

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
April 11, 2025

ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Optometry was called to order at 2:02 p.m. on April 11, 2025, by Dr. Linda Heiden, Vice-Chairperson, at Hampton Inn, 7343 Husker Circle, Husker Room, Lincoln, NE. The meeting was conducted In-Person and by WebEx. The following members answered the roll call:

Linda Heiden - Vice-Chairperson – Via WebEx  
Creston Myers, O.D. - Secretary  
Jeremiah Baumfalk, O.D.  
Christopher Wolfe, OD – New Member

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Also present were: Vonda Apking, Program Manager; Heather Ord; T.J. O'Neil, Attorney General Office, Annika Gleason Schoch Department Attorney, and Jeff Newman, Investigator with the Investigation Unit.

Heiden announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx> and posted in the Licensure Unit on April 2, 2025

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Myers moved, seconded by Wolfe, to adopt the agenda with the Vice-Chairperson having the ability to rearrange as necessary. Voting aye: Baumfalk, Heiden, Myers, Wolfe. Voting nay: none. Abstain: None. Absent: none. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 19, 2024

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Baumfalk moved, seconded by Myers, to approve the September 6, 2024, minutes as presented. Voting aye: Baumfalk, Heiden, Myers. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Wolfe. Absent: None Motion carried.

INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS, DISCIPLINARY REPORTS, APPLICATION REVIEW – CLOSED SESSION

Wolfe moved, seconded by Myers, to go into closed session at 2:11 p.m. for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Baumfalk, Heiden, Myers, Wolfe. Voting nay: none. Abstain: None. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The Board returned to Open Session at 3:25 p.m.

APPLICATION REVIEW

No applications to review at this time.

RATIFY EMAIL BALLOTS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

Nothing to ratify at this time.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

There were no updates at this time.

#### REGULATIONS UPDATE

There were no updates at this time.

#### ASSOCIATION OF REGULATORY BOARDS OF OPTOMETRY (ARBO) ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION AND TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

Baumfalk will be attending the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) Annual Meeting, June 22-24, 2025.

#### DESIGNATION OF THE METHOD OF WHICH THIS BODY GIVES PUBLIC NOTICE OF ITS MEETINGS

Apking informed the Board that the Department currently sends notifications via email to interested parties, post meeting agendas to the Department's Public website, and post a paper agenda inside the State Office Building.

Wolfe moved, seconded by Myers, to continue the current method of which this body gives public notice of its meetings. Voting aye: Baumfalk, Heiden, Myers, Wolfe. Voting nay: none. Abstain: None. Absent: none. Motion carried.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Wolfe moved, seconded by Baumfalk, to keep Vice-Chairperson the same and appoint Myers as Chairperson and Baumfalk as Secretary. The slate of officers is as follows: Myers – Chairperson, Heiden – Vice-Chairperson, and Baumfalk – Secretary. Voting aye: Baumfalk, Heiden, Myers, Wolfe. Voting nay: none. Abstain: None. Absent: none. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

#### BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meeting is to be determined.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Heiden, Vice-Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signature on file with the Department)

Jeremiah Baumfalk, O.D., Secretary  
Board of Optometry