

BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday, 17 November 2004

Open Session

The Open Session of the Board of Examiners in Optometry was called to order at 8:30 A.M. on the above date in Room 104, Cannon Building, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meeting Law, so called, and other applicable provisions of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended. A quorum was established.

Board Members in attendance:

David Mills, OD

Ronald J. Serra, OD

Scott Surdut, OD

Board members not in attendance:

Alessi A. Rispoli, OD

Staff members in attendance:

Kelly Doyle, Board Administrator, Health Professions Regulation

Maureen Hobson, Legal Counsel

Others in Attendance:

None

The minutes of the meetings held on 22 September 2004 were presented. On a motion by Dr. Serra and seconded by Dr. Surdut, it was unanimously Voted to accept the Open and Executive minutes as presented and that the Executive minutes to remain sealed pursuant to Sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

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Topics of Discussion

The Board reviewed and approved the application for licensure as an optometrist:

- Jodi Pukl

The Board reviewed and approved the request from an optometrist to upgrade his license to include the use of therapeutic pharmaceuticals.

Adjournment to Executive Session

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the Open Session and move to Executive Session pursuant to the Sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 (a)(1)(4) of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, in that confidential issues of fitness for licensure and investigative cases will be discussed, or oral examinations administered. On a motion by

Dr. Serra, and seconded by Dr. Surdut, it was unanimously so Voted to adjourn to Executive Session.

Return to Open Session

Dr. Serra called the Open Session back to Order at 9:45 AM.

On motion of Dr. Serra, seconded by Dr. Mills, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in Executive Session and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.

The Board reported that the following final actions were taken while in Executive Session:

2004-01-OD: No Unprofessional Conduct.

Topics of Discussion (continued)

The Board and legal counsel reviewed and discussed a letter dated 23 September 2004 from the Wal-Mart Optical Division regarding optical dispensaries in Rhode Island. The Board and legal counsel noted that Wal-Mart or any retail store may not dispense contact lenses unless there is a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist on-site. The Board and legal counsel noted that Wal-Mart or any retail store, may sell contact lenses to customers if; 1) an optometrist or ophthalmologist is filling the prescription, and 2) the service offered is an on-line ordering service and that contact lenses would not be sold or dispensed at Wal-Mart locations without a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist. Legal counsel

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will notify Wal-Mart of the Board's decision regarding this matter.

The Board reviewed correspondence from the New England College of Optometry. No action was necessary.

The Board approved the request of the Rhode Island Optometric Association that the 17 November 2004 continuing education (CE) program entitled “New Anti-infectives for the Red Eye”, presented by Mark Milner, MD be approved for two-hours of CE credit.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the Open Session pursuant to the Sections 42-46-4 and 42-42-5 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island. On a motion by Dr. Surdut and seconded by Dr. Mills, it was unanimously so Voted to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Doyle

Board Administrator

Health Professions Regulation