

NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR OPTOMETRY

Monday February 6, 2023
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Regents Room
New York State Education Department
1411 Broadway, 10th Floor
New York, New York 12234

MEMBERS PRESENT: Daniella Rutner, Chair; Alison Risko, Dana Salgado, Richard Soden, Jeffrey Calhoun, Obinna Akano, James Coney

EXTENDED MEMBERS: Frank Pirozzolo, Wayne Gabel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michelle Lagana

SED STAFF: Dolores Cottrell, Michael Puspurs, Lisa (Penni) Newman

GUESTS: Tom Coté

WELCOME: Dr. Cottrell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Each member introduced themselves. Motion to open the meeting (Salgado/Calhoun).

MINUTES: Minutes of the September 19, 2022 meeting were approved (Soden/Salgado).

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Dr. Rutner had no report.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT:

Dr. Cottrell started her report by stating that the list of lab tests that optometrists can order is now on the OP optometry webpage. Dr. Cottrell stated she will follow-up with DOH to find out when they will update the Authorized Order Source document to include Optometrists.

In January, Dr. Cottrell presented to the Board of Regents, emergency regulation amendments regarding Optometry CE. Dr. Cottrell informed Board members that the amendments include a conditional registration, as well as a three-year renewal fee to become an approved provider for CE courses.

Dr. Cottrell stated that on February 14th there will be a special public meeting of the Board of Regents, to consider allowing remote board meeting attendance for members under extenuating circumstances.

Dr. Cottrell stated that School Vision Health Month in Syracuse has been moved from March to May.

Dr. Cottrell informed members that Dr. Salgado has been representing the Board at the monthly "Happy Hour" ARBO presentations. Dr. Salgado reported that these provide informational updates. Dr. Salgado stated that the Annual meeting is in June in Washington DC. Dr. Cottrell stated there are scholarships available for board members to attend. Dr. Risko volunteered to attend the annual meeting if awarded a scholarship.

Dr. Cottrell informed members the Governor's budget bill once again contains language to move the health care professions to Department of Health.

Dr. Cottrell ended her report by sharing a thank you card from Patti Lucas to the Board.

2023 Legislative Update – Mr. Coté stated that NYSOA's number one priority is the Internship/Externship bill that passed the Senate last week. There is a separate Assembly bill under review. Mr. Coté stated that out of state optometry students currently cannot do internships/externships in NYS.

OPD Presentation – Mr. Dennis Spillane gave an OPD overview presentation to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Telepractice Guidelines Update – Dr. Cottrell informed members that Legal still has not reviewed the Telepractice Guidelines.

Update on NYS 40-hour Oral Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agent Certification Course – Dr. Soden stated that March 5th is the first Orals examination. The Board noted that the Orals course and exam must be taken in NYS. Dr. Cottrell stated that that prescribing privileges for Orals takes effect on October 25th.

NEW BUSINESS

Drug Flow Charts – Updates were made to the new Drug Flow chart.

Q & A development for the OP website regarding Orals and CE requirements – The Board discussed the proposed Q & A's for the OP optometry webpage for Orals CE Requirements and conditional registration. The Board Office agreed to draft the final questions and answers and email them to the board members for review.

NEXT MEETING: The next Board Meeting will be held on May 22, 2023 in New York City.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: There were no disciplinary cases to be reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was approved for Adjournment at 12:44 PM (Calhoun/Coney).