

Florida Board of Optometry

Board Meeting Agenda

The Florida Board of Optometry held a board meeting Tuesday, December 14, 2021, commencing at 12:00 p.m. Participants in this public meeting should be aware that these proceedings are being recorded and that an audio file of the meeting will be posted to the board's website.

Participants may join the meeting with audio only capabilities via the following number and access code: 1-877-309-2073, 501-690-229 this is not the recommended option as you will not have full webinar functionality.

Since discipline is not taking place at this meeting, continuing education credit cannot be received for attendance. See Rule 64B13-5.001 for additional details.



Stephen Kepley, OD
Chair

David Rouse, OD
Vice Chair

Christina McGinnis, MPH
Executive Director

BOARD MEMBERS

Stephen Kepley, OD, Chair
David Rouse, OD, Vice Chair
Katie Spear, OD, JD, MPH
Denise Burns-LeGros, OD, FAAO
Robert Easton, Jr., OD, FAAO
John Griffin, JD, Consumer
Linville Atkins, JD, Consumer

BOARD STAFF

Christina McGinnis, MPH, Executive Director
Dontavia Wilson, Program Operations Administrator

BOARD COUNSEL

Deborah Loucks, Senior Assistant Attorney General

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM.

- A. Roll Call
Board Members
Stephen Kepley, OD, Chair – *Present*
David Rouse, OD, Vice Chair – *Present*
Katie Gilbert Spear, OD, JD, MPH – *Present*
Denise Burns-LeGros, OD, FAAO – *Present*
Robert Easton, Jr., OD, FAAO – *Present*
John Griffin, Esquire, Consumer – *Present*
Linville Atkins, Esquire, Consumer – *Present*
- Board Staff
Christina McGinnis, MPH, Executive Director – *Present*
Dontavia Wilson, Program Operations Administrator – *Present*
- Board Counsel
Deborah Loucks, Senior Assistant Attorney General – *Present*
- Court Reporter – *Not Present*
- B. Welcome
Board chair, Dr. Kepley, provided a welcome statement.

II. PETITION FOR WAIVER/VARIANCE

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- A. Rule 64B13-4.001, Examination Requirements
1. Kristie Garcia (1801/5733)** – *Present*. Ms. Loucks presented this petition. A motion was made by Ms. Atkins to accept the request to withdraw of the petition. Motion seconded by Dr. Easton. Motion passed unanimously.
 2. Sandra Maria Rugama (1801/6442)** – *Present*. A motion was made by Mr. Griffin to deny the petition based fails to demonstrate satisfaction of the purpose of the statute. Motion seconded by Ms. Atkins. Motion passed unanimously with Dr. Rouse in opposition.
 3. Matthew Meredith (1801/6451)** – *Present*. A motion was made by Dr. Easton to accept the petition. Motion seconded by Dr. Kopley. Motion passed unanimously with Dr. Spear and Ms. Atkins in opposition.
 4. Hiba Khalil (1801/NA) – *Present*. A motion was made by Dr. Spear to accept the withdrawal of the petition. Motion seconded by Dr. Easton. Motion passed unanimously.
 5. Ashley Ireland (1801/NA) – *Present*.
Tabled for the January meeting.

III. APPLICATIONS PRESENTED FOR BOARD REVIEW

- A. Sandra Maria Rugama (1801/6442)** – *Present*
No action needed on the application as it is currently valid.
- B. Matthew Meredith (1801/6451)** – *Present*.
A motion was made by Dr. Easton to approve the application. Motion seconded by Mr. Griffin. Motion passed with Dr. Spear and Ms. Atkins in opposition.
- C. Alice Chalongwone (1801/6432) – *Present*
A motion was made by Mr. Griffin to approve the application. Motion seconded by Dr. Easton. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Kristie Garcia (1801/5733)** – *Present*.
No action needed on the application as it is currently valid.
- E. Yeva Kosman-Rimskaya (1801/6340) – *Not Present*
A motion was made by Dr. Easton to deny the application due to proof lack of scores. Motion seconded by Dr. Spear. Motion passed with Mr. Griffin in opposition.

IV. PETITION FOR ORAL DRUG COURSE AND EXAMINATION

A. Florida Optometric Association (FOA) – *Present. Trevor Carson (Assistant General Counsel of FOA)*. Section 463.0055 Florida Statute requires that before a certified optometrist in Florida may administer prescribed oral ocular pharmaceutical agents, he or she must successfully complete a course and examination on general ocular pharmaceutical agents and their side effects that has been reviewed and approved by the board. On November 18th FOA filed a petition with the board asking that the board review the oral drug course and its examination that was jointly developed by the FOA and the Florida Medical Association as provided in statutes. Mr. Carson sent a copy of the examination materials to the board office. FOA requests that the board review and approve the oral drug course and its exam with the understanding that the exam will have to be redeveloped. Also, to note a typo in the petition; the last sentence of paragraph four should state “that both FOA and the Florida Medical Association will administer the exam.” Lastly, this process to redevelop the exam will both be time consuming and an expensive process FOA intends to request that the department reimburse both FOA and FMA for the cost of redeveloping the exam once the exact cost and of the redevelopment is known.

A motion was made by Dr. Rouse to approve the examination content and the test development as required to statute. Motion seconded by Dr. Burns-LeGros. Motion passed unanimously.

V. PSYCHOMETRIC UPDATE

A. National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Review and Certification
Mr. Bosque gave a brief overview of his visit to NBEO. He assured the Board that the process they're following is sound, valid, and reliable. He's been in testing over 20 years and hasn't seen an operation as efficient and on top of their security processes, development processes, and ensuring fairness. Mr. Bosque has encouraged the board to visit and observe their processes. As far as the evaluation it follows the rule which is provided in the report as well as covering the requirements in their development practices. In addition, the three parts that are administered everything meets the requirements of a national examination and they're keeping up with the examination as would be expected.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Kepley requested for the department certify this examination in writing based on Mr. Bosque's report before the Board can move forward.

B. Online Laws and Rules Examination Update
Mr. Bosque gave a brief update. The last update of your exam was 2018. He provided all the pass rates for overall in a three-year period from 2018 to 2020. Out of a total of 583 candidates who took the exam 89% passed and 11% failed. Candidates must score 84% on the exam. The exam is administered on computer by NBEO at Charlotte Proctor. Once scored the department and the board office are responsible for updating. The candidates pay \$100.00 to NBEO for the administration and covering Practice Act 463 and the board's rules. He has gone through all the active items that are used and has identified all that need refinement. There's currently two which need to be pulled from the exam and then about four that need minor revisions that he will provide to NBEO. Material has been put together for the statutes and rules for 2020. All is tentatively slated to be put in place by January 1st of 2022. Mr. Bosque is still working with NBEO.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

A. January 14, 2022

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Burns-LeGros to adjourn the meeting at 1:36pm. Motion seconded by Dr. Easton. Motion passed unanimously.