

## **Board of Registration of Optometry**

### **Public Session Minutes**

1000 Washington 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Room 1C, Boston, MA 02118

DATE: December 18, 2019 TIME: 10:00am

#### **Board Members Present:**

Everett Sabree, OD  
Jeanette Sewell, OD  
Rhonda Willinger, OD  
Bruce Rakusin, OD

#### **DPL Staff Present:**

Michael Hawley, Executive Director  
Sheila York, Board Counsel

#### **Board Members Absent:**

Marianne Sarkis, Ph.D.

Meeting called to order at 10:06 AM by Dr. Sabree

#### **Evacuation Procedure:**

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

#### **Review Minutes:**

Minutes of November 20, 2019 meeting – **Dr. Rakusin moved to accept the minutes as written. Dr. Sewell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Report from Executive Director:**

- Mr. Hawley reported that the conversion to online only renewals is done. Licensees who indicate that they have not applied to MassHealth receive letter and instructions on how to apply to MassHealth. Those who are unable to attest that they have completed their continuing education will be contacted and the results will depend on the timing (e.g., if the renewal there is still time to complete the CEs before January 1, the licensee will be asked to attest that s/he has done so).
- Mr. Hawley also reported the approved CE entities are overdue for re-approval and asked to extend the expiration dates to 12/31/20 and the reach out to the entities asking them to reapply if they wish to continue. **Dr. Sewell moved to extend the expiration dates of the approved entities to December 31, 2020. Dr. Rakusin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.** The Board directed the executive director to reach out to the approved entities and invite them to reapply.

**Report from Board Counsel:** No Report.

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#### **Discussion:**

- Reciprocal licensure application from David Gibson: Dr. Gibson submitted an application for licensure via reciprocity. He is currently licensed in North Carolina and was previously licensed in Georgia. The Georgia license is expired. **Dr. Rakusin moved to allow Dr. Gibson to continue with the licensing process, provided that he can establish that he has been practicing continuously in North Carolina over the past three years. Dr. Sewell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Open Session for topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair within 48 hours of the meeting:**

The Board received, over the last forty-eight hours, three requests for CE extensions and one letter with questions regarding optometrists' responsibilities with regard to supervision.

Elizabeth Wikman – The Board directed staff to contact Ms. Wikman for clarification of her plans with regard to acquiring CE during 2020 and 2021 and extend the possibility of a six month extension.

Alyssa Batistine – **Dr. Sewell moved to grand Dr. Batistine a three month extension. Dr. Rakusin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Laura Potvin – **Dr. Sewell moved to grand Dr. Potvin a six month extension. Dr. Willinger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

The Board received and email from Daniel Fahey regarding supervision requirements. The Board will take the questions under advisement.

**11:48 pm - Dr. Sewell moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Dr. Willinger. The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,



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Michael Hawley, Executive Director

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Documents used in the open meeting:

- Agenda for December 18, 2019 board meeting
- Draft of Minutes of November 20, 2019 board meeting
- Reciprocal Licensure Application of Dr. David Gibson
- Request for CE extension from Elizabeth Wikman.
- Request for CE extension from Alyssa Batistine.
- Request for CE extension from Laura Potvin.

Email with Supervision questions from