

Minutes

Arkansas State Board of Optometry
Special Board Meeting
Freeway Medical Tower Building
December 15, 2021

Dr. Bryant Ashley, Board President, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. All Board members were present.

Also in attendance:

Tanya Ford, Board Secretary

Lacie Kirchner, Board Attorney and Arkansas State Assistant Attorney General

Tiffany Harrison, Court Reporter

Malcolm R. Hutchins, Respondent

Public Hearing in The Matter of Malcolm Hutchins, Respondent, regarding the following charges:

Violation of Board Rules Chapter 1, Article V-Renewals, Sections 4.A., 5.B., 5.C., 6.B., and 6.C.

Violation of Board Rules Chapter 1, Article VI-Unprofessional Conduct, Sections 1.B., 1.K., 1.Q., and 1.R.

The results of the Hearing and Board deliberations were as follows:

1. The Allegations of Fact were accepted. Dr. Hennessey made a motion to accept the Allegations of Fact. Dr. Fitzhugh made a second. The motion passed.
2. It was found that Dr. Hutchins was in violation of Board Rules Ch. 1, Art. V, Sec. 5.B., and Ch. 1, Art. V, Sec. 6.B. Dr. Hennessey made a motion to accept the findings. Dr. Fitzhugh made a second. The motion passed.
3. The Board decision was to place Dr. Hutchins on 6 month probation. Dr. Hennessey made a motion to accept. Mr. White made a second. The motion passed.

Mrs. Tanya Ford has accepted the position of Board Executive Director, effective December 27, 2021. Her primary work location will remain at the Optometry Board office in Little Rock; she will work several days per month from the Arkansas State Department of Health Unit in Morrilton.

The next regular Board meeting and State Board examination date is February 17, 2022, Freeway Medical Tower Building.

Motion made by Mr. White for per diem and mileage to be paid to Board members. Mr. Gentry made a second. The motion passed.

Mr. Gentry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. White made a second. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Dr. Bryant Ashley, President

Dr. Beatrice Reed, Secretary/Treasurer