

# **NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR OPTOMETRY**

Monday September 11, 2023

9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

New York State Education Department  
1411 Broadway, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Regents Room  
New York, New York 12234

**Members Present:** Daniella Rutner, Chair, Michele Lagana, Alison Risko, Jeffrey Calhoun (Via phone, not part of quorum), Dana Salgado, Richard Soden, Obinna Akano and James Coney

**Extended Member:** Frank Pirozzolo, Wayne Gabel

**Members Absent:**

**SED Staff:** Dolores Cottrell, Michael Puspurs

**GUESTS:** Marina Su, NYSOA

**Welcome:** Dr. Cottrell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Formal introductions followed.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the May 22, 2023 meeting were approved as corrected (Soden/Risko).

## **Chairperson's Report**

Dr. Rutner started her report by thanking the Board office staff members for the work they have done for the Orals certification.

## **Executive Secretary's Report**

Dr. Cottrell started her report by saying it has been very busy getting everything ready for Orals certification/privileges. Dr. Cottrell stated that the Department is plans to allow Optometrists to apply approximately 30 days in advance for Orals certification.

Dr. Cottrell ended her report by informing members that the NBEO now has a Part III PEPS test that will go into effect in August 2024.

**2023 Legislative Update** – Dr. Cottrell stated that the Bill passed the NYS Assembly and the Senate for out of state optometry students to do internships in NY. It has not yet been signed by the Governor.

## **Old Business**

**Professional Practice Guideline- Optometrist Delegating procedures to unlicensed individuals-** The Board had a lengthy discussion about what tasks unlicensed individuals can perform. A committee was formed to draft a practice guideline for optometrists delegating procedures to unlicensed individuals to be discussed at the next board meeting.

**Alternate Board Exam discussion-** The Board discussed setting up an online WebEx or Zoom meeting with representatives from the NBEO and Canadian exams. A committee was formed to draft questions to ask to the representatives and to discuss them at the next board meeting.

## **New Business**

**Changes for Certifications for Diagnostic, Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents, and Orals-** Board Office staff explained the changes to the letters designating for the certifications/privileges for therapeutics, and orals. Board Office staff presented the Privilege change memo that would be sent to optometrists, the new Form 1 to apply for licensure as an optometrist as well as the new Form 1 A to apply for optometry certifications/privileges.

**Conditional Registration and Privileges tiles on the Optometry webpage-** Board Office staff stated that there will be a Conditional Registration Tile on the Continuing Education page on the OP site with questions and answers with the form to apply for a conditional registration. Board Office staff informed members that there is also a Privileges tile on the Optometry webpage that will have information about diagnostic, therapeutic and orals privileges.

**Discussion on Drugs Fitting within Statute-** The Board discussed whether or not certain drugs fit within the statutory definition of pharmaceuticals certified optometrists are permitted to prescribe under the statute.

**Election of Vice-Chair-** The Board members unanimously elected Dr. Dana Salgado to be Vice-Chair.

**Next Meeting:** The next Board Meeting will be held on Monday January 5, 2023 in New York City at 9:30 a.m.

**Executive Session:** There were no disciplinary cases to be reviewed.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion was approved for Adjournment at 11: 54 a.m. (Coney/Risko).