

The mission of the California State Board of Optometry is to protect the health and safety of California consumers through licensing, registration, education, and regulation of the practice of Optometry and Opticianry.

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Jeffrey Garcia, OD, Committee Chair
Madhu Chawla, OD (Appointed)
Jonathon M. Ross, O.D.

PRACTICE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE FINAL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, November 18, 2022

This public meeting was held via WebEx.

Members Present	Staff Present
Jeffrey Garcia, O.D., Chair	Gregory Pruden, Interim Executive Officer
Jonathon Ross, O.D.	Randy Love, Assistant Executive Officer
Members Absent	Guests
Madhu Chawla, O.D.	On File

Link for the audio of discussions: <https://youtu.be/ArHsToKnUpU>

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Audio of Discussion: [0:22](#)

Committee Chair, Jeffrey Garcia, OD called the meeting to order. Assistant Executive Officer, Randy Love took roll and a quorum was established. Madhu Chawla, OD was absent.

2. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Note: The committee may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting. (Government Code § [11125](#), § [11125.7\(a\)](#).)

Audio of Discussion: [1:40](#)

Public comment was heard from Paul Reimers, OD. He would like the Committee to consider requiring a reduced number of continuing education credits for retired optometrists.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on the September 23, 2022 Practice and Education Committee Meeting Minutes

Audio of Discussion: [2:45](#)

Jonathon Ross moved to approve the September 23, 2022 Practice and Education Committee meeting minutes. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

4. Discussion and Possible Action on Continuing Education Course Approval Requests Pursuant to Title 16, California Code of Regulations Section 1536 (KAISER APPLICATIONS)

Audio of Discussion: [9:36](#)

Kaiser Permanente – Dr. Alisha Truong

- a. i. Droopy Eyelids
- ii. The Bread and Butter of Pediatric Eye Care: Amblyopia and Accommodative Esotropia
- iii. A Practical Approach to Double Vision: A Neuro-Ophthalmologist's Perspective

There were no requests for public comment.

Jonathon Ross moved to approve Agenda Items 4.a.i., 4.a.ii. and 4.a.iii., and 4.a.iii. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Continuing Education Course Approval Requests Pursuant to Title 16, California Code of Regulations Section 1536 (ONLINE WEBINAR APPLICATIONS)

Audio of Discussion: [12:27](#)

Bay Area Retina – Elizabeth Marlow

- a. i. COVID-19 2022 Ocular Complications of SARS-CoV-2 and Impact of the Pandemic on Eye Healthcare
- ii. Retinoschisis
- iii. Update on Macular

Luxottica Retail – Dr. Cindy Chiang

- b. Retinal Glaucomas

There were no requests for public comment.

Jonathon Ross moved to approve all items under 5.a. and item 5.b. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Continuing Education Course Approval Requests Pursuant to Title 16, California Code of Regulations Section 1536 (COMPLETE APPLICATIONS)

Audio of Discussion: [15:18](#)

NVISION CENTERS – Ryan Mannix

- a. i. All Things Refractive
- ii. All Things Cataract and Implants
- iii. Live Cataract and Implant Surgery
- iv. Live Refractive Surgery Observation

The Eye Consortium – Lyndsey Banks

- b. Nutrition and the Retina

The Eye Consortium – Lyndsey Banks

- c. i. Primary Angle Closure Disease
- ii. A Day in the Life of a Clinical Educator: Updates on COVID & the Eye

Shepard Eye Care – Susan Grahame

- d. i. Macular Degeneration for the Optometrist
- ii. Glaucoma Suspect Pearls

Loma Linda University – David Hong

- e. i. Herpetic Keratitis: Diagnosis, Management & Outcomes
- ii. Cranial Nerve-3
- iii. How to Select IOL
- iv. Neovascular Glaucoma
- v. Optic Neuritis
- vi. Patient Experience - Thyroidectomy
- vii. Reimbursement – An Update
- viii. Secondary Glaucomas
- ix. Update on IOL Technology
- x. Inherited Retinal Dystrophy
- xi. Neurotrophic Keratitis
- xii. Thyroid Orbitopathy
- xiii. Uveitis

Eye Care Institute – Dr. Bruce Abramson

- f. Neuro-Ophthalmic Emergencies

Dr. Ross noted that items 6.e.i. and 6.e.xi fit more appropriately under the category of ocular disease versus glaucoma. Dr. Garcia agreed. Dr. Ross also explained that he was unable to view the material for Agenda Items 6.e.viii. and 6.e.ix. He suggested holding off on approving those two applications until such time that they can review the materials. Dr. Garcia experienced the same issue and agreed with Dr. Ross.

There were no requests for public comment.

Jonathon Ross moved to approve Agenda Items 6.a through 6.d as presented. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

Dr. Ross commented that Agenda Item 6.e.vii appears to be heavily sponsored by Cochrane Consulting. The content is heavily geared toward their consulting firm so he questions whether it is appropriate for the Committee to approve this course. Randy Love suggested obtaining more information from the provider and revisiting this lecture during the next Committee meeting. Mx. Love and Dr. Garcia agreed. Dr. Ross added that Item 6.e.xii has a similar issue in which the lecture is being presented on behalf of a pharmaceutical company. Although the material is appropriate for education the slides are clearly sponsored by the company and made by the company for presentation. He noted that he did not see a financial disclosure indicating whether the lecture is sponsored by the company. If so, it needs to be disclosed up front.

There were no requests for public comment.

Jonathon Ross moved to approve Agenda Items 6.e.ii., 6.e.iii., 6.e.iv., 6.e.v., 6.e.vi., 6.e.x., and 6.e.xiii. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

There were no requests for public comment.

Jonathon Ross moved to approve Agenda Items 6.e.i and 6.e.xi with the re-categorization of ocular disease versus glaucoma. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

There were no requests for public comment.

Jonathon Ross moved to hold off on approving Agenda Item 6.e.vii., until such time that staff can obtain additional information and the Committee can revisit the presentation for a vote. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				

Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

There were no requests for public comment.

Jonathon Ross moved to hold approval on Agenda Item 6.e.xii, have staff reach out to the lecturer for any financial disclosures and upon receipt of the requested information the Committee review and vote on this lecture at a later date. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

Dr. Garcia noted that there were two lectures that did not contain slides. Dr. Ross noted that Agenda Item 6.f. was also missing material.

There were no requests for public comment.

Jonathon Ross moved to hold approval of Agenda Items 6.e.viii, 6.e.ix, and 6.f. until presentation material for these lectures is included then review and vote on them at a later date. Jeffrey Garcia seconded. The Committee voted unanimously (2-0) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Ross	X				
Dr. Chawla				X	

7. Discussion and Possible Action on BreEZe Update to Interface with the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry’s (ARBO) OE Tracker

Audio of Discussion: [34:16](#)

Mx. Love reported on this agenda item. Staff conducted a few meetings with the DCA Office of Information Services (OIS) who are responsible for BreEZe. Additionally, staff has engaged in meetings with ARBO regarding possible avenues. More meetings are needed and staff hopes to have additional updates at future meetings.

Dr. Ross noted that it will be challenging getting the two systems to work together. Nevertheless, it is a worthwhile and positive endeavor to have everything in one place.

Dr. Garcia asked what the next steps will be. Mx. Love explained that the next steps will be working with the BreEZe team and ARBO to determine what data may be pulled, how it may be imported into the system and what the Board does with it when it gets there. Dr. Garcia requested a reasonable tentative timeline. Mx. Love replied that as far as finding out if this is possible and what it would look like, staff anticipates receiving this information within the next quarter. However, regarding having the data built into BreEZe the timeline may be further out. Many new application and certification types must be built into BreEZe and the BreEZe team has limited staff for making these changes. Board staff is trying to be mindful of OIS’s availability

and capacity and making certain that the most critical changes are moving forward first.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Continuing Education Requirements and Options for Including Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Course Requirements

Audio of Discussion: [38:42](#)

Mx. Love provided an update. During the August Board meeting a presentation was provided by Dr. Shoge about DEIB which included the suggestion for making continuing education (CE) available regarding DEIB. Mx. Love sent Members an email which included links, current regulations and requirements for CE, and information regarding what other boards and bureaus have done through legislation to make these changes. Mx. Love explained that there are two ways the Board can accomplish this: (1) added to the statute through legislation or (2) the regulatory rulemaking process to the California Code of Regulations (CCR) 1536.

Dr. Ross noted that trying to decide which is the most efficient way to go will require more thought and review. To recap from the last discussion the Board intends to add one hour of DEIB training to the “other” 15 hours category.

Dr. Garcia asked Mx. Love for recommendations on moving forward with the next steps. Mx. Love advised that the first step is determining which avenue the Board will take to implement the change. If the change will be made through CCR 1536 (which is the rulemaking process) the next step would be to determine what language will be included and where. Then it can go to the full Board for approval. Members may decide to have it reviewed by the Legislation and Regulation Committee since it is a regulatory change. If Members wish to implement the change via Business and Professions Code Section 3059 this would require a legislation change. The next steps would then be to direct staff to try to move that legislation forward.

Dr. Ross wishes to look further into this before deciding which avenue to proceed with.

9. Future Agenda Items

Audio of Discussion: [44:57](#)

Dr. Ross would like Agenda Items 7 and 8 discussed today, back on the agenda for the next meeting.

Public comment was received from Christine Schultz representing the California Optometric Association (COA) regarding Agenda Item 8. She asked if the Board intends to require that everyone use the OE Tracker; or to simply connect BreZE to the OE Tracker so licensees may interface? Dr. Garcia asked what the harm would be in requiring licensees use the OE Tracker system. Ms. Schultz explained that there is a huge cost involved to the CE providers to go through the OE Tracker versus the current system. A huge cost would be added to the providers then ultimately to the optometrists who take that class.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at close of business - 5:00 pm.