-site location and record dates and hours of training they received. The name of the supervising mentor who oversees off-site lab training should be clearly identified.

Adjournment:

At 10:46 a.m., Mr. Ellis moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Prachanronarong seconded. Motion passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Not Present”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Yes”.

Respectfully Submitted,



Thomas F. Burke
Executive Director

Documents used in the open meeting:

- Meeting agenda for, June 5, 2024
- Draft public meeting minutes from May 1, 2024
- Application for D. Medeiros, N. Shuman, W. A. Liam Cook, and E. A. Lafrance (protected personal data redacted)
- Draft Dispensing Optician Apprentice Policy for Training and Licensing Requirements
- 235 CMR 4.00 Apprenticeship Requirements and Procedures
- Draft interpretation of 235 CMR 4.04 (6)