

**SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTICIANRY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

August 7, 2025 at 9:00 AM
110 Centerview Drive,
Kingstree Building, Pee Dee Room
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Live YouTube Link: <https://llr.sc.gov/opti/videos.aspx>

Call to Order: Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Opticianry Board Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, Section 30-4-80.

Call to Order

Mr. Keith Hayes called the meeting of the SC Board of Examiner's in Opticianry to order at 9:10 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

Ronald Harbert made a motion to approve the agenda. Grant Brown seconded the motion and it carried.

2. Board Mission and Member Statistics – Keith Hayes

Keith Hayes read the Board mission and member statistics.

3. Introduction of Board Members

- Keith Hayes
- Grant Brown
- Emily Mikell
- Ronald Harbert
- J. Hollis Inabinet

LLR Staff in attendance: Bianca Smith, Program Manager I, Mary League Esq., Advice Counsel; Patrice Deas, Board Executive; Tajuana Hall, Program Coordinator I; Dowan Sulton, DOTS.

Others Present: Robin Reibold, Court Reporter; Jessica Doroteo, Optician Apprentice
Kimberly Rogers, Joannah McGinnis.

4. Approval of Excused Absence

Grant Brown made a motion to excuse the absence of Daniel Gosnell. Emily Mikell seconded the motion and it carried.

5. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

a. May 22, 2025

Emily Mikell made a motion to accept the minutes for the May 22, 2025, meeting. Grant Brown seconded the motion and it carried.

6. Administrative Report

a. OIE Report – For Information Only - Yarikza Alexander, Lead Investigator

This report was presented by Bianca Smith. There were no cases.

b. IRC Report – For Approval - Yarikza Alexander, Lead Investigator

This report was presented by Bianca Smith. There were no cases for approval.

c. ODC Report – For Information Only – Tina Brown, Esq.

There were no cases.

7. Board Executive Report – Patrice Deas

a. Financial Report

Patrice Deas reported as of June 30, 2025, the cash balance is \$225,695.05.

b. Total Number of Licensees

Patrice Deas reported there are currently 106 active options; 479 active in renewal opticians; 53 active contact lens dispensing; 244 active in renewal contact lens dispensing, and 174 registered apprentices.

8. New Business

A. Application Hearing

i. **Application-** Jessica Doroteo

Jessica Doroteo appeared before the Board to be granted a second extension of time to complete her apprenticeship. She was not represented by counsel, and sworn in by the court reporter.

Jessica Doroteo presented her case to the Board and asked that she be considered for a second extension.

Emily Mikell made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. J. Hollis Inabinet seconded the motion and it carried.

Emily Mikell made a motion to come out of executive session. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

Grant Brown made a motion to approve the application for the second extension of the apprenticeship. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

9. Old Business

a. National Opticianry Apprenticeship Program

The Board was presented with materials from Ruby Garcia from the National Optician Apprenticeship Program, as the Board requested additional information with more detail on each of the requirements of the program at the last meeting on May 22, 2025.

Keith Hayes made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. Grant Brown seconded the motion and it carried.

Grant Brown made a motion to come out of executive session. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

There were no votes taken in executive session. More information was requested to include instructional materials for the program.

b. Institute of Opticianry and Technology

Laura Frezza, wrote a letter and submitted a Memorandum of Understanding to the Board for reconsideration of the Board reviewing the VOLT program.

J. Hollis Inabinet made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

Grant Brown made a motion to come out of executive session. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

There were no votes taken in executive session.

J. Hollis Inabinet made a motion to grant Keith Hayes and Grant Brown the authority to review the educational materials and be granted at least 6 weeks access to review online with the possibility for more time to accommodate their personal and professional schedule. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

10. Approval of 2026 Board Meeting Dates

- Thursday, February 19, 2026
- Thursday, May 21, 2026
- Thursday, August 6, 2026

- Thursday, November 5, 2026

Grant Brown made a motion to approve the dates for the 2026 Board meetings. Emily Mikell seconded the motion and it carried.

11. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

12. Adjournment

Ronald Harbert made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 am. Grant Brown seconded the motion and it carried.