

## Minutes

Arkansas State Board of Optometry  
Regular Board Meeting  
Freeway Medical Tower Building  
April 21, 2022

Dr. Bryant Ashley, Board President, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. All Board members were present.

Also in attendance:

Ms. Tanya Ford, Board Director

Ms. Lacie Kirchner, Asst. Attorney General

Dr. Allison Hall

Dr. Reed presented the minutes from the February 22, 2022 meeting. Mr. Gentry made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Fitzhugh made a second. The motion passed.

Ms. Ford presented the State Board Update, including the financial report. Mr. Gentry made a motion to approve the financial report. Dr. Fitzhugh made a second. The motion passed. Ms. Ford also presented as part of the State Board Update; the rules promulgation update, and online jurisprudence test.

Dr. Ashley and Ms. Ford presented the topic of licensure by endorsement. Dr. Fitzhugh has developed licensure by endorsement candidate questions.

Lacie Kirchner presented 2023 legislation change regarding criminal background checks. Currently, the Optometry Board can only run background checks on licensure by endorsement candidates. The change will allow the Optometry Board to require background checks for all applicants. Most licensing agencies (Boards) require background checks. Dr. Fitzhugh made a motion to begin requiring criminal background checks. Dr. Hennessey made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Hennessey presented the ARBO OE Tracker Update. OE Tracker was discussed. Updated information will be presented during the Spring Convention.

Dr. Ashley presented the topics of licensure by examination and advanced procedure licensure. The examinations will be held June 22-23. The application deadline to take the examinations is May 24, 2022.

The next Board meeting date is June 23, 2022.

The remaining 2022 meeting dates are August 18, October 20, and November 17.

Dr. Hennessey made a motion that per diem and mileage be paid to Board members. Dr. Fitzhugh made a second. The motion passed.

Dr. Fitzhugh made a motion to adjourn. Dr. DeBlack made a second. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

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Dr. Bryant Ashley, President

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Dr. Beatrice Reed, Secretary/Treasurer