

**ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS  
TELECONFERENCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

February 1, 2023

The Arizona State Board of Dispensing Opticians held a Teleconference meeting.  
The Board meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:     D. Nyblade, Chairman, Licensed Optician  
                                      S. Coleman, Vice-Chairman, Licensed Optician  
                                      S. Mayes, Secretary, Licensed Optician  
                                      E. Pettit, Licensed Optician  
                                      D. Bright, Public Member  
                                      M. Searle, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:     T. Brown, Licensed Optician

OTHERS PRESENT:             Megan Darian, Executive Director  
                                      Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General

1.     Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Nyblade called the telephonic meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. In addition, a roll call was taken. Board members present at this time were Chairman Nyblade, Vice-Chairman Coleman, Secretary Mayes, Board member Pettit, and Board member Searle. Board member Bright joined the meeting at 10:35.

2.     Conflicts of Interest

Secretary Mayes recused herself from item 5, Arizona Optometry Partners, PC.

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3. Review, Discussion, and Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chairman Coleman moved to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2023, telephonic board meeting, open session. Board member Searle seconded the motion, and unanimously it carried.

4. Agency Operations:

Executive Director Megan Darian reported:

- A. License Dispensing Opticians renewals of 2022; have been completed with more than 94% completion as of 1/31/23. During the calendar year of 2022, the Board added 53 licensees. The exact number of licensees out of 906 did not renew due to retirement, unfortunately, passing away, and other reasons, which is compatible with other years.
- B. The board decided there is no need for a Renewal Overview Committee since the number of licensees is consistent yearly.
- C. The new database Thentia is continuing its course of progress, and optimistically before April 1, the start of the 2023 establishment renewal will be launched.

5. A. Arizona Optometry Partners, PC

Board member Searle reported Based on the information Mr. McClafferty was able to obtain in his search, Arizona Optometric Partners has acquired multiple private practices. In total, Mr. McClafferty identified 10 establishments, all of which appear to have an employed OD. Mr. McClafferty visited 6 of the 10 establishments in person seeking more detailed information. He also unsuccessfully attempted to

meet with Dr. Pearson in person to determine if there are other practices under the supervision of Arizona Optometry Partners or Lumina Vision Partners.

None of the offices visited by Mr. McClafferty has an optical establishment license. It appears Arizona Optometric Partners has acquired these locations and has retained Lumina Vision Partners to manage and oversee the operation of these offices. Based on these findings the optometrist is now considered employees of Arizona Optometry Partners managed by Lumina Vision Partners who have taken over management of these practices and it would appear these practices would no longer be exempt from AZ statute ARS32-1691.

Vice-Chairman Coleman made a motion that Executive Director Megan Darian and Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General, provide a letter of violation of operating optical establishment to AZ Optometry partners.

Board member Searle seconded the motion, and unanimously it carried.

6. A. Applications for License Optician:

Vice-Chairman Coleman made a motion to approve the License Optician applications for:

Brittany Ann Weaghtington  
Danielle F. Yepiz  
Jacqueline Sandoval  
John Patrick Martinez  
Yvonne Marie Rivas

Secretary Mayes seconded the motion, and unanimously it carried.

7. Future Agenda Items

5. A Arizona Optometry Partners, PC

8. Call the Public

Meeting Adjournment with no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Submitted by:

Approved: *M. Darian*

Megan Darian  
Executive Director

Date: 3/1/2023