

OREGON BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

April 13, 2001

Present - Joan Miller, OD, President
Doug Smith, OD
Candace Hamel, O.D.
John P. Reslock, O.D.

Thomas Cowan, Assistant Attorney General
David Plunkett, Administrator
Cathy Boudreau, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER -

Dr. Miller called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. by conference call originated in the Second floor conference room at 3218 Pringle RD. SE, Salem, OR., 97302. Roll was taken. All the current board members were present. It was also noted that Tom Cowan, David Plunkett and Cathy Boudreau were present.

MINUTES -

Dr. Miller commented briefly on SB45-3 amendment that the Board has reviewed. Mr. Plunkett then identified his concerns with the current version of the bill. He specifically addressed four points: 1.) The proposed council will have the authority to determine the whole formulary for optometry, not only oral and injectable pharmaceutical agents. Optometry may, in fact, lose ground as a result. The proposed SB45-4 amendments would “grandfather” the current formulary, but the council would have the authority to change the TPA formulary at a later time. 2.) OBO will have no authority over rules. The Board will not have any choice but to adopt by rule the formulary determined by the council. 3.) The Board is not currently subject to ORS 292, but SB45-3 again subjects the Board to this statute, removing the “cost-control” power of the Board. This is problematic since the Board will have to fund this new council, which will have power to call meetings at the request of only two of its members. The cost to the Board could be enormous. 4.) The Board will lose authority by the deletion of current language which gives the Board TPA oversight responsibilities. The Board will be losing responsibilities instead of gaining them. The SB45-4 will try to address the ORS 292 and the grandfathering issues, but Mr. Plunkett does not think that the suggested changes will truly correct the problems created for the Board by this proposed legislation.

The Board members expressed agreement with Mr. Plunkett’s observations and discussed language that they were in favor of. Mr. Cowan pointed out some of his legal concerns regarding the legislation. Dr. Hamel noted some of the viewpoints of the Optometric Association, to give the Board their perspective. Mr. Cowan reiterated that the Board should look realistically at the potential ramifications of SB45-3. The Board was in agreement that they would take a position that they were not in favor of the language of SB45-3 which would create the four problems they had discussed.

Dr. Hamel moved that the Board draft a position in opposition of SB45-3, and that this written position be sent to Sen. Bill Fisher, Chair, Senate Health & Human Services Committee, and copied to Oregon Optometric Physicians Association. Dr. Smith seconded the motion. The vote was taken by roll call. The motion carried unanimously. Dr. Miller will draft the position letter with Mr. Plunkett's assistance.

OTHER -

There was no other business to come before the Board.

NEXT MEETING -

The next scheduled meeting of the Board is planned for June 15, 2001.

ADJOURNMENT -

There was no further business to come before the Board. Dr. Reslock moved to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Smith seconded the motion. President Miller adjourned the meeting at 8:59 a.m.

Prepared by,

Reviewed by:

Catherine M. Boudreau
Administrative Assistant

David W. Plunkett
Executive Director