

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians** was held on **March 7, 2022**.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	Jenney Rivard, L.O Alden Mead, JD, Public Member
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
ALSO PRESENT:	Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer Stephen Carragher, Public Health Services Manager, DPH Judith Bailey, DPH, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Participants were present via Microsoft Teams.

I. Minutes

The minutes from the December 6, 2021 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Ms. Rivard.

II. Updates

Stephen Carragher, Public Health Services Manager, DPH Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section there are no licensing updates from DPH.

Practical Examination

The application deadline for the next examination is May 1, 2022.

Ms. Rivard and two proctors will meet with DPH by the end of March 2022 to review the practical examination content.

Continuing Education

Mr. Carragher reported that at this time continuing education requirements are still suspended as part of the license renewal requirements put in place due to the COVID pandemic. It is anticipated that any restrictions will be removed soon.

Investigations

Mr. Kardys reported that there is currently one investigation of an optical establishment being conducted by DPH.

III. Open Forum

Proposed Optical Shop Legislation

There was discussion regarding proposed legislation SB 329 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE RETAIL OPERATION OF OPTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS, OFFICES AND STORES.

Ms. Rivard and Mr. Mead as well as attendees indicated their opposition to this legislation in that it would pose a danger to public health and safety. It was encouraged that testimony in opposition to this proposed legislation be sent to the General Assembly's Public Health Committee.

IV. Adjourn

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenney Rivard, LO
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians** was held on **June 6, 2022**.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	Jenney Rivard, L.O Alden Mead, JD, Public Member
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
ALSO PRESENT:	Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer Deborah Brown, DPH, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section Celeste Dowdell, DPH, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Participants were present via Microsoft Teams.

I. Minutes

The minutes from the March 7, 2022 meeting were approved on a motion by Ms. Rivard, seconded by Mr. Mead.

II. DPH Updates

Practical Examination

Ms. Brown and Ms. Dowdell provided an update regarding the practical examination

Investigations

Mr. Kardys reported that there is currently one investigation of an optical establishment being conducted by DPH.

III. Open Forum

Damian Carroll, National Director and Chief of Staff, Wade Brown, National Director of Operations, and Sabrina A. Davis Program Manager made a presentation regarding Vision -to-Learn

Vision To Learn, is a non-profit charity, started in Los Angeles in 2012. The program has helped kids in over 500 underserved communities in 14 states. Vision To Learn serves the needs of the hardest to-reach children; about 90% of kids served by Vision To Learn live in poverty and about 85% are kids of color. Since its founding in 2012, Vision To Learn has helped provide more than 1.2 million children with vision screenings, over 300,000 with eye exams and almost 250,000 with glasses – all free of charge to children and their families

The Board addressed questions from Vision To Learn regarding the need for optical selling permits and requirements that dispensing be done by a licensed optician.

IV. Adjourn

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenney Rivard, LO
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.

A meeting of the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians was held on September 12, 2022.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	Jenney Rivard, L.O Alden Mead, JD, Public Member
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
ALSO PRESENT:	Jeff Kardys, Board Liaison Stephen Carragher, Public Health Services Manager Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section Celeste Dowdell, DPH, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. Participants were present via Microsoft Teams.

- I. **Minutes**
The minutes from the June 6, 2022 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Ms. Rivard.
- II. **DPH Updates**
Practical Examination
Ms. Dowdell reported that the next examination is scheduled for November 10 and 17, 2022. The application deadline will be September 23, 2022.
- III. **NEW BUSINESS**
License Reinstatement Application - Matthew Debella
Stephen Carragher, Public Health Services Manager, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section presented a reinstatement application for Matthew Debella.
Ms. Rivard made motion, seconded by Mr. Mead recommending license reinstatement for Mr. Debella upon completion of 14 hours of continuing education. The motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **Adjourn**
As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenney Rivard, LO
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians** was held on **December 5, 2022**.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenney Rivard, L.O
Alden Mead, JD, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer
Dianne Bertucio, Interim Board Liaison
Celeste Dowdell, DPH, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Participants were present via Microsoft Teams.

- I. **Minutes**
The minutes from the September 12, 2022 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Mead, seconded by Ms. Rivard.
- II. **Practical Examination**
The application deadline for the next examination is March 30, 2023.
- III. **Open Forum**
Proposed Apprentice Requirements of Education and Training
There was a discussion regarding the requirements of apprentice education and training. Mr. Rivard requested the Board revisit apprenticeship education and training requirements.
Retailers Stores Operating Without Optician on Site
There was a discussion by attendees regarding retailers operating without an optician on site and where to report this violation to the Department of Public Health.
- IV. **Adjourn**
As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenney Rivard, LO
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians