

FLORIDA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

GENERAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

May 12, 2021

4:30 P.M. EST

Call-in # (888) 585-9008

Participant Code – 136-103-141#



Stephen Kepley, O.D., Acting Chair

Christina McGinnis, Executive Director

BOARD MEMBERS

Stephen Kepley, O.D., Acting Chair
Robert Easton, O.D.
Katie Spear, O.D.
David Rouse, O.D.
John Griffin, J.D.
Denise Burns-LeGros, O.D
Linville Atkins, J.D.

BOARD STAFF

Christina McGinnis, Executive Director
Dontavia Wilson, Program Operations Administrator

BOARD COUNSEL

Deborah Loucks, Senior Assistant Attorney General

COURT REPORTER

For the Record

Participants in this public meeting should be aware that these proceedings are being recorded. An audio file of the meeting will be posted on the Florida Board of Optometry website.

Participants are asked to mute their telephone upon entering the meeting to reduce background noise. Participants will be recognized by the Chair when it is their turn to speak.

CALL TO ORDER at 4:30 P.M.

Christina McGinnis called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Roll Call

Board Members

Stephen Kepley, O.D., Acting Chair
Robert Easton, O.D.
Katie Spear, O.D.
David Rouse, O.D.
John Griffin, J.D.
Denise Burns-LeGros, O.D
Linville Atkins, J.D.

Board Staff

Christina McGinnis, Executive Director
Dontavia Wilson, Program Operations Administrator

Board Counsel

Deborah Loucks, Assistant Attorney General

Welcome

Dr. Kepley welcomed and thanked everyone for being on the call.

PETITION FOR WAIVER/VARIANCE

Divya Bellapu Reddy- Present. A motion was made by Mr. Griffin to accept the petition. Dr. Rouse seconded the motion with Dr. Spear, Ms. Atkins, and Dr. Easton in opposition. Motion passed.

Ricky Luong- Present. Dr. Rouse made a motion to approve the petition based on satisfaction of the statute. Dr. Burns-Le-Gros seconded the motion with Dr. Spear, Dr. Easton, and Atkins in opposition. Motion passed.

Kyra Dorvall- Present. Dr. Rouse made a motion to approve the petition based on satisfaction of the statute. Dr. Burns-LeGros seconded the motion with Dr. Spear, Dr. Easton, and Ms. Atkins in opposition. Motion passed.

Erica Levinson- Present. Dr. Rouse made a motion to approve the petition based on satisfaction of the statute. Dr. Burns-LeGros seconded the motion with Dr. Spear, Dr. Easton, and Ms. Atkins in opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY (NBEO) EXAM DISCUSSION

Dr. Kepley asked if anyone would like to make any comments. Mr. Leonard Carson gave a presentation on behalf of the Florida Optometric Association (FOA).

Ms. MCGinnis provided an update regarding NBEO, including the organization's decline to attend this board meeting, providing a written response instead. The next steps are to address the current contract with an extension, a psychometric review over the summer with a presentation to the board in October, and negotiate an updated or new contract with NBEO. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Santisi, Secretary Treasurer with FOA, made a request if this is going to the attorneys to include Mr. Carson in all negotiations. He doesn't feel that FOA would not be represented well in this case.

Dr. Rouse made a motion to form an independent task force charge with developing language for the board to review and revise rule of 64B13-4.001(d) and would like for it to be made up of a current board member, a past board member, a member of ASCO, a member of FOA legal liaison, and one member of the Dept. of Health or the Board of Optometry Executive Director. The purpose of this task force is to determine an alternative mechanism for measuring competencies of the practical skills listed in the practical examination. Ms. Loucks provided a suggestion of having a rules meeting discussing of changing the rules and get input with all interested parties. Dr. Spear seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. Rouse made a motion to extend the current contract with NBEO for 6 months extension, with a plan to reevaluate the contract for additional time at a later date. Dr. Easton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BOARD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR APPROVAL

A motion was made by Dr. Easton to approve the Executive Director, Christina McGinnis. Ms. Atkins seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Chair- A motion was made by Mr. Griffin to move Dr. Kepley as Board Chair. Dr. Burns-LeGros seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair- A motion was made by Dr. Kepley to make Dr. Rouse Vice-Chair. Dr. Easton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Easton introduced himself and he's looking forward to being a part of the board.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Easton to adjourn at 6:22 P.M. Dr. Burns-LeGros seconded the motioned and it passed unanimously.
