

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists** was held on **February 15, 2012** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in the third floor hearing room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Neil Malkin, O.D. – *via telephone*
Joseph Pavano, III, OD – *via telephone*
Henry W. Siegrist
John Sienko, O.D
Jason Van Stone – *via telephone*
Regina A. Strand, O.D.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Dr. Malkin called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

I. Minutes

Dr. Sienko made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pavano, to approve the May 11, 2011, September 21, 2011 and November 16, 2011 meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Department of Public Health Updates

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health, Practitioner Investigations Unit reported there are eight cases involving optometrist being investigated by the DPH. An additional three additional cases have been referred to the Department's legal office for further review.

III. LEGAL OFFICE BUSINESS

Vernon Tompkins, OD – Petition No. 2010-5488

David Tilles Staff Attorney, Department of Public Health presented a Consent Order in this matter. Dr. Tompkins was present with Attorney Ellen Costello.

Following discussion Dr. Sienko made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pavano, to approve the Consent Order which imposes a \$500.00 civil penalty and probation for one year. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Sienko signed the Order on behalf of the Board.

IV. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

The Board requested that Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations attend the next meeting to update the Board regarding continuing education and to discuss levels of licensure based on a practitioner's board certification/specialty.

V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Neil Malkin, O.D
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists** was held on **May 16, 2012** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in the third floor hearing room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Neil Malkin, O.D. – *via telephone*
 Joseph Pavano, III, OD – *via telephone*
 Henry W. Siegrist. – *via telephone*
 John Sienko, O.D. – *via telephone*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jason Van Stone
 Regina A. Strand, O.D.

Dr. Malkin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

I. Minutes

Dr. Sienko made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pavano, to approve the February 15, 2012, meeting minutes. The motion passed.

II. Department of Public Health Updates

Licensure

The Board had discussion with Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations regarding a level of licensure for Optometrists who use the designation of “Board Certified”. Ms. Filippone stated that to do so would require a statutory change. This not something that DPH would be interested in pursuing.

The consensus of the Board is that adding a new level of licensure in not necessary.

DPH will notify the Board if any entities express an interest in pursuing this.

The Board also discussed continuing education. The Board feels that courses approved by Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) are sufficient for fulfilling CEU requirements. The Board is not interested in having the authority to approve courses. DPH will research the requirements in other States regarding the CEU approval process, and report back to the Board.

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health, Practitioner Investigations Unit reported there are five cases involving optometrist being investigated by the DPH, three of which are being reviewed by consultants. One additional case has been referred to the Department’s legal office for further review.

III. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Pavano, III, O.D
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists** was held on **September 19, 2012** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in the third floor hearing room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman
Lawrence Lefland, OD
Joseph Pavano, III, OD
Regina A. Strand, O.D

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jason Van Stone
Henry W. Siegrist.

Dr. Blondin called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

I. Minutes

The minutes from the May 16, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. Department of Public Health Updates

Continuing Education

The Board had discussion with Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations. Ms. Filippone provided a synopsis regarding the statutory change that is necessary to allow the Board to approve continuing education courses. A statutory change is being sought to clarify continuing education requirements. The current draft regulations have not proceeded pending clarification of the current statutes.

Board Certification

Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations stated that no new level of licensure will be developed should an individual attain "Board Certification." A practitioner can append their marketing material indicating "Board Certification" provided they follow American Board of Optometry (ABO) guidelines.

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health, Practitioner Investigations Unit reported there are two cases involving optometrists being investigated by the DPH. Two additional cases have been referred to the Department's legal office for further review.

III. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists** was held on **November 28, 2012** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in the third floor hearing room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman
Lawrence Lefland, OD
Joseph Pavano, III, OD – via telephone
Regina A. Strand, O.D

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jason Van Stone
Henry W. Siegrist.

Dr. Blondin called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

I. Minutes

The minutes from the September 19, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. Department of Public Health Updates

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health, Practitioner Investigations Unit reported there are two cases involving optometrists being investigated by the DPH. Two additional cases have been referred to the Department's legal office for further review.

III. Old Business

Dr. Lefland made a motion, seconded by Dr. Strand, to add Continuing Education to the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Lefland made a motion, seconded by Dr. Strand, recommending approval of the proposed changes to the continuing education that are being pursued by the Department of Public Health. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. New Business

Meeting Dates for 2013

Following are the meeting dates scheduled for 2013.

February 13, 2013

May 15, 2013

September 18, 2013

November 20, 2013

All meetings will be scheduled for 9:00 a.m., at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists