



To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.

**Board of Optometry
Regular Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes
June 09, 2023**

Board Members in Attendance:

Melissa Dacumos, Optometrist
Glen Owen, Optometrist
Keren Yang, Optometrist, Vice-chairperson
William Prothero, Optometrist, Chairperson
Palwinder Kaur, Optometrist
Barbara Rollinger, General Public

Staff Members in Attendance:

Kristina Bell, Program Manager
Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director
Melissa Green, Executive Director, Operations
Noelle Chung, Assistant Attorney General
Ashley Maxwell, Supervising Staff Attorney
Jeff Wise, Policy Analyst
Rachel Campbell, Fee Manager
Poppy Budrow, Fiscal Analyst
Shani Hue, Budget Analyst
Madissen Schatz, Administrative Assistant

Open Session

Call to Order and Introductions

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Optometry was called to order by the chairperson, William Prothero, at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, June 09, 2023, at The Olympia Center. There were virtual participants via Microsoft Teams.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda of the June 09, 2023, meeting was approved.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 10, 2023, meeting were approved as corrected.

3. Open Forum

There were no comments from the audience on issues of significance to the profession.

4. Reports

Kristina Bell, program manager, reported that Senate Bill 5036 concerning telemedicine was signed by the Governor on March 30, 2023, into Laws of 2023, ch. 8. The law will become effective on July 23, 2023.

Ms. Bell reported that Melissa Dacumos has been appointed to the Board. Glen Owen’s term will end on September 19, 2023, and Chairperson Prothero will continue serving until a successor has been appointed. The Board is in the process of recruiting two optometrist members.

Ms. Bell presented the credentialing statistics for optometrist licenses from November 01, 2022 – April 30, 2023:

Number of Credentials Issued	
Optometrist License	24
Optometry Temporary Permit	0

Average Days from Last Day of Contact to Issue	
Optometrist License	14.4
Optometrist Temporary Permit	N/A

Ms. Bell reported that the Continuing Education Committee consists of Chairperson Prothero, Palwinder Kaur, and Dr. Owen. The Jurisprudence Examination Committee has concluded. The Substitute Senate Bill 5389 Implementation Committee will consist of Chairperson Prothero, Vice-chairperson Yang, and Dr. Kaur.

5. Legislative Update – SSB 5389 Scope of Optometry

Dr. Owen moved that the Board open a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry CR-101 to implement Substitute Senate Bill 5389 concerning the practice of optometry. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

6. Continuing Education Rulemaking

Beth Rollinger moved to adopt the proposed revisions for WAC 246-851-090 through 246-851-230, with the inclusion of the discussed changes regarding self-study to WAC 246-851-170 (2). The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

7. Health Equity Continuing Education Rulemaking – Verbal Update

Ms. Bell shared a report regarding rule amendments for health equity continuing education (CE) model rules, WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830, to comply with RCW 43.70.613 as amended by Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5229 (Chapter 276, Laws of 2021). A Proposed Rulemaking CR-102 is currently under review. A hearing is anticipated to take place during the next regular meeting.

8. Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5496 – Health Professional Monitoring Programs Rulemaking – Verbal Update

Ms. Bell shared a report regarding rule amendments for health professional monitoring program terminology, WAC 246-851-440 through 246-851-470, as required by Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5496 health professional monitoring programs. A Proposed Rulemaking CR-102 is currently under review. A hearing is anticipated to take place during the next regular meeting.

9. Budget Update – Rachel Campbell & Poppy Budrow

Rachel Campbell, HSQA Fee Manager, presented the optometry fee study report. Optometry is currently eligible for a fee decrease. The profession will be considered to undergo full analysis this fall. Rulemaking will begin in winter, with an effective change next spring.

10. DEA CE Requirements – Glen Owen

The Board discussed the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) new opioid training mandate. Doctors of Optometry applying for a DEA registration after June 27, 2023, must attest to a new eight-hour education and training requirement for substance abuse identification and treatment.

11. Canadian Optometry Board Exam – Kim Allen

Kim Allen, chief executive officer, Optometry Examining Board of Canada (OEBC), shared a presentation regarding the OEBC Written Examination and the OEBC Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE).

12. Board Member Training

The Board discussed topics for the Board Training Retreat on September 08, 2023:

- Rulemaking
- The complaint and disciplinary process
- Open Public Meetings Act

13. Administrative Items

Dr. Owen moved to approve Form 1-1-19C: Delegation of Decision-Making and Form 1-1-19A: Delegation of Signature Authority. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

14. Agenda-building

The Board discussed agenda items for the September 08, 2023, regular meeting:

- Public rulemaking hearing for the health equity continuing education.
- Public rulemaking hearing for continuing education.
- Public rulemaking hearing for the health professional monitoring program terminology.
- Implementation of Substitute Senate Bill 5389 concerning the practice of optometry.
- Senate Bill 5036 concerning telemedicine.
- Training retreat.
- Report from Dr. Yang regarding the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry 2023 Annual Meeting.

Adjournment of Open Session

Dr. Owen moved to adjourn. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Chairperson Prothero announced that the next meeting would be September 08, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., and declared the meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.