

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

May 6, 2026 at 3:00 PM

110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Upstate Room
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

1. Call to Order

- a. Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Optometry 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.

Dr. Wayne Cannon called the meeting to order at 3:09 pm

2. Introduction of Board Members

Board Members participating in the meeting were:

Dr. Wayne Cannon, President
Dr. Brad Majors, Vice President
Dr. Michael Campbell
Dr. Melissa Wood
Dr. Steven Wearden
Mr. Jessie Price

LLR staff present included Ely Grote, Esq., Advice Counsel; Randall Dong, Esq. Advice Counsel; Kate Landess, Esq., ODC; Yarikza Alexander, Lead Investigator; Natasha Mitchell, OIE; Patrice Deas, Board Executive; Tajuana Hall, Program Coordinator; Yasir Jenkins, DOTS.

Robin Reibold served as Court Reporter for the meeting.

3. Approval of Excused Absences

Dr. Michael Campbell made a motion to approve the absence of Ms. Kathy Gilbert. Dr. Melissa Wood seconded the motion and it carried.

4. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Michael Campbell made a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Brad Majors seconded the motion and it carried.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Board Meeting- January 28, 2026
Dr. Michael Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 28, 2026, meeting. Dr. Melissa Wood seconded the motion and it carried.

6. Administrative Reports

- A. OIE Report – For Information Only** – Yarikza Alexander, Lead Investigator
Since Jan 1, 2026 – April 17, 2026, OIE has had 5 cases, 5 complaints, 2 active investigations, and closed 8 cases.

B. IRC Report – For Approval – Yarikza Alexander, Lead Investigator

There was 1 case recommended for dismissal.

Mr. Jesse Price made a motion to approve the recommendation for dismissal.

Dr. Brad Majors seconded the motion and it carried.

C. ODC Report – For Information Only – Kate Landess, Esq.

As of April 24, 2026, there are 4 open cases, 1 case pending hearing and agreements, no cases closed, and no appeals.

7. Board Executive Report – Patrice Deas

A. Finance Report

Patrice Deas reported as of March 31, 2026, the cash balance is 353,958.05.

B. Total Number of Licensees

Patrice Deas reported there are 1,066 active licensees; 7 pending applications; and 2 active in renewal mobile units, and 1 pending mobile unit.

C. List of Newly Licensed Optometrist

Patrice Deas informed the Board that the names and license numbers of the newly licensed optometrists from, January 24, 2026, through April 30, 2026, were provided in their Board materials. There was a total of 7 new licenses issued.

8. Application Hearing

A. Initial Application - Dr. Jason Hendrix

Dr. Jason Hendrix appeared before the Board, for an application hearing. He was not represented by counsel, and was sworn in by the court reporter.

Dr. Jason Hendrix presented his case to the Board and asked that he be considered for licensure by endorsement.

Dr. Brad Majors made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. Dr. Melissa Wood seconded the motion and it carried.

Dr. Melissa Wood made a motion to come out of executive session. Mr. Jesse Price seconded the motion and it carried.

Dr. Brad Majors made a motion to approve Dr. Jason Hendrix for licensure by endorsement, contingent upon passing the Jurisprudence Exam. Mr. Jesse Price seconded the motion and it carried.

9. Approval of 2027 Board Meeting Dates

- **January 27, 2027**
- **May, 5, 2027**
- **August 4, 2027**
- **November 17, 2027**

Dr. Michael Campbell made a motion to approve the 2027 Board meeting dates. Mr. Jesse Price seconded the motion and it carried.

10. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

11. Adjournment

Dr. Michael Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:44 pm. Dr. Brad Majors seconded the motion and it carried.