

**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF OPHTHALMIC DISPENSERS
AND OPHTHALMIC TECHNICIANS
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2008**

The November 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, Joseph Grodman, Michael Higgins, Gary Iavarone, Jerry McMullian, and John Valeri, Esq.

EXCUSED OR ABSENT: Jane Kenny

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Richard Palumbo, Professor at Essex County College

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 October 8, 2008. On a motion by Joseph Grodman, seconded by Gary Iavarone, the minutes were unanimously approved as redacted.

II. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

III. APPRENTICE MATTERS

a. The Board reviewed a letter from Jamie Stowe, an apprentice who requested to be excused from the September 23, 2008 examination due to emergency medical issues. On a motion by Jay McMullin seconded by Joseph Grodman, the Board unanimously granted an excused absence to the March 2009 examination.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

a. The Board reviewed the Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Report as informational. b. The Board reviewed a draft of a scope of work for the written portion of the State examination as informational. c. The Board reviewed the Board of Optometrists Regular Session Agenda for September 17, 2008 as informational. d. The Board reviewed the Board of Optometrists Regular Session Minutes for September 17, 2008 as informational.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There being is no other business to come before the Board, 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 conduct one investigative inquiry, to review one matter of new business, and two matters of old business.

The Board reconvened in Public Session. The following disciplinary actions are being reported out in Public Session.

a. I/M/O Andrew Walters - A Consent Order was filed on November 12, 2008. Mr. Walters an apprentice

working on an expired permit, falsified a apprentice ophthalmic dispenser permit renewal application stating that there was a lab in the office where he was working. He also held himself out as an "optician" on business cards. A penalty of \$1,000.00 was assessed and stayed. Mr. Walters must not work in the optical field for 3 months with the provision that he complies with the terms and conditions of the Consent Order.

b. I/M/O Rachel Ivgi-unlicensed/Cheaper Peepers - Respondent was scheduled to appear before the Board in connection with an inspection report which revealed that she practiced ophthalmic dispensing without a license from October 1, 2007 until February 15, 2008. She agreed to the terms of the new Consent Order and signed. She was assessed a penalty of \$500.00 with \$250.00 stayed. Ms. Igvi paid the penalty of \$250.00.

The next scheduled meeting is December 10, 2008. There being no other business to come before the Board, on a motion made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorcas K. O'Neal
Executive Director