

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

MINUTES OF August 22, 2025
BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Dr. Smith, O.D. at 8:01 a.m. Members present, Eric Hebert, O.D., James Smith, O.D., (zoom) James Murphy, Public Member, Timothy Rioux, O.D., (zoom) and Todd Hamilton, O.D. (zoom).

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Action on August 1, 2025, Meeting: A motion was made by Dr. Hebert, second by James Murphy to accept the minutes as amended.

The motion passes 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

August 1, 2025, two letters of guidance were issued: however, the Board did not indicate how long they would like the letters of guidance kept in the file.

A motion was made by James Smith, second by Dr. Rioux, to keep the two letters of guidance in the licensee files for two (2) years.

The motion passes 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of LD 1803: The Board discussed LD 1803, which would expand optometry scope of practice. They discussed new credentialing processes, research available laser courses and training for advanced procedures.

A motion was made by James Smith, seconded by Dr. Rioux to review credentialing requirements, by divided responsibilities among board members and agreed to research existing programs in other states and submit their information to Tina one week prior their first stakeholder meeting on September 27, 2025.

The motion passes 5 in favor and 0 apposed.

Strategic Budget Plan: The Board discussed the need for a strategic plan to address upcoming substantial fees and future financial situations, with a recommended budget of \$3000.00 for professional planning.

A motion was made by Dr. Rioux, second by Dr. Hebert to hire a professional do a strategic plan, before we make any changes to the license fees.

The motion passes 5 in favor and 0 apposed.

Website design: The Boards website needs to be redesigned and independent from the Office of Professional and Financial regulations. The estimated cost is \$20,000.00 and needs to be completed by the end of the year.

A motion was made by James Murphy, second by Dr. Rioux to table the website discussion to investigate further website design requirements, including whether the board must use a specific firm or send it out to bid.

OTHER BUSINESS: PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

SECRETARY REPORT: The Board disciplinary hearing that was scheduled for November 7, 2025, has been postponed until February 6, 2026.

ADJOURNED: A motion was made by Dr. Hebert, seconded by James Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Carpentier

Office Specialist II

Maine Board of Optometry