



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**Health Regulation and Licensing
Administration**

**BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

July 16, 2020

9:30 am to 12:00 pm

OPEN SESSION JULY 16, 2020

OS-0720-01	<p>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – 09:37</p> <p>Board Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jeffrey Kraskin – Member • Dr. Lisa Johnson – Member • Dr. David Reed – Member • Dr. LaMia Jones – Member • Mr. Tracey Hammond – Member <p>Board Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aisha Nixon – Executive Director • David Walker – Licensing Specialist • Ajay Gohil – Board Attorney • Mark Donatelli – Investigator • Ji Vaughn – Legal Intern • Nija Chappel – Legal Intern <p>Open Session Guest: Caitlyn Ozier - Osmotica Pharmaceuticals David Jacobs - Osmotica Pharmaceuticals Chris Marcus - Osmotica Pharmaceuticals</p>	
OS-0720-02	<p>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Dr. Jones made a motion to approve the agenda without additions or corrections. Seconded by Mr. Hammond.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones, Dr. Reed, Mr. Hammond, and Dr. Kraskin voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0720-03	<p>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</p> <p>Ms. Nixon reported there are 196 active optometrists in the District of Columbia. Out of the 196 active licensees, 175 have the DPA and 180 have the TPA. The District of Columbia Council approved for the Mayor to have the authority to extend the public health emergency into October. At this time, the Mayor has not announced whether an extension will be made. Members of the community who have questions about COVID-19 are asked to visit coronavirus.dc.gov for information. Finally, Ms. Nixon, Dr. Kraskin, and Mr. Gohil attended the first virtual ARBO conference.</p>	

OS-0720-04	<p>BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT Provided a brief recap of the ARBO Virtual Conference.</p>	
OS-0720-05	<p>CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT The Chair would like to see specific messaging from DC Health about the practice of optometry during the pandemic to help licensees.</p>	
OS-0720-06	<p>MINUTES</p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the April 30, 2020 meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Dr. Reed made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 30, 2020 meeting without additions or corrections. Seconded by Dr. Jones.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones, Dr. Reed, Mr. Hammond, and Dr. Kraskin voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0720-07	<p>DISCUSSION – RESPONSE TO SCOPE OF PRACTICE INQUIRY</p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Discuss and determine whether to issue a policy statement or individual response to inquiry concerning appropriate therapeutic products that optometrists can prescribe to patients.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The following is the scope of practice inquiry:</p> <p>The DC Municipal Regulations provide that a certified optometrist may prescribe “therapeutic pharmaceutical agents”, meaning “appropriate topical drugs and oral systemic drugs, including antibiotics, appropriate analgesics, antihistamines, non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, and anti-glaucoma medications. The term ‘therapeutic pharmaceutical agents’ includes topical steroidal anti-inflammatories and antivirals, or oral medications for the emergency treatment of angle closure glaucoma. The term ‘therapeutic pharmaceutical agents’ does not include oral and injectable antiviral and antifungal agents and other oral and injectable agents not authorized in this section, except for an</p>	

	<p>injectable to counter an anaphylactic reaction.” 17 D.C. Mun. Reg. 6413.1.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> No action needed.</p>	
OS-0720-08	<p>FYI – COPE EXTENDS RULES MODIFICATION FOR INTERACTIVE ONLINE CE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Due to continued state restrictions and CDC guidelines related to COVID-19, COPE has made the decision to extend the temporary rules modification to allow COPE Administrators and Providers to present CE activities through an INTERACTIVE ONLINE format and give LIVE COPE CE credit through December 31, 2020. COPE previously announced a temporary modification to the rules through June 30, 2020. No Action is needed from the Board.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> No action needed.</p>	
OS-0720-09	<p>MOTION TO CLOSE</p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Upon conclusion of the open session meeting pursuant to the DC Official Code 2-575(b) and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will move into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Dr. Reed made a motion to close the July 16, 2020 Open Session. Seconded by Mr. Hammond.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones, Dr. Reed, Mr. Hammond, and Dr. Kraskin voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0720-09	<p>MOTION TO ADJOURN</p>	

<p><u>Board Action:</u> To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Boards.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Dr. Johnson made a motion to adjourn the July 16, 2020 Board of Optometry Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Hammond.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Dr. Johnson, Dr. Jones, Dr. Reed, Mr. Hammond, and Dr. Kraskin voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
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The next open session meeting scheduled for October 16, 2020 at 10:00am.

The Open Meetings Act governs this meeting. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.