

ALABAMA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
July 20, 2020  
Teleconference as Allowed by Governor's Proclamation of March 18, 2020

Members present:

Bill Tillman, O.D.	Tim Nichols, O.D.
Doug Clark, O.D.	Mazen Sahawneh, O.D.
Ashley Williams, O.D.	Rob Svensen, O.D.
Norman Johnson, O.D.	

Members absent:

None

Others present:

Fred Wallace, O.D., Executive Director

The Alabama Board of Optometry, statutorily created by the Alabama legislature and delegated with the authority to regulate the optometry profession in the interest of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public, met via teleconference on Monday, July 20, 2020 conduct the various affairs of the board.

The board met via teleconference on July 20, 2020, as allowed by Governor Ivey's proclamation of March 18, 2020. Prior notice of this special meeting was given in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act. All persons participating in the meeting could hear one another at the same time.

At 12:05 PM President Tillman called the roll, noted that a quorum was present and called the board meeting to order. He reminded the board members that all deliberations or actions taken during the meeting would be limited to matters within the board's statutory authority necessary to respond to COVID-19 or necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the board.

The Executive Director's reported that the previously approved (for public health reasons) online Standard Examination for Licensure was administered on Saturday, July 18, 2020. There were 37 applicants for licensure. All candidates passed the examination and are proceeding with final steps toward licensure. Dr. Wallace thanked the University of Alabama at Birmingham, specifically their eLearning Center, Dean Kelly Nichols of the UAB School of Optometry and Dr. Candace Turner for their assistance in creating a valid and secure online licensure examination.

After consideration and discussion of the administrative services required by the Alabama Board of Optometry:

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols, seconded by Dr. Johnson, and approved by Drs. Tillman, Clark, Williams, Johnson, Nichols, Sahawneh, and Svensen to enter into a contract with attorney Mr. Wallace Mills for necessary board legal services for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021. The board specifically approved all terms of the contract.

A motion was made by Dr. Svensen, seconded by Dr. Williams, and approved by Drs. Tillman, Clark, Williams, Johnson, Nichols, Sahawneh, and Svensen hire Dr. Fred Wallace to serve as Executive Director of the Alabama Board of Optometry for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021, with annual "in-office" salary compensation of \$60,000.00, and compensation for other duties the same as for Board members.

A motion was made by Dr. Williams, seconded by Dr. Johnson, and approved by Drs. Tillman, Clark, Williams, Johnson, Nichols, Sahawneh, and Svensen authorizing the Executive Director to pursue a contract for investigative services, if needed, for the Alabama Board of Optometry for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021.

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols, seconded by Dr. Svensen, and approved by Drs. Tillman, Clark, Williams, Johnson, Nichols, Sahawneh, and Svensen the Executive Director to fix the compensation of the Board member who shall serve as Secretary-Treasurer during the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021 at "zero compensation", and all transferable duties of the Secretary-Treasurer will be transferred to the Executive Director.

Dr. Tillman reminded board members of the re-scheduled annual meeting and election of nominees for presentation to the governor for appointment to the Alabama Board of Optometry (from Legislative District Five) to be held on August 15 at 9:00 AM at the offices of the board's attorney, 621 South Hull Street, Montgomery, Alabama. Dr. Tillman directed the Executive Director to ensure that all public health requirements for this gathering be observed.

Other meetings may be held on the call of the President if necessary.

There being no further business the regular meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Wallace, O. D.  
Executive Director

Bill Tillman, O.D.  
President