

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists** was held on **March 28, 2018** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in third floor Hearing Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman - *via telephone*
Susan Barrett - *via telephone*
Carol Goldberg, Esq. - *via telephone*
Lawrence Lefland, OD - *via telephone*
Joseph Pavano, III, OD - *via telephone*
Lawrence M. Sweeney - *via telephone*
Regina A. Strand, OD - *via telephone*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Dr. Blondin called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

I. Minutes

The minutes from the November 29, 2017 meeting were approved on a motion by Dr. Pavano, seconded by Ms. Barrett.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

License Eligibility Requirements

Stephen Carragher, Public Health Services Manager, DPH Office of Practitioner Licensing and certification was present to address questions relating to licensure eligibility for first time licensees and applicants from other States.

III. Adjourn

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 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 **June 13, 2018** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in third floor Hearing Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman - *via telephone*
Carol Goldberg, Esq. - *via telephone*
Lawrence Lefland, OD - *via telephone*
Joseph Pavano, III, OD - *via telephone*
Regina A. Strand, OD - *via telephone*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Lawrence M. Sweeney
Susan Barrett

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer
Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison

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

I. MINUTES

The minutes from the March 28, 2018 meeting were approved on a motion by Ms. Goldberg, seconded by Dr. Strand.

II. CONTINUING EDUCATION

National Glaucoma Society

The Board reviewed a request from the National Glaucoma Society asking that it be approved as provider of continuing education in Connecticut.

Section 20-132a of the Connecticut General Statutes state in part, "Qualifying continuing education activities include, but are not limited to, courses offered or approved by the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, the American Optometric Association or state or local optometry associations and societies that are affiliated with the American Optometric Association, a hospital or other health care institution, a school or college of optometry or other institution of higher education accredited or recognized by the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education or the American Optometric Association, a state or local health department, or a national, state or local medical association."

Following discussion Dr. Pavano made a motion, seconded by Dr. Strand, recommending that programs offered by the National Glaucoma Society are acceptable towards continuing education requirements in Connecticut, and that live webinars offered by the National Glaucoma Society are acceptable towards the fulfillment of six hours of distance learning continuing education. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board's decision will be forwarded to the Department of Public Health Office of Practitioner Licensing and Certification.

III. Adjourn

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m. on a motion by Ms. Goldberg, seconded by Dr. Lefland.

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 **September 12, 2018** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in third floor Hearing Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman
Susan Barrett - *via telephone*
Carol Goldberg, Esq.
Lawrence Lefland, OD
Joseph Pavano, III, OD
Regina A. Strand, OD - *via telephone*
Lawrence M. Sweeney

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer
Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison

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

I. MINUTES

The minutes from the March 28, 2018 meeting were approved on a motion by Ms. Goldberg, seconded by Dr. Strand.

II. OFFICE OF LEGAL COMPLIANCE

A. Phyllis Liu, OD – Petition No. 2018-85

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan, Department of Public Health, presented a Consent Order in this matter. Dr. Liu was present with Attorney Greg Pepe.

Ms. Barrett made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lefland, to adopt the Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Blondin signed the Order.

III. Adjourn

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 a.m. on a motion by Dr. Pavano, seconded by Dr. Lefland.

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, 2018** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in Conference Room C on the third floor.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman - *via telephone*
Susan Barrett - *via telephone*
Carol Goldberg, Esq. - *via telephone*
Lawrence Lefland, OD - *via telephone*
Joseph Pavano, III, OD - *via telephone*
Regina A. Strand, OD - *via telephone*
Lawrence M. Sweeney - *via telephone*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Joanne V. Yandow, Hearing Officer

Dr. Blondin called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

I. MINUTES

The minutes from the September 12, 2018 meeting were approved on a motion by Dr. Lefland, seconded by Ms. Barrett.

II. OFFICE OF LEGAL COMPLIANCE

A. Donald Werner (Unlicensed) – Petition No. 2018-260

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health, presented a Consent Order in this matter. Mr. Werner was not present and was not represented.

Ms. Goldberg made a motion, seconded by Ms. Barrett, to adopt the Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Anthony Rao, OD – Petition No. 2018-667

Andrew Freilich, OD – Petition No. 2018-686

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health, presented Consent Orders in the matters of Anthony Rao, OD – Petition No. 2018-667 and Andrew Freilich, OD – Petition No. 2018-686. Dr. Rao was present with Attorney Stephanie Sobkowiak. Dr. Freilich was present with Attorney John Morrone.

The parties offered their positions regarding the proposed Consent Orders and answered questions from the Board.

Dr. Strand Left the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Dr. Pavano made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lefland, to reject both Consent Orders. The motion passed with all in favor.

The Board recommended modifications to the Consent Orders which include efforts by respondents to contact, by certified mail, all patients seen by the unlicensed individual, who were not subsequently seen by a licensed optometrist in the practice, and to notify these patients as to the following:

- They were/seen examined by an unlicensed individual.
- They are urged to return for an examination by a licensed optometrist.
- That said examination will offered free of charge.

III. New Business

Meeting Dates for 2019

The following are the meeting dates scheduled for 2019.

March 27, 2019

June 12, 2019

September 18, 2019

November 20, 2019

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

IV. Adjourn

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. on a motion by Dr. Pavano, seconded by Ms. Barrett.

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