



**CHRIS CHRISTIE**  
Governor

**KIM GUADAGNO**  
Lt. Governor

# New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs  
New Jersey State Board of Optometrists  
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## **APRIL 16, 2014 PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES SUSSEX CONFERENCE ROOM, 6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR 9:00a.m.**

### **I OPENING STATEMENT AND ROLL CALL**

A regular meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Optometrists was held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor on Wednesday, April 16, 2014. 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 9:50 A.M. A roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded and a quorum was present:

#### **PRESENT**

**Michael Siegel, O.D**  
**Mitchell Fink, O.D.**  
**John Florio, O.D.**  
**Daniel Desrivieres, O.D.**

#### **EXCUSED**

**Gigette Collazo Harfst, O.D.**

#### **ALSO PRESENT**

**Carmen Rodriguez, DAG**  
**Renee P. Clark, Executive Director**  
**Sonia Claudino, Administrative Staff**

**MEMBER(S) OF THE PUBLIC:** **Howard Cooper, Executive Director**  
**N.J.S.O.P.**

## **II ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

A motion was made by Dr. Siegel, seconded by Dr. Desrivieres to table this matter to the next scheduled Board meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **III PUBLIC MEMBERS COMMENTS**

- a. Howard Cooper, Executive Director of the Society of Optometric Physicians attended the meeting to obtain information in regards to the adopted changes to the security measures and design of the New Jersey Prescription Blanks.

Mr. Cooper suggested that the Board post the Rx information on the Board's website.

## **IV APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Dr. Siegel seconded by Dr. Desrivieres to approve the February 19, 2014 Public Session Minutes as amended. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **V REGULATORY ANALYST**

- a. Elizabeth Greenblatt, Regulatory Analyst discussed the revision of regulations regarding Assembly Bill A-1545 which revises law concerning certain professional and occupational licenses.

Ms. Greenblatt advised the Board that this regulation takes effect on July 13, 2014 which refers to reinstatements and endorsement of licenses. Sharon Joyce to determine if all Boards need to implement the law individually or globally. The Board thanked Ms. Greenblatt for the information.

- b. Assembly No. 2332 which requires public body to publish notice of public meeting on official internet website was reviewed by the Board.

After review a motion was made by Dr. Desrivieres, seconded by Dr. Siegel to support the technological improvements. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- c. Assembly No. 2460 which waives certain professional and occupational licensing fees for veterans and spouses of veterans was reviewed by the Board.

After review a motion was made by Dr. Florio, seconded by Dr. Siegel to support this legislation. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## V REGULATORY ANALYST (cont.)

- d. Assembly No. 2557 which requires health care providers to observe certain practices concerning collection of outstanding balances on patient records was reviewed by the Board.

After review the Board agrees with some process of notification to notify consumers that their outstanding accounts are going into collections. The motion was made by Dr. Florio, seconded by Dr. Siegel. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## VI CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Matt Wetzel appeared to discuss the adopted changes to the security measures and design of the New Jersey Prescription Blanks.

Mr. Wetzel discussed the new security features to be implemented on May 18, 2014 to prevent fraud and altering which included an added thermo chronic pink to "RX"; a "Void" feature which prevents scanning or copying; microprint line at the top for law enforcement purposes; an additional bar code with a 15 digit ID# unique to every prescription blank; back/bottom security feature. Mr. Wetzel advised the Board that as of August 18, 2014 the old prescription blanks will no longer be accepted.

The Board stated their concern in regards to having prescription blanks and that there should be a separate one for TPA certification and one for OM certification. Mr. Wetzel stated that he will meet with Rachel Glasgow to discuss the necessary changes and if necessary Dr. Fink or DAG Rodriguez will be contacted.

The Board thanked Mr. Wetzel for the information.

- b. Lowell Davis, O.D. submitted an inquiry in regards to the new eyeglass prescription pads.

After review Chair directed for a letter to be sent to Dr. Davis thanking him for his inquiry and the Board will take under advisement the information provided.

- c. Sandra DeSarno Hlatky, Assistant Director, Judicial Standards and Procedures, Office of Administrative Law submitted correspondence regarding change in the extension process.

The Board reviewed this item for informational purposes.

## VII HANDOUTS

No handouts were provided

## VIII FYI

- a. Perry Toker, O.D. complied with Settlement Letter issued January 31, 2014.

The Board reviewed for informational purposes.

- b. Michael Newman, O.D. complied with Consent Order filed February 4, 2014 which included proof of completion of a three-hour record keeping course and a six-hour course in posterior segments of the eye reviewed by Dr. Collazo Harfst and a civil penalty of \$2,500.00.

The Board reviewed for informational purposes.

## IV ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Siegel seconded by Dr. Florio to proceed to Executive Session, to hold an investigative inquiry, to consider and review advertisements, consumer complaints and other information received pursuant to the Board's investigative authority in order to determine whether violations of law, including Board's regulations, have occurred. The results of these deliberations will be made known when, and if, the Board determines to initiate disciplinary or other enforcement actions. If the Board chooses to issue a Uniform Penalty Letter, the action will be taken in Public Session immediately after the Executive Session.

A motion was made by Dr. Siegel, seconded by Dr. Desrivieres to adjourn the meeting at 2:40p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted  
BOARD OF OPTOMETRISTS

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Renee Pearson Clark