

# Florida Board of Optometry

## June 9, 2021 Conference Call Draft Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2021 at 12:00 P.M. EST

Meet Me #:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/386981509>



**Stephen Kepley, O.D.**  
Chair

**David Rouse, O.D.**  
Vice Chair

**Christina McGinnis, MPH**  
Executive Director

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**Board Members:**

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

**Board Staff:**

Christina McGinnis, MPH, Executive Director  
Dontavia Wilson, Program Operations Administrator  
Jacqueline Clahar-Anderson, Regulatory Supervisor Consultant

**Board Counsel:**

Deborah Loucks, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**Court Reporter**

**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.**

**Please mute your telephone upon entering the meeting site to remove background noises. You will be recognized by the Chair when it is your turn to speak. Thank you in advance for following these instructions to ensure a smooth meeting process.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Christina McGinnis called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

**Roll Call****Board Members**

Stephen Kepley, O.D., Chair  
David Rouse, O.D., Vice Chair  
Robert Easton, O.D.  
Katie Spear, O.D.  
Denise Burns-LeGros, O.D  
John Griffin, J.D.- Consumer  
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**NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY UPDATE**

Ms. McGinnis provided an update and overview of the Department's contract status with the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO).

Discussion ensued.

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**Action Taken:** A motion was made by Dr. Rouse to decline a contract with NBEO and to let the current contract expire on July 1, 2021 since NBEO is not providing what is needed. Motion was seconded by Dr. Burns LeGros.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Kepley asked Dr. Rouse if his motion was not to renew the contract with NBEO. Dr. Rouse stated “yes”. Dr. Rouse amended his motion.

**Action Taken:** Dr. Rouse amended his motion to let the existing contract terminate and only proceed with a new contract if it contains a 30 days termination clause at will. Dr. Burns LeGros seconded the motion with Mr. Griffin, Ms. Atkins, and Dr. Easton in opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

## **RULE 64B13-4.001 DISCUSSION**

A suggestion was made by Mr. David Rouse to remove NBEO from the rule and leave the language open.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Loucks addressed the draft language from Mr. Leonard Carson of the Florida Optometric Association (FOA), informing board members that there has not been sufficient time to review the proposal and a vote cannot take place. Additionally, draft language sent included a rule that was not on the agenda.

Ms. Loucks requested board member rule change suggestions are sent to her for preparation prior to the July board meeting.

Ms. Loucks advised that the board must indicate the exam used, as specified in statute. She stated a rule without a named exam, the rule may not be approved by Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC).

Mr. Griffin asked when the NBEO psychometric recertification would be completed.

Lola Pouncey from the Department of Health provided an update, stating NBEO was sent a questionnaire however the Department has not received a response to this request. Ms. Pouncey requested a board member be named to work with the Department’s contracted psychometrician through the review process with NBEO, including potential travel to NBEO’s headquarters as needed. Dr. Kepley identified Dr. Rouse as the point of contact for the Department’s recertification process.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Rouse to adjourn at 1:06pm. Dr. Burns-LeGros seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.