SOUTHERN COUNCIL OF OPTOMETRISTS, INC.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY VOTES OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
PRESENT AT THE 62nd ANNUAL MEETING

Atlanta, Georgia March 7, 2020

DRAFT MINUTES

Presiding: Max Ernst, O.D., President

I. CALL TO ORDER
Dr. Max Ernst, the President, called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 7, 2020.

II. STATEMENT OF QUORUM
Dr. Michelle Cooper, the Secretary, called the role and declared a quorum:

States Present
Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Louisiana
Mississippi
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina
Tennessee
Virginia
West Virginia

III. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS
Dr. Ernst welcomed the participants to the 62nd annual meeting and appointed Dr. Joel Byars as Parliamentarian. The Southern Council of Optometrists’ Officers, Board of Trustees, and Past Presidents were acknowledged. Dr. Ernst then thanked and acknowledged the SECO staff.

Dr. Ernst then introduced the following special guests:
- American Optometric Association (AOA) Board of Trustees
- Armed Forces Optometric Society
- SECO Promotional Partner Recognition
- AOP, United Kingdom
- Trinidad & Tobago Optometrists Association
- Federación Colombiana de Optómetras (Fedopto), Colombia
- World Council of Optometry
- Colegio de Optometristas de Costa Rica
- South African Optometric Association
The deans and presidents of optometry colleges/schools at:
- NOVA Southeastern University
- Southern College of Optometry
- University at Alabama Birmingham School of Optometry
- Kentucky College of Optometry University of Pikeville
- Northeastern State University, Oklahoma College of Optometry

Member state association presidents and executive directors and attendees who have attended a SECO Congress for 10, 20, and 20 years were also recognized.

IV. MOMENT OF SILENCE
Dr. Richard Durocher, Vice President, led the house in a moment of silence for departed colleagues from the member states of the Southern Council of Optometrists. The list of names of the departed was entered into the permanent records of the association.

V. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES
Dr. Michelle Cooper drew the attention of the House of Delegates to the draft minutes of the 2019 House of Delegates meeting and requested modifications from the floor. There being none, the House moved:

MOTION 2020-03-01-HoD: MSC That the minutes of the previous House of Delegates meeting be adopted as presented.

VI. BYLAWS AMENDMENTS
Dr. Ernst stated that in accordance with current bylaws, due notification was sent to the membership regarding the proposed bylaw changes which included a process to define how a state could apply for state association membership in the association; to clarify that each state association is required to maintain membership in the American Optometric Association; to ensure that trustees appointed to the board are not in conflict with the association’s conflict of interest policy; to add that the association maintains a code of conduct policy; and finally that the association’s investment policy will define the minimum amount of funding needed for the reserve fund. The House of Delegates moved:

MOTION 2020-03-02 HoD: MSC To approve the proposed Bylaw amendments as presented.

VII. AOA UPDATE
Dr. Barbara Horn, the AOA President, provided a brief update.

VIII. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
Dr. Ernst introduced Dr. Stan Dickerson, Chair of the Awards & Resolutions Committee. Dr. Dickerson announced his committee members - Dr. Ted McElroy from Georgia and Dr. Lynn Hammonds from Alabama.
Dr. Hammonds presented the Paraoptometric of the South award to Mrs. Brianna Goodson of West Virginia. Dr. Ted McElroy presented the Young OD of the South award to Dr. Roya Attar of Mississippi. Dr. Stan Dickerson then presented the Optometrist of the South award to Dr. Jonathan Shrewsbury of Kentucky.

IX. PRESIDENT’S AWARD & SPECIAL RECOGNITION
Dr. Ernst then bestowed the Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Len Brown for his service and contributions as a dedicated volunteer leader with SECO International.

Dr. Ernst concluded with the President’s Award presented to Dr. Freddie Mayes for his many years of outstanding service and dedication to the organization and the advancement of continuing education.

X. NEW BUSINESS
There was no new business to discuss.

XI. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
Dr. Ernst then requested that Dr. Emilio Balius present the Nominating Committee’s report.

Dr. Balius, Immediate Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the proposed slate of officers for 2020-2021:

- President: Dr. Max Raynor
- President-Elect: Dr. Richard Durocher
- Vice President: Dr. Christine Cook
- Treasurer: Dr. Michelle Cooper
- Secretary: Dr. Horace Deal
- Immediate Past President: Dr. Max Ernst

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. Balius asked for further nominations from the floor and, after receiving none, requested the House to move to adopt the slate of officers. The House moved:

MOTION 2020-03-03-HoD: MSC That the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee for the 2020-2021 administrative year be accepted as presented.

Thereupon, Dr. Balius called for a voice vote of the House on the election of the Executive Committee of the Southern Council of Optometrists and received a unanimous vote. Dr. Balius, as the outgoing Immediate Past President, was escorted from the stage from the Florida delegation.

XII. PRESIDENT’S REPORT AND OUTGOING REMARKS
As outgoing President, Dr. Max Ernst gave brief final remarks.
XIII. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
Dr. William Reynolds, President-Elect, American Optometric Association, then installed the Officers.

XIV. PASSING OF THE GAVEL
Past Presidents of the Council gathered to participate in the Passing of the Gavel ceremony to mark the investiture of the newly elected President, Dr. Max Raynor.

Dr. Balius presented a plaque to Dr. Ernst in honor of his year as President and the many years of service to the Southern Council of Optometrist and SECO International, LLC.

XV. REMARKS FROM INCOMING PRESIDENT
Dr. Max Raynor, Incoming President, addressed the House of Delegates.

XVI. GOOD and WELFARE

- It was announced that Dr. Belinda Starkey is running as a candidate for AOA Trustee in June 2020.
- Dr. Tim Barry (LA) was announced as a candidate for SECO Secretary in February 2021.
- Dr. David Rouse (FL) was announced as a candidate for SECO Secretary in March 2022.
- Dr. Patricia Walker (TN) was announced as a candidate for SECO Secretary in 2025.
- Dr. Matt Burchett (KY) was announced as a candidate for SECO Secretary in 2023.
- Dr. Brad Lane (WV) was announced as a candidate for SECO Secretary in 2024.
- Dr. Tad Kosanovich (FL) is running for AOA Trustee in June 2020.
- It was announced that Dr. Jim Sandefur (LA) is at home resting after recent surgery.
- Dr. Matt Jones (AR) announced that Arkansas continues to fight the battle with ophthalmology and invited delegates to attend a reception in the Magnolia room following the House of Delegates session.
- Dr. Ron Benner is running as a candidate for AOA Secretary/Treasurer in June 2020.
- Dr. Jim DeVleming is a candidate for AOA Vice President in June 2020.
- Dr. Terri Gossard is running for the re-election as an AOA Trustee in June 2020.
XVII. ADJOURN

There being no further business before the House, Dr. Max Raynor adjourned the meeting *sine die*, at 4:47 p.m. on Saturday, March 7, 2020.

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**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS ADOPTED**

**MOTION 2020-03-01-HoD:** MSC That the minutes of the previous House of Delegates meeting be adopted as presented.

**MOTION 2020-03-02 HoD:** MSC To approve the proposed Bylaw amendments as presented.

**MOTION 2020-03-03-HoD:** MSC That the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee for the 2020-2021 administrative year be accepted as presented.