**Mississippi State Board of Optometry**

**P.O. Box 12370**

**Jackson, MS 39236-2370**

**Statutory Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 12, 2019**

**Hilton Hotel , Ridgeland, MS**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Mississippi State Board of Optometry meeting was called to order by the President, Steve Edwards, O.D, at 12:40 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel, Ridgeland, Mississippi,

The following board members were present:

Dewey Handy, O.D.

Steve Edwards, O.D., President

Arthur Dampier, O.D., Secretary

Lori Blackmer, O.D.

Also present was Beverly Limbaugh, Executive Director.

Leyser Q. Hayes, Esq. was absent

**II. READING OF THE MNUTES**

Arthur Dampier, acting as Secretary, made a motion that the Board accepts the minutes from November 30, 2018 as written. The motion was seconded by Lori Blackmer, O.D.. The vote was as follows:

Arthur Dampier, O.D. Aye

Lori Blackmer , O.D. Aye

Steve Edwards, O.D. Aye

Dewey Handy, O.D. Aye

**III. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

Beverly Limbaugh, Executive Director, gave her report to the Board that including, current financial reports, Budget requests and hearings with appropriations committees. A copy of the internal assessment audit was emailed to all Board members and continuing Education for SECO was approved.

A motion was made by Dr. Arthur Dampier that the Board will pay the travel expenses for any and all Board members that choose to attend the SECO meeting in New Orleans in February and ARBO will be having their Southern Regional Meeting in conjunction with SECO. The motion was seconded by Dewey Handy, O.D. and the vote was as follows:

Arthur Dampier, O.D. Aye

Lori Blackmer , O.D. Aye

Steve Edwards, O.D. Aye

Dewey Handy, O.D. Aye

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Closed Determination session.**

Upon motion made by Dewey Handy, O.D., with a second by Steve Edwards, O.D., the Board voted to go into a closed determination session to establish the need for an Executive Session. The motion carried with the following members voting: voting for: Dewey Handy, O.D., Arthur Dampier, O.D., and Steve Edwards, O.D., Lori Blackmer, O.D., voting against: none; recusal: none; absent: none

In the determination session, it was moved by Lori Blackmer, O.D. and seconded by Arthur Dampier, O.D., that the Board had reason to go into Executive Session, namely to:

**(b)**Strategy sessions or negotiations with respect to prospective *litigation*, or issuance of an appealable order when an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body.

Upon the conclusion of business of Executive Session, the Board voted, upon motion made by Dr. Dampier and seconded by Dr. Blackmer to come out of Executive Session. The motion carried with the following members voting: voting for: Dewey Handy, O.D., Steve Edwards, O.D., Arthur Dampier, O.D., Lori Blackmer, O.D., Voting against: none; recusal: none; absent: none

**Return to Regular Session**

The Board resumed in open meeting by announcing the following actions and votes taken in Executive Session. \* see Executive Session Minutes

**VII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

A motion was made by Arthur Dampier, O.D. that the Board adjourn at 3:15 p.m. Dr. Lori Blackmer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

While in Executive Session, the Board discussed the draft memorandum of Understanding prepared by legal counsel for Vision to Learn. The Board reviewed a draft and had several issues to discusses with Leyser and requests to be made to the MOU. The topic was tabled until the next meeting.

The Board instructed Beverly to file Rules 8.5(k) and 8.6(c )(7)and (d) with the Occupational Licensing Review Commission.

Complaint no. 10-05-18.

Dr. Arthur Dampier made a motion that the Board approves the final order and instructed Beverly to mail it. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lori Blackmer, O.D. and the motion carried with the following members voting: voting for: Dewey Handy, O.D., Arthur Dampier, O.D., and Steve Edwards, O.D., Lori Blackmer, O.D., voting against: none; recusal: none; absent: none

Complaint no. 10-06-18.

Dr. Arthur Dampier made a motion that the Board approves the final order and instructed Beverly to mail it. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lori Blackmer, O.D. and the motion carried with the following members voting: voting for: Dewey Handy, O.D., Arthur Dampier, O.D., and Steve Edwards, O.D., Lori Blackmer, O.D., voting against: none; recusal: none; absent: none

**V. REPORT OF COUNSEL**

Leyser Hayes prepared a memorandum for the Board members prior to the meeting. Beverly distributed copies. The Board discussed each topic on the attorney client privileged memo.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

Dewey Handy, O.D. made a motion that the applicant for licensure in Mississippi be approved. The motion was seconded by Lori Blackmer, O.D. and the vote was as follows:

Arthur Dampier, O.D. Aye

Lori Blackmer , O.D. Aye

Steve Edwards, O.D. Aye

Dewey Handy, O.D. Aye

Lori Blackmer, O.D. presented the Board members with a revised Rules and Regulations test to be administered twice a year to new applicants. The Board reviewed the new test and voted to approve it. The vote was as follows: voting for: Dewey Handy, O.D., Arthur Dampier, O.D., and Steve Edwards, O.D., Lori Blackmer, O.D., voting against none; recusal: none; absent: none

Upon the conclusion of business of Executive Session, Dr. Arthur Dampier made a motion that the Board come out of Executive Session. The motion carried with the members voting unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

APPROVED:

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Steve Edwards, O.D., President

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Arthur Dampier, O.D, Secretary