

These minutes are for information only. They have not been reviewed, revised or approved by the Board of Optometry.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
September 10, 2025

ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Optometry was called to order at 2:01 p.m. on September 10, 2025, by Dr. Creston Myers, 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:

Creston Myers, O.D. - Chairperson
Jeremiah Baumfalk, O.D. - Secretary
Christopher Wolfe, OD

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Also present were: Vonda Apking, Program Manager; Maiya Baumann, Program Manager; Heather Ord, Health Licensing Coordinator; Jessica Dean, Health Licensing Coordinator; T.J. O'Neil, Attorney General's Office; Marly Sandberg, Department Attorney; and Trevor Klaasen, Investigator with the Investigation Unit.

Myers 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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 11, 2025

Page 1: First paragraph: Changed "Robert Vandervort" to "Creston Myers"
Page 1: First Paragraph: Changed "September 6, 2024" to "April 11, 2025"
Page 2: No Changes

Wolfe moved, seconded by Baumfalk, to approve the April 11, 2025, minutes with corrections. Voting aye: Baumfalk, Myers, Wolfe. Voting nay: none. Abstain: None. Absent: none. Motion carried.

SHAREPOINT PRESENTATION – KURTIS JAHNKE

Jahnke presented to the board members on how to use the SharePoint website, a new tool the board uses to communicate topics for discussion during meetings.

INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS, DISCIPLINARY REPORTS, APPLICATION REVIEW – CLOSED SESSION

Wolfe moved, seconded by Baumfalk, to go into closed session at 2:12 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, Myers, Wolfe. Voting nay: none. Abstain: None. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The Board returned to Open Session at 2:38 p.m.

APPLICATION REVIEW

No applications to review at this time.

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RATIFY EMAIL BALLOTS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

Nothing to ratify at this time.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Credentialing Review (407) Process received a proposal in July 2025 regarding the process and how it will be adjusted. Proposals are evaluated against public health-related criteria to determine whether the proposal would benefit public health and welfare by the bodies that conduct the review.

Vision Benefit Managers (VBM) are abusing their "cloud." Meyers is in contact with the National Optometric Association (NOA) to determine what can be done regarding the 407 process to address the out-of-control abuse.

REGULATIONS UPDATE

Apking stated that the Regulations will be opened up every so often. Department Attorney mentioned that in Jun2026 regulations will start opening up.

Vonda stated the department will see about putting language about foreign graduates in the regulations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Myers recognized and presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Vonda Apking for her years of service, dedication, support, and commitment as Health Licensing Coordinator and then Program Manager for the Board of Optometry.

Myers recognized and presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Heather Ord for her service, dedication, support, and commitment as Health Licensing Coordinator for the Board of Optometry.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meeting is to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Myers, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signature on file with the Department)

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