

**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF OPHTHALMIC DISPENSERS
AND OPHTHALMIC TECHNICIANS**

**PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2009**

The September meeting of the Board was convened in accordance with its notice to the Secretary of State, the Bergen Record, the Record of Hackensack, the Trenton Times, the Courier Post and the Star-Ledger and was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

President Cohen convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. A roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded for these minutes:

PRESENT: Linda Cohen, Michael Higgins, Joseph Grodman, Gary Iavarone, Jerry McMullin, and John Valeri, Esq.

EXCUSED OR ABSENT: NONE

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Joe Dezenzo, Luxottica Retail

Also in attendance: Dorcas K. O'Neal, Executive Director, Susan Berger, Deputy Attorney General and Monica Carrington, staff.

I. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

The Board reviewed the Public Session Minutes for July 8, 2009. **On a motion by Gary Iavarone, seconded by Joseph Grodman, the minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.**

II. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

III. APPRENTICE MATTERS

NONE

IV. STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

- a. The Board reviewed a draft of Proposed New Rule N.J.A.C. 13:33-2.1 Application for Examination. **The Board made changes for clarification of the rule. On a motion by John Valeri seconded by Gary Iavarone, the Board unanimously approved the changes. Chuck Manning will present the revised rule at the next meeting.**
- b. The Board reviewed the draft of proposed new rule for adoption of N.J.A.C 13:33-9 Registration of Out-of-State Contact Lens Sellers, **as informational.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The Board reviewed a letter from Nada Ayoub Chedid who is currently licensed in Virginia requested that the Board review her transcripts and advise if she is eligible for the October 2009 examination. Northern Virginia Community College is not accredited by the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation. **On a motion by Michael Higgins seconded by Joseph Grodman, the Board unanimously determined that Ms. Chedid is not eligible for licensure in the State of New Jersey. Ms. Chedid will be so advised.**
- b. The Board reviewed Division of Law Billing, **as informational.**
- c. The Board reviewed an email from Thomas Blair extending an invitation to OAA Members to attend the 2009 National Opticians Convention being held in Ohio, **as informational.**
- d. The Board reviewed an email from EyeCare Professional Magazine regarding Educating and Training of the American Optician, **as informational.**

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. October 13-14, 2009 Ophthalmic Dispenser Examination - The Executive Director updated the Board on travel and housing for Board members for the examination at Camden County College.
- b. The Board reviewed an email from **Alan Frikas** inquiring as to whether the rule regarding prescriptions has changed and referring the September 2008 wherein the Board determined that the querist is entitled to her original prescription. **It was the consensus of the Board to advise Mr. Frikas that the Board recognizes a photo copy as long as it is kept on file. The Board is currently in the process of updating its rule to coincide with the FTC ruling.**

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joe DeZenzo, LUXOTTICA attended the Public Meeting and discussed the quality of education J. Sargent Reynolds provides to apprentice dispensers in the State of New Jersey. He stated that any student who attends J. Sargent Reynolds may apprentice at any LUXOTTICA location. Mr. DeZenzo also advised the Board that a few weeks before every State Board Examination, LUXOTTICA offers review courses at Camden County College open to any apprentice. The test training is scheduled for October 7, 2009. Mr DeZenzo stated that he would like to have regular communication with the board regarding the proposed New Rule N.J.A.C. 13:33-2.1 Application for Examination. He ended by saying that if the Board had questions or concerns, he would be happy to answer.

Todd Rupell, an optician attended the Public Session meeting advising the Board that he recently enrolled to J. Sargent Reynold in the Ophthalmic Science Degree Program. He stated all mid-terms and final exams are proctored in libraries. Mr. Rupell also advised that every Thursday he performs his lab portion of the educational requirements at an Optometrists Office.

Chairman Cohen thanked Mr. DeZenzo and Mr. Rupell for their comments.

There being is no other business to come before the Board in Public Session, on a motion by John Valeri seconded by Joseph Grodman the Public Session was adjourned and the Board convened in Executive Session for the purpose of receiving counsel, to review two matters of old business, to review two consumer complaints, to review one criminal background results and two matters of new business.

The Board reconvened in Public Session. The next scheduled meeting is October 21, 2009. There being no other business to come before the Board, on a motion made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorcas K. O'Neal
Executive Director