

**IDAHO BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**  
**Bureau of Occupational Licenses**  
700 West State Street, P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0063

**Conference Call Minutes of 5/12/2014**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robert Sorensen, O.D. - Chair  
Joy Eld Johnson, O.D.  
Robert B. Grill, O.D.  
James Davis, O.D.  
Wayne D Ellenbecker, O.D.

**BUREAU STAFF:** Tana Cory, Bureau Chief  
Roger Hales, Naylor and Hales  
Cherie Simpson, Management Assistant  
Carrie Gilstrap, Technical Records Specialist II

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Larry Benton, Benton Ellis & Associates

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM MDT by Robert Sorensen, O.D.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**PROPOSED RULES REVIEW**

Mr. Hales presented the following draft rule change to the members of the Board:

**300. CONTINUING EDUCATION IN OPTOMETRY (RULE 300).**

**01. Hours Required, Advance Approval.**

a. Until January 1, 2017, e~~Each~~ optometrist licensed by the state of Idaho shall attend in each twelve (12) month period preceding the renewal of a their license ~~to practice optometry in Idaho, a minimum of twelve (12) full hours of post graduate optometric education courses or meetings approved in advance by the Board of Optometry or post graduate study sessions or seminars at an accredited school or college of optometry approved optometric continuing education courses or meetings.~~ (4 4 13)( )

b. Effective January 1, 2017, each optometrist licensed by the state of Idaho shall attend in each calendar year prior to license renewal, a minimum of twelve (12) full hours of approved optometric continuing education courses or meetings. ( )

c. Approved optometric continuing education courses or meetings shall be those post-graduate optometric education courses or meetings approved in advance by the Board of Optometry or post-graduate study sessions or seminars at an accredited school or college of optometry. In addition, all Council on Optometric Practitioners Education (COPE) approved courses are approved for continuing education credit. If an optometrist attends or plans to attend a course of study or seminar which has not been approved in advance, he may petition the Board for approval of that educational course of study, setting forth a description of the course. The Board may, in its discretion, approve the course upon review

of the material submitted either in advance or after completion of the course.

**02. Additional Hours Required to Use Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents.**

a. Until January 1, 2017, Each optometrist licensed by the state of Idaho to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents shall attend in each twelve (12) month period preceding the renewal of a their license to practice optometry in Idaho, a minimum of six (6) additional full hours of post graduate approved optometric courses or meetings approved in advance by the Board of Optometry or post graduate study sessions or seminars at an accredited school or college of optometry. (7-1-93)(\_\_\_\_)

b. Effective January 1, 2017, each optometrist licensed by the state of Idaho to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents shall attend in each calendar prior to license renewal, a minimum of six (6) additional full hours of approved optometric courses or meetings. ( )

c. This six (6) hours of continuing education must be in courses involving ocular pharmacology and/or advanced ocular disease and are in addition to the twelve (12) hours of continuing education required under Subsection 300.01. (7-1-93)(\_\_\_\_)

**03. Correspondence/Home Study Courses/Observation.** The Board allows credit for correspondence courses, individual home study and observation that is germane to the practice of optometry. No more than six (6) hours of continuing education shall be permitted each year in correspondence courses or other continuing education obtained from “home study” courses or observation. (3-30-07)

**04. Waiver of Requirements.** The Board of Optometry shall waive the continuing education requirement for the first license renewal after initial licensure. The Board of Optometry may, upon application, waive the requirements of this rule in cases involving illness, unusual circumstances interfering with the optometrist’s ability to practice or inability to conform to the rules due to military duty. (3-15-02)

**05. Renewal Application Form.** Each licensed Idaho optometrist will be furnished a license renewal application form by the State Board of Optometry on which each optometrist shall attest on their annual license renewal application that they have satisfied the continuing education requirements. False attestation of satisfaction of the continuing education requirements on a renewal application shall subject the licensee to disciplinary action. (3-20-04)

**06. Audit.** The Board may conduct audits to confirm that the continuing education requirements have been met. In the event a licensee fails to provide the Board with acceptable documentation of the hours attested to on the renewal application, the license will not be renewed. (3-20-04)

**07. Documentation of Attendance.** It shall be necessary for each licensed Idaho optometrist to provide documentation verifying attendance or completion of continuing education by securing authorized signatures, documentation, or electronic verification from the course instructors, providers, or sponsoring institution substantiating any hours attended by the licensee. This documentation must be maintained by the licensee and provided upon request by the Board or its agent. (4-4-13)

**08. Excess Hours.** ~~Continuing education hours, not to exceed six (6) hours, accumulated during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding a license renewal may be applied toward meeting the continuing education requirement for the following license renewal.~~ A licensee may carryover a maximum of six (6) hours of continuing education to meet the next year’s continuing education requirement. Excess hours may be used only during the next renewal period and may not be carried forward more than one (1) year. (3-30-07)(\_\_\_\_)

Following discussion, Dr. Davis made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. It was seconded by Dr. Johnson. Motion carried.

Dr. Davis made a motion to approve moving forward with the proposed rule change by forwarding it to interested parties and sending a postcard to licensees once the draft is approved by the Board Chair. It was seconded by Dr. Grill. Motion carried.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 AM. It was seconded by Dr. Ellenbecker. Motion carried.

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Robert Sorensen, O.D., Chair

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Joy Eld Johnson, O.D.

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Robert B. Grill, O.D.

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James Davis, O.D.

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Wayne D Ellenbecker, O.D.

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Tana Cory, Bureau Chief