

**UTAH OPTOMETRIST
LICENSING BOARD
ELECTRONIC MEETING MINUTES**

**APRIL 25, 2023 9:00 AM
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84114**

CONVENED: 9:07 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 10:58 A.M.

DOPL STAFF PRESENT:

Bureau Manager: Larry Marx
Compliance Officer: Jennifer Johnson

Board Secretary: Allison Pulsipher

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert Wooldridge, OD, Chairperson
Dane Dansie, OD

Michael Judkins, OD
David Masihdas, OD

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Nathan Wilcox, Public Member
Victoria Bennion, Public Member

Robert Gray, OD

GUESTS:

Alyssa White, UOA
Michelle McOmber, UMA

Mark Brinton, UMA

Note: Other guests may have been in attendance electronically but were not identified.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Call Meeting to Order

Dr. Wooldridge called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.

Board Chair Vote (0:02:15)

Dr. Masihdas motioned to keep Dr. Wooldridge as Board Chair.

Dr. Dansie seconded the motion.

The Board passed the motion for Dr. Wooldridge to remain Board Chair.

Read and Approve January 31, 2023 Minutes (0:03:15)

Dr. Dansie motioned to approve the minutes as corrected.

Dr. Judkins seconded to motion.

The Board approved to motion to approve the minutes.

Open Meeting Act (0:04:30)

Mr. Marx went over the Open Meeting Act with the Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

Compliance Report (0:08:10)

Ms. Johnson went over the compliance report.

Ms. Johnson reviewed Dr. Sargent's signed stipulation and probation requirements.

Ms. Johnson stated Dr. Sargent is not currently practicing as an Optometrist.

Dr. Wooldridge asked for more information regarding the "Thinking Errors" Course.

Mr. Johnson read the Board the stipulation requirement.

Mr. Marx explained what the course would entail.

Dr. Steven Sargent: Initial Probationary Interview (0:16:35)

Dr. Masihdas made a motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Open and Public Meetings Act, 52-4-205(1)(a) to discuss the character, professional competence or physical or mental health of an individual.

Dr. Dansie seconded the motion.

All Board members voted in favor of closing the meeting.

The meeting was closed at 9:25 a.m. The meeting was opened at 9:41 a.m.

Dr. Masihdas asked about current working situation.

Dr. Sargent explained he is currently not working and does not have a supervisor.

Dr. Wooldridge asked Dr. Sargent about his continuing education.

Dr. Sargent stated he has been working on his general continuing education courses.

Dr. Wooldridge asked Dr. Sargent about his sobriety.

Dr. Sargent stated he has been sober since February.

Dr. Sargent stated he has a strong support system within his family and is working through counseling.

Dr. Wooldridge asked Dr. Sargent about what he has learned during his probation thus far.

Dr. Wooldridge asked Dr. Sargent what his plans for the future.

Dr. Sargent stated he would like to find a job within the Optometry profession, but if he can not find a job right away, he has a few other options he is looking into.

Dr. Judkins motioned Dr. Sargent take a Thinking Errors course.

Dr. Masihdas seconded the motion.

The Board passed the motion unanimously.

Mr. Marx explained the requirements to Dr. Sargent for the Thinking Errors Course.

DISCUSSION:

Legislation Review (0:33:25)

Mr. Marx informed the Board most of the session does not affect the Optometry profession.

Mr. Marx went over the 2023 Legislative Session with the Board.

Dr. Wooldridge asked for more clarification about Senate Bill 171.
Ms. McOmber, UMA, gave more information about the bill and the parameters they added to the bill to keep the public safe.

Remote Eye Care (0:59:05)

Dr. Wooldridge started the discussion about remote eye care.
Dr. Wooldridge stated he is concerned of some companies using a remote doctor meeting with the patient and the technician utilizing the machines to conduct the full exam.
Mr. Marx stated that the doctors need to be licensed in Utah.
Dr. Wooldridge asked if the Division is concerned about remote eye care examinations.
Mr. Marx stated the Division is complaint driven, without a complaint the Division would not have knowledge if the standard of care is being met or if the remote doctors are licensed in Utah.
Ms. Johnson stated she has had experiences with America's Best virtual appointments and explained a normal consumer would most likely not know any better.
Dr. Masihdas stated he feels it is often misleading for the public to be assigned a telehealth appointment with an optometrist.

Intense Pulse Light (IPL) (1:20:10)

Dr. Wooldridge started the discussion regarding Intense Pulse Light (IPL).
Dr. Wooldridge stated he uses IPL in his practice and knows of other Optometrist who use IPL.
Mr. Marx stated he will inform the individual that Utah Optometrist may use IPL.

Use of Biologics (1:23:05)

Dr. Wooldridge started the discussion regarding biologics by going over the email the Division received from Ms. Graceffa.
Dr. Wooldridge stated he called Ms. Graceffa asking what information she is looking for.
Dr. Wooldridge stated he feels the prescribing biologics is within the scope of an optometrist and the patient may go to an infusion clinic to receive the care.

UOA CE Programs (1:27:45)

Dr. Wooldridge started the discussion regarding the UOA June CE Program.
Dr. Dansie asked if any of the courses involved with the June program are COPE approved.
Dr. Wooldridge stated some are currently COPE approved and it is noted within the agenda.
Dr. Masihdas asked if the UOA has figured out a way to keep track of attendance to the programs.
Dr. Judkins stated Optometrist can submit non-COPE courses to OE Tracker to keep track of their courses and certificates.
Dr. Masihdas motioned the Board approve the UOA June CE Program.
Dr. Dansie seconded the motion.
The Board passed the motion unanimously.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: JULY 25, 2023

**ADJOURN:
Meeting adjourned at 10:58 A.M.**

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

7/26/23

Date Approved

(ss) R Woodrige

**Chairperson,
Utah Board of Optometry Licensing Board**

7/27/2023

Date Approved

(ss) Larry Marx

Bureau Manager, DOPL