

Maine Board of Optometry
113 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 7, 2025
BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Dr. Smith, O.D., at 9:04a.m. Members present, Eric Hebert, O.D., James Murphy, Public Member, Timothy Rioux, O.D., (zoom) and Todd Hamilton, O.D. (zoom). Six citizens listened by zoom.

Others present: Tina Carpentier, Office Specialist II, Lisa Wilson, Assistant Attorney.

OLD BUSINESS:

Action on October 3, 2025, Meeting: A motion was made by Dr. Hebert, second by Dr. Rioux, to accept the minutes as written.

The motion passes 5 in favor and 0 abstain.

NEW BUSINESS

Investigation Dr. Hamilton: The board discussed concerns raised by Dr. Hamilton about virtual eye exams offered by retail chains. The board agreed that Dr. Hamilton should investigate further and gather written testimony from patients who experienced these virtual exams to present at a future meeting.

No motion was taken.

Discuss dismissed complaint letter Dr. Hebert: Dr. Hebert proposed to provide a more detailed explanation dismissal letter for complainants, while maintaining the board's jurisdiction focus.

A motion was made by Dr. Rioux, second by Dr. Smith, to approve the new format for dismissal letters of complaint.

The motion passes 5 in favor and 0 abstain.

Email from Dr. Mishler re fill prescription for latisse: Dr. Mishler had a patient inquiry about refilling a prescription for Latisse from another State. She is wondering if prescribing this medication is under her scope of practice in the state of Maine.

A Motion was made by Dr. Hebert, second Dr. Hamilton to reply to Dr. Mishler email that Latisse falls within the scope of practice of Maine Board of Optometry.

The motion passes 5 in favor and 0 abstain.

Photobiomodulation allowed in Maine, MOA: Tabled to next board meeting.

A motion was made by Dr. Smith, second by Dr. Hebert to table to next board meeting. Dr. Rioux research the procedure and ask MOA for some studies with evidence to support their claims.

Motion passes 5 in favor and 0 abstain.

LD 1803 Stakeholder meeting October 27, 2025: The board discussed LD 1803, a proposed law that would expand the scope of practice. They acknowledged potential changes with implementing the law and fee increases. The board agreed to meet again on December 3rd to discuss both LD 1803 and potential fee changes.

No motion was made.

COMPLAINTS

2025-OPT-20900: After presentation and discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Rioux, seconded by Dr. Hamilton to dismiss the complaint on the grounds of no violation of the Maine Optometry Laws and Rules.

The motion passes 4 in favor and abstained (Dr. Hebert)

OTHER BUSINESS: PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Smith read a letter that was sent to the Board members from Dr. Nadeau. He declined to come to the meeting for his farewell presentation.

SECRETARY REPORT: The board's new website will be completed in January 2026 for \$5,400.00.

Tina will be going to look at an office space in Augusta at the Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine. An annual fee of \$15,000.00 to \$17,000.00.

Tina ask a question on a request from a Cuban-trained optometrist seeking Maine licensure. Dr. Roiux, suggested seeking guidance on candidate's credentials and accreditation status.

ADJOURNED: A motion was made by Dr. Hebert, seconded by James Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on December 3, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Carpentier

Office Specialist II

Maine Board of Optometry