

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

May 21, 2026 at 9:00 AM
110 Centerview Drive
Kingstree Building, Pee Dee Room
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

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 9:02 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

Grant Brown made a motion to approve the agenda. Hollis Inabinet 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

Board members participating in the meeting were:

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

LLR Staff in attendance: Bob Horner Esq., Advice Counsel; Kate Landess Esq., ODC; Bianca Smith, Patrice Deas, Board Executive; Tajuana Hall, Program Coordinator I; Billie Chambers, DOTS.

Others Present: Robin Reibold, Court Reporter.

4. Approval of Excused Absences

Ronald Harbert made a motion to excuse the absence of Kerri Spivey. Emily Mikell seconded the motion and it carried.

5. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

a. February 19, 2026

Hollis Inabinet made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 19, 2026, 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. From January 1, 2026, to May 13, 2026, there were 2 complaints received, 3 active investigations, and no closed 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 – Kate Landess, Esq.
As of May 4, 2026, there were no cases.

7. Board Executive Report – Patrice Deas

- a. Financial Report
Patrice Deas reported as of April 30, 2026, the cash balance is \$350,228.01.
- b. Total Number of Licensees
Patrice Deas reported there are 576 active opticians; 51 inactive opticians; 267 active contact lens dispensing opticians; 2 inactive contact lens dispensing opticians; 196 registered apprentices.

8. New Business

A. Application Hearing

- i. **Initial Application** – Dharmendra Jhaveri
Dharmendra Jhaveri appeared before the Board and presented his case to be considered for licensure as an Optician.

Emily Mikell made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

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

Hollis Inabinet made a motion to approve Mr. Jhaveri for licensure upon the conditions of submitting an updated Employer Statement of Practice Affidavit and passing of the Practical Exam. Grant Brown seconded the motion and it carried.

- ii. **Re-exam Application** – Yaffa Pasquariello
Yaffa Pasquariello appeared before the Board and presented her case to be considered for approval to re-take the Practical Exam for a third time.

Emily Mikell 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.

Hollis Inabinet made a motion to approve Ms. Pasquariello to retake the Practical Exam. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

iii. **Re-exam Application** – Ciara Rabon

Ciara Rabon appeared before the Board and presented her case to be considered for approval to retake the Practical Exam for a third time.

Emily Mikell 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.

Grant Brown made a motion to approve Ms. Rabon to retake the Practical Exam. Emily Mikell seconded the motion and it carried.

9. Old Business

a. **IO Tech**

Grant Brown made a motion to approve the IO Tech course for Apprentices' formal education. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

10. Approval of 2027 Board Meeting Dates

- **February 18, 2027**
- **May 20, 2027**
- **August 5, 2027**
- **November 4, 2027**

Grant Brown made a motion to approve the 2027 meeting dates. Hollis Inabinet seconded the motion and it carried.

11. Election of Officers

Grant Brown made a motion for Keith Hayes to remain as the Chair for the Board. Ronald Harbert seconded the motion and it carried.

Keith Hayes made a motion for Grant Brown to remain as Vice Chair for the Board. Hollis Inabinet seconded the motion and it carried.

12. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

13. Adjournment

Ronald Harbert made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 am. Grant Brown seconded the motion and it carried.