**Maine Board of Optometry**

**113 State House Station**

**Augusta, Maine 04333**

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 1, 2024**

**BOARD MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Nadeau, O.D. at 9:06 a.m. Members present Paul Cote, O.D., James Smith, O.D., Timothy Rioux, O.D., Eric Hebert, O.D. and James Murphy, Public Member.

Others present Tina Carpentier, Office Specialist II, and Elizabeth Stivers, Assistant Attorney and six citizens listening remotely on zoom.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Action on Minutes of September 30, 2024, Meeting: A motion was made by James Murphy, second by Dr. Cote to accept the minutes as written.

The motion passes 6 in favor and 0 opposed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Election of Officers**:

A motion was made by Dr. Cote, seconded by James Murphy to re-elect Dr. Nadeau as President, Dr. Smith as Complaint Officer and Dr. Rioux as Continuing Education Officer.

The motion passes 6 in favor.

Dr. Thomas P. Nadeau, O.D., President

Dr. Pat Smith, O.D. Complaint Officer

Dr. Timothy Rioux, O.D., Continuing Education Officer

**SCHEDULE 2025 BOARD MEETINGS**:

February 7, 2025

May 2, 2025

August 1, 2025

November 7, 2025

Unless advertised , all meetings begin at 9:00 a.m.

**REVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED ON PROPOSED RULES AND CONSIDER CHANGES/ADOPTION OF FINAL RULES:** The Board reviewed and discussed changes.

A motion was made by Dr. Hebert, seconded by Dr. Cote to adopt the rules as published.

The motion passes 6 in favor.

**Email from Dr. Kandra, O.D.** : The Board reviewed the email and additional information dated July 30, 2024 on guidelines for radio frequency use.

A motion was made by Dr. Hebert, seconded by Dr. Smith, to send a letter stating that the use of radio frequency is in the scope of practice as long as it pertains to the eye and associated structures.

The motion passes 6 in favor.

**REVIEW CATEGORIES CURRENTLY USED IN ARBO:** The Board review the categories and agrees that they are current and up to date.

**EMAIL FROM DR. BARBAY, O.D.:** The Board reviewed the email dated October 7, 2024 on the 90-day waiting period in order to take exams. The 90-day waiting period is in our current law. Will not be an issue going forward, not in our proposed rules. No action taken by the Board.

**REVIEW CHANGES TO EXAM:** The Board reviewed the new exam questions based on the new Law.

A motion was made by Dr. Hebert, seconded by Dr. Smith to approve the new questions for the law exam.

The motion passes 6 in favor.

**CHANGES TO RENEWAL APPLICATION FORM:** The Board reviewed the draft to the renewal application form. The new form has two new questions: has the renewal applicant taken 15 CE credits in diagnosis and treatment of the ocular disease or relevant systemic disease and whether the applicant wants to identify any CE credits she or he wants to roll over to the next year’s renewal.

The Board is ok with the changes.

**MA LAW AND RULES FOR LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT DR. BEAULIEU:** The Board reviewed and discussed the MA’s law and rules for requirements for licensure by endorsement.

A motion was made by Dr. Cote, second by Dr. Hebert that the MA’s law and rules are equivalent to the Maine laws.

The motion passes 6 in favor.

**AAG, REVIEW OF BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES:** Betsy Stivers presented to the Board roles and responsibilities and the procedure related to adjudicatory hearings.

**COMPLAINTS:**

**OPT-2024-19992**: After presentation and discussion, a motion was made by James Murphy, seconded by Dr. Hebert to table the complaint to the next meeting to gather further information on the complaint.

The motion passes 5 in favor and 1 abstained (Dr. Cote)

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Public Comment from Joseph Neville, on Qualified Technicians for telehealth standards.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**: Dr. Nadeau commented on the Board for all its hard work. He stated that working with the Board, he has learned a lot along the way and has had great experience with all members of the Board.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT:** None

**ADJOURNED**: A motion was made by Dr. Cote, seconded by James Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

The motion passes 6 in favor and 0 opposed.

The next meeting will be held on February 7, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Carpentier

Office Specialist II, Maine Board of Optometry