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## **Dispensing Optician Examining Committee**

### **September 25, 2023**

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**Committee Members Present:**

Kathy Kristjanson, LDO, Vice-chairperson  
Desiree McClung, LDO  
Monica Brenzel, LDO

**Committee Members Absent:**

None

**Staff Members Present:**

Kristina Bell, Program Manager  
Melissa Green, Executive Director  
Noelle L. Chung, Assistant Attorney General  
Shelbee Scrimo, Administrative Assistant

**OPEN SESSION:**

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Kristjanson called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**2. Open Forum**

Bess-Marie Barr and Aracely Arias welcomed new committee members

**3. Approval of September 25, 2023, Agenda**

Ms. Brenzel motioned to approve the September 25, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded and adopted.

**4. Approval of December 14, 2022, Committee Meeting Minutes**

Ms. McClung motioned to approve the December 14, 2022 committee meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and adopted.

**5. National Academy of Opticianry (NAO)**

Ms. Bell provided a review of information regarding the Career Progression Program. Ms. Bell explained that she has researched if the committee would be allowed to incorporate this program into dispensing optician apprentices but advised that the committee would be unable to move forward due to statute and regulations. If there were any changes to be made it would have to be taken to legislation to be changed.

Ms. Brenzel asked if there was any information regarding the exam website being down and if that is something the committee was associated with. Ms. Bell explained that the committee is not part of the exam company, but they were aware of the glitch and was in communication with the company during that time.

**6. Program Report**

**6.1 Interim Operating Budget Report**

Ms. Bell presented the 2021-2023 Biennium Budget Status Report for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

The Fund Balance is steadily decreasing with the main drop in June 2023. Ms. Bell shared that this can potentially lead to fee increases.

**6.2 Credentialing Statistics**

Ms. Bell provided an overview of the credentialing statistics report.

Credential Prefix	Credential Type	Status	Number of Credentials
OPTA	Optician Dispensing Apprentice Registration	Active	1001
OPTA	Optician Dispensing Apprentice Registration	Pending	28
OPTI	Optician Dispensing License	Active	918
OPTI	Optician Dispensing License	Pending	19

## 7. Rules

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5229 Health Equity Continuing Education update.

### 7.1 Adopted Health Equity Rule Language

Ms. Bell explained that there was a hearing back in July for CR 102, and it was adopted for dispensing opticians to complete the HealthEquity continuing education, it goes into effect 30 days from July 16<sup>th</sup>. CR 103 is in the process of being looked at by the policy team, should have updated rules on that in a month.

Ms. Kristjanson asked if there were any resources for completing the trainings. Ms. Bell explained that there is information on the DOH website along with the free trainings that are available.

## 8. Committee Members Roles

Ms. Kristjanson makes the motion for Desiree McClung to be chairperson and Kathy Kristjanson to remain vice- chairperson. The motion was seconded and adopted.

## 9. 2024 Meeting Dates

2024 meeting dates of March 6 and September 20 were proposed. These dates were proposed to be held virtually but if anyone would like to come to the meeting in-person they can. Ms. Kristjanson motioned to approve proposed dates and have them held virtually. The motion was seconded and adopted.

## 10. Adjournment

Ms. Kristjanson adjourned the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

**Submitted by:**

Kristina Bell, Program Manager  
Dispensing Optician Examining Committee

**Approved by:**

Kathy Kristjanson, LDO, Vice-chairperson  
Dispensing Optician Examining Committee

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