# State Board of Optometry May 19, 2022

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Tuanne K. Chubb, O.D., F.A.A.O., Chairperson
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
John A. Godfrey, O.D., Vice Chair
Kimberly F. Boyer, O.D., Secretary
Tyler Ritchie, Deputy Attorney General, Consumer
Protection Member
Jeffrey B. Becker, O.D.

Denise T. Wilcox, O.D., Ph.D. Perry C. Umlauf, O.D. - Absent

### BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Ariel E. O'Malley, Esquire, Board Counsel
Paul J. Jarabeck, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor
Gregory S. Liero, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Sarah E. McNeill, Board Administrator
Marc Farrell, Deputy Director, Office of Policy,
Department of State

## ALSO PRESENT:

Nicole Sidle, Majority Committee Executive Director, House Professional Licensure Committee Kari Orchard, Democratic Executive Director, House Professional Licensure Committee Ted Mowatt, CAE, Vice President, Wanner Associates, on behalf of Pennsylvania Optometric Association

3 \* \* \* 1 2 State Board of Optometry 3 May 19, 2022 \* \* \* 4 5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 10:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive 6 7 Session with Ariel E. O'Malley, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations and to receive the advice of Board 10 Counsel. The Board returned to open session at 10:30 11 a.m.] 12 13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State 14 Board of Optometry was held on Thursday, May 19, 15 2022. Luanne K. Chubb, O.D., F.A.A.O., Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m. 16 17 18 [Ariel E. O'Malley, Esquire, Board Counsel, reminded 19 everyone that the meeting was being recorded, and 20 those who continued to participate were giving their 21 consent to be recorded.] 22 23 Roll Call 24 [Chairperson Chubb requested Ms. McNeill take a roll 25 call of Board members.]

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1
   Introduction of Audience
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   [Chairperson Chubb requested the introduction of
4
   audience members.]
                               * * *
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   [Chairperson Chubb welcomed Dr. Becker and Dr. Wilcox
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7
   back to the State Board of Optometry. She announced
   that this was Dr. Boyer's last meeting and thanked
   her for her time on the Board.]
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11
   Approval of Agenda
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
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13
                  I'd like to call for a motion to
14
                  approve today's agenda.
15
   DR. BOYER:
16
                  So moved.
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
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18
                  Is there a second?
   DR. BECKER:
19
20
                  Second.
21
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
22
                  Roll call vote.
23
24
                  Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner
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                  Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr.
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1
                  Boyer, aye; Tyler Ritchie, aye; Dr.
2
                  Becker, aye; Dr. Wilcox, aye.
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 4
                  Any opposed? Hearing none.
5
    [The motion carried unanimously.]
                               * * *
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7
   Approval of Minutes
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   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
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                  I'd like to ask for a motion for
10
                  approval of the minutes from the
11
                  February 3, 2022 state Board meeting?
                       Is there a motion?
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13
   DR. BOYER:
14
                  So moved.
15
   DR. GODFREY:
                  I second the motion.
16
17
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
18
                  Roll call vote.
19
20
                  Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner
21
                  Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr.
22
                  Boyer, aye; Tyler Ritchie, aye.
23
   [The Board discussed corrections to the minutes.]
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   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
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                  For the addition, because it is a minor
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6
                  addition, do we need to take any other
1
2
                  modifications to the minutes?
3
                       Any opposed to the approval of the
 4
                  minutes? Hearing none.
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   [The motion carried. Jeffrey Becker and Denise
   Wilcox abstained from voting on the motion.]
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   Report of Board Prosecutors
   [Gregory S. Liero, Esquire, Board Prosecution
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   Liaison, presented the Consent Agreement for Case No.
   19-52-014135.
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        Ms. O'Malley asked whether the Board wished to
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   return to Executive Session for further discussion,
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   and Board members agreed.]
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   [Paul J. Jarabeck, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor,
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17
   presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 21-52-
18
   018152.1
19
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
20
                  At this time, I'll call for a motion
                  for Case No. 21-52-018152.
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   DR. GODFREY:
22
23
                  I move to accept the VRP Agreement Case
24
                  No. 21-52-018152 as was just outlined
25
                  by Mr. Paul Jarabeck.
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1 DR. BOYER: 2 I second. 3 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: Roll call vote. 4 5 Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner 6 7 Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr. Boyer, aye; Tyler Ritchie, aye; Dr. 9 Becker, aye; Dr. Wilcox, aye. 10 11 Any opposed? Any abstentions? Hearing 12 none. 13 [The motion carried unanimously.] 14 15 Report of Acting Commissioner 16 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of 17 Professional and Occupational Affairs, informed Board 18 members that the department is currently in the 19 process of replacing the Pennsylvania Licensing 20 System (PALS) and should have the new system 21 identified and in place by the end of 2023. 22 Chairperson Chubb requested further information 23 concerning the replacement. 24 Acting Commissioner Claggett stated the 25 department has not identified a replacement, but the

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goal is to have more control over the new system
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2
   rather than reaching out to vendors. He explained
3
   that it is more cost effective to replace the system
4
   than to continuously pay for developments.]
                             * * *
5
   Report of Board Counsel - Legislative Report
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   [Ariel E. O'Malley, Esquire, Board Counsel, referred
   to the 2021-2022 Legislative Report for the Board's
   information. She reported no changes since last time
10
   but would provide any updates on the next agenda.]
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12
   Report of Board Chair
13
   [Luanne K. Chubb, O.D., F.A.A.O., Chairperson,
14
   addressed Board vacancies and encouraged anyone who
15
   is interested in serving as a Board member to contact
16
   the Board office to discuss the process.
17
        Chairperson Chubb announced that she would be
18
   attending the Association of Regulatory Boards of
19
   Optometry (ARBO) Meeting virtually in June.
20
   stated she continues to serve on the Accreditation
21
   Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) for residency
22
   programs and optometry technician programs.
23
   noted review of any actions, approvals, or
24
   recommendations to programs could be found on the
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American Optometric Association website.

25

Dr. Becker asked whether hybrid meetings are going to continue or change to in person in the future.

Ms. O'Malley stated there is always going to be some kind of hybrid system because legislation passed allowing the use of virtual capabilities to have a quorum and for people to observe their meetings.

Chairperson Chubb suggested providing clarification in the minutes for people with continuing education questions concerning the waiver rollback mailing.

Ms. O'Malley noted that it was already stated in the minutes by Commissioner Johnson regardless of the waivers, additional information, and the rollbacks that all education for the upcoming renewal for optometry could be via virtual means.

Chairperson Chubb expressed concern whether the information is still posted on the website. She noted POA sent it to their members after the notice was received but everybody is not a member of the POA and it should be on their website as well.

Ms. O'Malley noted Mr. Jarabeck confirmed that it was on their website.]

\* \* \*

25 Report of Regulatory Counsel

[Ariel E. O'Malley, Esquire, Board Counsel, referred to Act 41, noting prior Board discussion at the Regulatory Committee Meeting. She stated that Act 41 would remove some of the barriers for people trying to obtain a license who already hold a license somewhere else. She mentioned receiving comments from the House Professional Licensure Committee and stylistic and Regulatory Analysis Form (RAF) issues from the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC).

Ms. O'Malley referred the House Professional Licensure Committee comments for § 23.27a(a)(1)(i), where the burden is put on the applicant to submit a copy of the current applicable law, regulations, or other rule governing the licensure, certification, registration, or permit requirements and scope of practice in the jurisdiction that issued the license, certificate, registration, or permit.

Ms. O'Malley informed Board members that the House Professional Licensure Committee felt the responsibility should be removed from the applicant and put on Board counsel. She noted discussion with the committee and leaving the language the way it was with the onus on the applicant for expediency. She discussed the time and money it would take counsel,

especially if coming from a foreign country, which would get factored into the application fee and put back on every single applicant.

Ms. O'Malley also mentioned that case law says it is the licensee's responsibility to be aware of the laws, rules, and regulations that govern their practice. She noted it is also the applicant's burden to prove to the Board that the applicant meets the requirements, not Board counsel to establish the applicant meets the Board's requirements.

Ms. O'Malley referred to § 23.27a(a)(4), where an applicant must not have any discipline by the jurisdiction that issued the license, certificate, registration, or permit. She noted the committee recommended clarifying the section to specify the types of discipline. She explained that it would be difficult to enumerate the types of discipline because each state has different names for the types of disciplines.

Ms. O'Malley stated it would make sense to use the language directly from Act 41 where it reads, "Holds a license in good standing and has not been disciplined by the jurisdiction that issued the license, certificate, registration, or permit unless the Board determines, in its discretion after

considering the following factors, that the discipline should not be an impediment to the granting of a license, certificate, registration, or permit to practice in this Commonwealth."

Ms. O'Malley reported the factors that were used came from Act 53, like the number of disciplinary actions and what the applicant had done since then; such as taken extra continuing education (CE) to compensate and fix their disciplinary action; is the disciplinary action old and has the person matured; or any other factors to help understand whether or not the Board could look past that disciplinary action, where the applicant learned from that mistake and the Board could grant them a license.

Ms. O'Malley referred to § 23.27b(b)(1), which would give the Board the authority to issue a provisional license for less than a year. She noted the committee felt it was unclear under what circumstances the Board would need to exercise this authority and asked why the Board would issue a license for less than a year because it is not addressed in Act 41 of 2019.

Ms. O'Malley noted that the language was taken out and moved back similarly to what was in the act itself and left it up to one year after issuance of

1 the provisional license after review with the
2 Regulatory Committee.

Ms. O'Malley referred to the fourth comment, where the House Professional Licensure Committee stated all of the ways were listed that the provisional license terminated but did not have an expiration date, so included the provisional endorsement license expires at number (3).

Ms. O'Malley addressed the House Professional Licensure Committee's final comment and referred to § 23.27(b)(d), where it states that the Board will not issue subsequent provisional licenses after the provisional licenses expire. She stated the committee believed the section is vague, and Act 41 of 2019 does not specifically state that the Board shall only issue one provisional license. She noted the committee recommended the section be amended to correct the unintended harm of limiting provisional licenses and further suggested incorporating a time frame to reapply.

Ms. O'Malley noted the Board's response in the preamble did not agree because the whole purpose of the provisional license was supposed to give applicants the opportunity to meet whatever was lacking when the applicant filed their application.

She stated their requirements were to be compared
with the Commonwealth's requirements to determine
whether the requirements were substantially
equivalent, where the applicant would be given a
provisional license if information was missing and
then receive a full license after that was completed.

Ms. O'Malley explained that the regulations allow someone to ask for an extension if the applicant cannot complete the requirements in a year with the provisional license and referred to 23.27b(b)(2), where upon a written request and a showing of good cause gives the Board the authority to extend the provisional license for another year. She commented that giving multiple renewals of a provisional license defeats the purpose. She stated it was not supposed to be its own licensure class and kept it the same.

Ms. O'Malley stated it was explained in the preamble that someone really close to meeting licensure requirements were given the provisional license and could request one additional year.

Ms. O'Malley informed Board members that she is addressing the questions made by IRRC, including a typographical error and additions to the RAF.]

DR. WILCOX:

15 1 I motion that we approve the 2 regulation. 3 DR. BECKER: 4 Second. 5 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: Roll call vote. 6 7 8 Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner 9 Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr. 10 Boyer, aye; Tyler Ritchie, aye; Dr. 11 Becker, aye; Dr. Wilcox, aye. 12 13 Any abstentions? Any opposed? Hearing 14 none. 15 [The motion carried unanimously.] 16 Report of Board Administrator - No Report 17 \* \* \* 18 19 Old Business 20 [Kimberly F. Boyer, O.D., Secretary, addressed the 21 Continuous Assessment Program (CAP) for continuing 22 education. She noted reaching out to the American 23 Board of Optometry for a list of states that approved 24 the program and found Pennsylvania on the list in 25 error. She mentioned the Board approves those on a

case-by-case basis.

Dr. Boyer spoke with April Wilhelm from the American Board of Optometry and found their board is currently working with the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) to get the CAP assessments approved. She stated it was hoped to get their first CAP CE approved in September, which would make it unnecessary for the Board to delineate this as approved CE because it would be automatic if it becomes COPE approved.

Dr. Boyer recommended allowing the process to occur on its own rather than creating rules to follow in Pennsylvania.

Chairperson Chubb agreed and believed it should go through the ARBO process.

Dr. Boyer mentioned receiving a CAP assessment sample, noting she would not have a problem approving 3 credits based on the sample.

Dr. Godfrey reported taking the CAP assessments several times and believed them to be a legitimate form of continuing education. He commented that individuals are only able to do half of their credits in that form and are going to be two-year licensure. He noted the CAP assessments would be available 6 times, so individuals could get 18 credits if 3 were

17 allowed for each. 1 2 Dr. Godfrey commented that the Board should see 3 what ARBO comes up with and how that process works 4 out. He explained CAP assessments as lengthy 5 articles, where basically half of the exam would be 6 questions specific to those articles. He noted it to 7 be an open book exam, and the time it takes to complete the questions depends on an individual's expertise on a particular topic. 10 Chairperson Chubb reported also taking CAP assessments, noting a lot of research is required 11 12 depending on the depth of the questions. She 13 commented that she would not be opposed to 3 hours.] 14 15 New Business 16 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: 17 I would like to nominate Dr. Wilcox to 18 the position of Board secretary. 19 Is there a second? 20 DR. GODFREY: 21 I second that. 22 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: 23 Roll call vote. 24

Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner

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18 1 Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr. Boyer, aye; Dr. Becker, aye; Dr. 2 3 Wilcox, aye; Tyler Ritchie, aye. 4 5 Any opposed? Any abstained? 6 [The motion carried unanimously.] 7 \* \* \* 8 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: 9 For the Continuing Education Committee, I would like to nominate Dr. Becker to 10 that committee. 11 12 Is there a second? 13 DR. GODFREY: 14 I second. 15 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: Roll call vote. 16 17 18 Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner 19 Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr. 20 Boyer, aye; Tyler Ritchie, aye; Dr. 21 Becker, aye; Dr. Wilcox, aye. 22 23 Any opposed? Hearing none. 24 abstained? 25 [The motion carried unanimously.]

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[Luanne K. Chubb, O.D., F.A.A.O., Chairperson, informed Board members that the Pharmaceutical Committee works with Dr. Godfrey to review the list of approved medications and works with Ms. O'Malley in presenting medications the Board wishes to add.

Dr. Godfrey thanked Dr. Boyer for her time on the committee and noted the workload of the committee to be light at this point.

The Board tabled the Pharmaceutical Committee nomination till the next Board meeting.

Ms. O'Malley informed Board members that any pharmaceutical issues that develop between now and the next meeting could be run by all Board members.

Chairperson Chubb mentioned she has been tracking medications in a clinical trial phase III, and there is not a lot coming out in the next month or so.

Dr. Boyer informed Board members of a scam reported to her by another doctor of optometry (OD) of somebody posing as the Board. She requested clarification as to whether the Board would ever call anyone and whether an investigator would initiate their investigation via a phone call.

Ms. O'Malley suggested Dr. Boyer email her the details. She commented that it was easy to find

information online and people have been creative,
where it appears the Board is calling. She noted
documents are normally sent through traditional mail
and email is used sometimes but recommended
individuals call the Board to verify a call was made.
She stated investigators sometimes will attempt to

She stated investigators sometimes will attempt to meet with the individual to discuss a matter.

Mr. Jarabeck further explained that investigators will make phone calls to set up a time to meet for an investigation or if a witnesses is unable to meet in person. He stated licensees who believed something was wrong should stop the phone call and call the Board offices. He noted the ability to let individuals know whether something is legitimate or not after receiving the report. He commented that there would be nothing wrong with stopping and restarting an investigation if a licensee feels something is off when receiving phone calls.

Dr. Becker thanked Ms. McNeill for her efforts and assistance with the hybrid meetings and for her assistance renewing his license.]

\* \* \*

23 Miscellaneous

24 [Luanne K. Chubb, O.D., F.A.A.O., Chairperson,

25 referred to the request for the Pennsylvania State

Board of Optometry to sponsor Dr. Ken Yongwoo Baek to 1 2 sit for the National Board of Examiners in Optometry 3 (NBEO) exam. She informed Board members that he is a 4 Korean-Board certified ophthalmologist who immigrated 5 to the United States from South Korea and is 6 currently a United States citizen who would like to 7 pursue a career in optometry in the United States. 8 Dr. Boyer commented that the Pennsylvania College 9

of Optometry at Salus has an accelerated international optometric degree program that can be completed, along with many other optometry schools in other states. She stated individuals should have to pass the accelerated international optometric education first, rather than the Board sponsoring someone to take the NBEO, and Board members agreed.

Chairperson Chubb noted the schools also vet the credentials the person is submitting for thoroughness and completion.]

#### 19 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:

Could we have a motion on his request for NBEO sponsorship?

#### 22 DR. BOYER:

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I move to deny his request for NBEO sponsorship by the Pennsylvania State Board of Optometry.

22 1 DR. BECKER: 2 I second it. 3 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: Roll call vote. 4 5 Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner 6 7 Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr. Boyer, aye; Tyler Ritchie, aye; Dr. 9 Becker, aye; Dr. Wilcox, aye. 10 11 Any opposed? Any abstentions? Hearing 12 none. 13 [The motion carried unanimously.] \* \* \* 14 15 Public Comment Period 16 [Luanne K. Chubb, O.D., F.A.A.O., Chairperson, 17 thanked Dr. Boyer for being part of the Board for the 18 past four years. 19 Dr. Boyer noted being grateful for the 20 experience. 21 Ted Mowatt, CAE, Vice President, Wanner 22 Associates, on behalf of Pennsylvania Optometric 23 Association, congratulated Dr. Boyer on her

Chairperson Chubb referred to the Pharmaceutical

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successful term.

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Committee matter again and offered to have any issues
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2
   that may arise be brought to her attention but asked
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   whether the Board technically needs to have a
   Pharmaceutical Committee.
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        Dr. Boyer stated Dr. Godfrey is the committee,
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   but his term ends in July. He is the pharmaceutical
7
   committee. Until his successor qualifies, there is
8
   no committee.
9
        Chairperson Chubb asked whether a vote should be
10
   taken for a committee in the event there is a lapse
11
   because it happened with Dr. Wilcox and Dr. Becker.]
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
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13
                  Could we have a vote for a nomination
14
                  for the Pharmaceutical Committee?
15
   DR. BOYER:
16
                  I move that we install Dr. Chubb as the
17
                  Pharmaceutical Committee.
18
   DR. GODFREY:
                  I second it.
19
20
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
21
                  Roll call vote.
22
23
                  Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner
24
                  Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr.
25
                  Boyer, aye; Tyler Ritchie, aye; Dr.
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2.4 1 Becker, aye; Dr. Wilcox, aye. 2 3 Any opposed? Any abstentions? Hearing 4 none. 5 [The motion carried unanimously.] \* \* \* 6 7 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 11:48 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Ariel E. O'Malley, Esquire, Board 10 Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations and to receive the advice of Board 11 12 Counsel. The Board returned to open session at 12:04 13 p.m.] \* \* \* 14 15 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: 16 Under the Report of Board Prosecutor, 17 for Case No. 19-52-014135, is there a 18 motion? 19 DR. GODFREY: 20 I move to accept the Consent Agreement at Case No. 19-52-014135 as outlined 21 22 earlier and presented to the Board by 23 Attorney Greg Liero. 24 CHAIRPERSON CHUBB: 25 Is there a second?

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25
   DR. BECKER:
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                  I'll second.
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3
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
                  All those in favor?
 4
5
                  Dr. Chubb, aye; Acting Commissioner
 6
7
                  Claggett, aye; Dr. Godfrey, aye; Dr.
                  Boyer, aye; Tyler Ritchie, nay; Dr.
9
                  Becker, aye; Dr. Wilcox, nay.
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11
                  Opposed? There were two noes.
                                                    Any
12
                  abstentions? Hearing none.
13
   [The motion carried. Tyler Ritchie and Denise Wilcox
14
   opposed the motion.]
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16
   Adjournment
   DR. BOYER:
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18
                  I move to adjourn the meeting.
19
   DR. BECKER:
20
                  Second.
21
   CHAIRPERSON CHUBB:
22
                  All in favor? The meeting is
23
                  adjourned.
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25
   [There being no further business, the State Board of
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Optometry Meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.] CERTIFICATE I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Optometry meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Optometry meeting. Minute Clerk Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc. 

			27
1 2 3		STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY REFERENCE INDEX	
4		May 19, 2022	
5 6 7	TIME	AGENDA	
8 9 .0 .1	10:00 10:30	Executive Session Return to Open Session	
.2	10:36	Official Call to Order	
4	10:36	Roll Call/Introduction of Audience	
.5	10:38	Approval of Agenda	
.7	10:38	Approval of Minutes	
9 20	10:41	Report of Board Prosecutors	
21 22	10:58	Report of Acting Commissioner	
23	10:59	Report of Board Counsel	
25	11:00	Report of Board Chair	
7 8	11:04	Report of Regulatory Counsel	
9	11:19	Old Business	
1 2	11:28	New Business	
3	11:37	Miscellaneous	
5	11:41	Public Comment Period	
37 38 39	11:48 12:04	Executive Session Return to Open Session	
10	12:04	Motion	
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	12:07	Adjournment	