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NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRISTS PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES FEBRUARY 20, 2013

A regular meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Optometrists was held at 124 Halsey Street Newark on the 6th floor on Wednesday, February 20, 2013. Mitchell Fink, O.D., President of the Board, announced that pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was prepared in the office of the Board and mailed out to the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Star Ledger, the Record, the Press of Atlantic City, the Asbury Park Press, and the Trenton Times. The meeting was called to order at 9.08 A.M. A roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded and a quorum was present:

DANIEL DESRIVIERES, O.D.	Present
GIGETTE COLLAZO HARFST, O.D.	Present
MITCHELL FINK, O.D.	Present
JOHN FLORIO, O.D.	Present
MICHAEL SIEGEL, O.D.	Present

ALSO PRESENT WERE: CARMEN RODRIGUEZ, Deputy Attorney General,
RENEE PEARSON CLARK, Executive Director;
TANYA GOLLETT, Administrative Staff

Members of the public: Howard Cooper, Executive Director of the New Jersey Society of Optometric Physicians

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

II. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Siegel and seconded by Dr. Harfst to approve the December 19, 2012 Public Session Minutes as amended. A vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Robert Levy, O.D.

Dr. Levy sent correspondence asking whether placement of an amniotic membrane bandage on the ocular surface for wound healing self-retaining (CPT Code 65778) is permissible in the scope of practice of an OM-certified optometrist.

A motion was made by Dr Desrivieres and seconded by Dr Siegel to advise Dr. Levy that the placement of an amniotic membrane bandage on the ocular surface of the eye is within the scope of practice of an OM-certified optometrist. However, the board does not approve of CPT codes. A vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Ronald Hopping, O.D., President of the American Optometric Association

Dr. Hopping sent a follow-up letter from attorney Johnny M. Lopez of the North Carolina State Board of Optometry.

The Board reviewed the letter from Mr. Lopez and considered it informational.

IV. FYI

A. 94th Annual Meeting for the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry

The Board reviewed the letter and considered it informational.

B. Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, Eye on Education

The Board reviewed the letter and considered it informational.

C. Michael Breckel, O.D.

Dr. Breckel holds a license in optometry in New Jersey and requests that the Board grant him OM certification based on reciprocity with his licenses in Texas and Kentucky.

A motion was made by Dr. Desrivieres and seconded by Dr. Harfst to advise Dr. Breckel that the board requires more information in order to determine if he meets requirements for OM certification in this state. The board would need to review his licensure privileges in Kentucky to see if they are similar to our statutes and regulations. Dr. Breckel to submit license verification from the State of Kentucky. Once submitted the Board would have more information on which to base its determination regarding Dr. Breckel's qualifications for OM certification. A vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Dr. Harfst and seconded by Dr. Desrivieres, the Board voted to go into Executive Session to discuss five complaints, unlicensed practice allegations, two branch office inspections and matters involving investigations or violations of the Board's enabling act, the Uniform Enforcement Act and/or Board regulations. A vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Siegel and seconded by Dr. Desrivieres to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 12:00 P.M. A vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Pearson Clark
Executive Director