

1 The Florida Board of Optometry held a meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2020, commencing
2 at 11:30 a.m. This meeting was held at the Department of Health, 4042 Bald Cypress Way,
3 Tallahassee, Florida at (888) 585-9008, 136-103-141 participant code to which all persons
4 were invited to attend. Participants in this public meeting were made aware that these
5 proceedings are being recorded and that an audio file of the meeting will be posted to the
6 board's website.

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8 **AGENDA**

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12 I. **CALL TO ORDER (Roll Call):**

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14 **Board Members Present:**

15 Stuart Kaplan, O.D., Chair
16 Stephen Kepley, O.D., Vice Chair
17 Katie Spear, O.D.
18 David Rouse, O.D.
19 John Griffin, J.D.
20 Denise Burns-LeGros, O.D.
21 Mary L. Atkins, J.D.

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23 **Board Staff Present:**

24 Dr. Anthony Spivey, DBA,
25 Executive Director
26 Gail Curry, Regulatory
27 Supervisor/Counselant

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29 **Board Counsel:**

30 Deborah Loucks, Assistant
31 Attorney General

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33 **Court Reporter:**

34 For the Record
35 850-222-5491

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37 II. **EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS:**

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39 i. 64B13-4.001

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41 Dr. Kepley recapped the discussion from the last meeting regarding rule
42 64B13-4.001, F.A.C.

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44 Action: Motion to open the rule for consideration was made by Dr. Kepley. Second
45 by Dr. Spear.
46 Vote by roll call.

47 Stephen Kepley - Yea
48 Katie Spear - Yea
49 David Rouse - Yea
50 John Griffin - Yea
51 Denise Burns-LeGros - Yea
52 Mary L. Atkins - Yea
53 Stuart Kaplan – Yea
54 7 yeas/0 nays Motion carries
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56 Discussion ensued among Board members and Ms. Loucks concerning the adoption
57 of an emergency rule. The consensus of the Board was not to pursue an emergency
58 rule but to continue to consider petitions for variance and waiver.
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60 III. HOUR REQUIREMENTS:

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62 i. 64B13-5.001
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64 Discussion between Board Members concerning the continuing education hour
65 requirement having to be taken at in person events. Discussion between Board
66 members concerning current rule requirement that, with limited exceptions,
67 approved continuing education hours must be accrued at live, in-person
68 events. Given the limitations and hardships stemming from COVID pandemic, Mr.
69 Griffin stated he supported adoption of an emergency rule expiring at the end of
70 the current biennium which would permit at least 50% of continuing education
71 hours to be obtained online if the course is live, not recorded, and the course
72 sponsor is able to contemporaneously verify attendance. Ms. Loucks would draft
73 a proposed emergency rule for review and approval by the Board at a future
74 meeting if the consensus of the Board is to proceed with an emergency rule. Dr.
75 Kaplan asked that a roll call of the Board members be taken to determine if a draft
76 emergency rule be drafted.
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78 Vote by roll call.
79 Stephen Kepley - Yea
80 Katie Spear - Yea
81 David Rouse - Yea
82 John Griffin - Yea
83 Denise Burns-LeGros - Yea
84 Mary L. Atkins - Yea
85 Stuart Kaplan – Yea
86 7 yeas/0 nays
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88 Dr. Rouse and Mr. Griffin will work with Ms. Loucks to draft language.
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90 PUBLIC COMMENT:

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92 Matthew Penson – Not present

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IV.

Dr. Alison Bozung – has concerns for language concerning the cameras needed to verify attendance at online courses because they can be distracting and slow down the system. Appreciates the Board for paying attention to this issue.

Dr. Pagona Kokolakis – Out of state Optometrist and is waiting to see if CE will be allowed online as she is out of state and has toddlers that make it difficult to travel. She is in favor of online CE. Would Medical Errors and Jurisprudence be online?

Dr. Domnitz – CE Broker said Medical Errors can be obtained online for medical doctors.

Ashley Cowart – CE would have to be approved and thinks it would cause a back-up. Will COPE courses be approved?

Ms. Loucks will send out dates for the next meeting

ADJOURNMENT
Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Rouse. Second by Dr. Spear
Vote: 7 yeas/0 nays. Meeting adjourned.