

# BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

July 20, 2023

9:49AM

OPEN SESSION

MEETING MINUTES

## WebEx Virtual Meeting

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all board meetings are held virtually during the declared public health emergency.*

*Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:*

**This meeting is available by web:**

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m0f081b779d568b61ce2ead942500eced>

**This meeting is available by phone:**

Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208 or 1-202-860-2110

Access Code: 160 800 4760

Meeting Password: 2EMrsmD7qR9

**BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**  
**OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**JULY 20, 2023**

<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	
Dr. Lisa Johnson, OD - Chairperson	PRESENT
Dr. David Reed, OD - Board Member	PRESENT
Dr. LaMia Jones, OD- Board Member	PRESENT
Mr. Tracy Hammond- Board Member	PRESENT
Vacant- Board Member	-
<b>BOARD STAFF:</b>	
Ericka L. Walker, MSW - Executive Director	PRESENT
Mark Donatelli, Board Investigator	PRESENT
Gregory Scurlock, Compliance Officer	ABSENT
Zaneta Batts, Health Licensing Specialist	PRESENT
<b>LEGAL STAFF:</b>	
Ajay Gohil, Board Attorney	PRESENT
Kera Johnson, Policy Analyst, Office of Government Relations	PRESENT

**BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

**JULY 20, 2023**

<b>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL</b>	
OS-0720-01	<p><b><u>Introductions:</u></b></p> <p><b>Board Members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. David Reed, OD- Present</li> <li>• Dr. LaMia Jones, OD – Present</li> <li>• Mr. Tracy Hammond – Present</li> <li>• Dr. Lisa Johnson, OD- Present</li> </ul> <p><b>Board Staff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ericka Walker, Executive Director – Present</li> <li>• Mark Donatelli, Investigator – Present</li> <li>• Gregory Scurlock, Compliance Officer- Absent</li> <li>• Zaneta Batts, Health Licensing Specialist – Present</li> </ul> <p><b>Legal Staff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ajay Gohil, Attorney- Present</li> <li>• Kera Johnson, Policy Analyst – Office of Government Relations</li> </ul>
OS-0720-02	<p><b><u>Acceptance of Meeting Agenda:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b></p> <p>Acceptance of the July 20,2023, addendum Open Session Meeting Agenda.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A motion was made to approve the July 20, 2023, addendum Open session agenda by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Dr. Reed.</li> <li>• Dr. Johnson, Dr. Reed, Dr. Jones, and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul>
<b>MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS</b>	
OS-0720-03	<p><b><u>Executive Directors Report:</u></b></p> <p>Mrs. Ericka Walker, Executive Director for the Board of Optometry, welcomed all Board Members, Staff and Guests to the Open Session meeting. Mrs. Walker presented the DC Health updates and announced as of July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Dr. Iyana Bennett is the acting Director for DC Health. Dr. Sharon Lewis retired as Interim Director serving 37 years of service at DC Health. Dr. Bennett is from San Francisco, California, she served as the San Francisco Department of Public Health Chief Equity Officer and the Director of their Public Health office of Health equity.</p>

	<p>Mrs. Walker also briefly discussed DC Health will relocate to Union Square, 2201 Shannon Place SE as of late February 2024.</p> <p>Mrs. Walker discussed the IBCC (Interprofessional Board Chair Collaboration) upcoming symposium September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at The University of District of Columbia in Washington, DC.</p> <p>Although numbers have decreased significantly for COVID-19 and Monkeypox, information and resources are still listed on DC Health website.</p> <p>MOTA is responsible for recruiting all talented and interested individuals to serve on District Boards. Although, The Board of Optometry will say goodbye to Consumer Member Tracy Hammond this month. DC Health will welcome a new board member at the next scheduled meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023.</p> <p>Hybrid Board Meeting Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>October 19, 2023 <b>(Virtual)</b>.</li> </ul> <p>Licensed Optometrists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>225</li> </ul>	
OS-0720-04	<p><b><u>Board Attorney’s Report:</u></b></p> <p>Mr. Gohil introduced Office of Government Relations Policy Analyst, Kera Johnson to provide DC Health updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DC Health currently permits the practice of telehealth through a District license.</li> <li>Councilmembers Henderson and Parker introduced the Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023 on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. With restrictions, including the Board Chair and Consumer Members would continue to need to be District residents and no more than 50% of the Board would be non-District residents. On July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, this bill received a hearing and DC Health testified during the hearing and expressed support for the need of innovative solutions to fill board vacancies and offered some changes to the bill.</li> <li>Council went on recess on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and is expected to return on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Gohil spoke briefly on looking forward to the revision of the HORA very soon, which hasn’t taken place in seventeen years. The revised HORA has been submitted to the Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM).</p> <p>Mr. Gohil also announced the next ARBO meeting is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Nashville, Tennessee.</p>	

OS-0720-05	<p><b><u>Board Chair’s Report:</u></b></p> <p>Dr. Johnson discussed with Board Members, the topics and inquires mentioned at the Health Licensing Board roundtable for The Board of Optometry with Councilmember Henderson on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023.</p> <p>Dr. Johnson also recommended Optometrists to provide eye exams in schools in The District to students.</p> <p>Dr. Johnson also updated Board Members with the new technologies and NBEO updates for Optometry mentioned at The ARBO Conference in Alexandria, Virginia on June 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.</p> <p>Mrs. Walker discussed the idea of a reciprocity agreement with The Boards of Maryland and Virginia for the Board of Optometry. Mrs. Walker congratulated Dr. Johnson on an outstanding testimony she provided to Councilmember Henderson at the roundtable discussion for The Board of Optometry.</p>	
OS-0720-06	<p><b><u>Open Session Meeting Minutes:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the Open Session minutes from the April 20, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> A motion was made to accept the April 20, 2023, open session minutes by Mr. Hammond, and seconded by Dr. Reed.</p> <p>Dr. Johnson, Dr. Reed, and Dr. Jones, and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
<b>DISCUSSION AND AGENDA ITEMS</b>		
OS-0720-07	<p><b><u>Continuing Education Requirements:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> The Board of Optometry voted to not make any changes to the Continuing Education requirements the for the 2026 renewal. The courses can be completed in person/virtual.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> A motion was made to accept by Dr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Hammond.</p> <p>Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones, and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Reed opposed his vote. However, the motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0720-08	<p><b><u>The Council on Endorsed Licensure Mobility for Optometrists (CELMO):</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> The Board of Optometry accepted the CELMO certification for licensure by endorsement.</p>	

	<p><b><u>Motion:</u></b>          A motion was made to accept the CELMO certification for licensure by endorsement by Dr. Reed and seconded by D. Jones.</p> <p>Dr. Johnson, Dr. Reed, Dr. Jones, and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion.          The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0720-09	<p><b><u>ARBO Model Practice Act for Optometry:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b>          The Board moved to table the discussion until the October 19, 2023, board meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b>          A motion was made by Dr. Reed and seconded by Dr. Jones.</p> <p>Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones, Dr. Reed, and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion.          The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0720-10	<p><b><u>Consent Agenda:</u></b></p> <p>Acceptance of consideration of applications approved and the items for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board Actions taken since the last meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ariette Acevedo</li> <li>2. Samuel Chado</li> <li>3. Erik Mohaber</li> <li>4. Brandon Lim</li> <li>5. Antonia Sarantopoulos</li> <li>6. Adriana Okoye</li> <li>7. Ayhubrhan Yifru</li> <li>8. Crystal Woo</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b>          A motion was made to approve the items by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Dr. Jones.</p> <p>Dr. Johnson, Dr. Reed, Dr. Jones, and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion.          The motion passed unanimously.</p>	

<b>CLOSING</b>	
OS-0720-11	<p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> Pursuant to DC Official Code § 2-575(b), the Board will move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting to discuss the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To consult with an attorney to obtain legal advice and to preserve the attorney-client privilege between an attorney and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a).</li> <li>2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6).</li> <li>3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9).</li> <li>4. To plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigation of alleged criminal or civil misconduct or violations of law or regulations, if disclosure to the public would harm the investigation pursuant to section § 2-575(b) (14).</li> </ol>
OS-0720-12	<p><b><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Bord Action:</u></b> To adjourn the Open Session Meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in an open session to close out the business of Boards.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> A motion was made to adjourn the Open Session Meeting by Dr. Reed and seconded by Dr. Jones.</p> <p>Dr. Johnson, Dr. Reed, Dr. Jones, and Mr. Hammond all voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

**This ends the Board of Optometry Open Session Meeting.**

**The next meeting is scheduled on October 19, 2023 (Virtual).**