

**Board of Registration of Dispensing Opticians  
Public Session Minutes**

**Date: March 5, 2025 Time: 10:00 a.m.**

**A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Dispensing Opticians (“the Board”) was held via Videoconference and Conference Call pursuant to section 40 of chapter 2 of the acts of 2023, signed into law on March 29, 2023.**

**Board Members Present by Phone/Video:**

William Carleton, Board Chair  
Mark Davini, Board Secretary  
Deborah Black  
Jesse Ellis

**Staff Present:**

Shiela York, Board Counsel  
Margaret McKenna, Program Coordinator  
Lisa Park, Board Staff

**Board Members Not Present by Phone/Video:**

Alicja Prachanronarong

**Administrative Tasks:**

- Board Chair, William Carleton called the general session meeting to order at 10:01 am and established a quorum via calling attendance: **Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Yes”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Not Present”**. All members in attendance participated remotely via Cisco Webex.

**Board Business:**

- General Session agenda for March 5, 2025: **Dr. Davini moved to accept the agenda and Mr. Ellis seconded. The motion to accept the public session agenda passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Yes”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Not Present”**.
- General Session Meeting Minutes from February 5, 2025: **Mr. Ellis moved to accept the minutes and Ms. Black seconded. The motion to accept the January 8, 2025 minutes passed by a roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Yes”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Not Present”**.
- Allow remote participation by board members at future board meetings – VOTE

Board counsel discussed the potential expiration of amendments to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, which have been in place since March, 2020 and allowed the board to hold fully remote meetings with all board members participating remotely. If the Legislature does not extend these amendments, the Board’s ability to hold fully remote public meetings will expire on March 31<sup>st</sup>. If the amendments are not extended and the pre-Covid requirements for board meetings take effect again, limited remote participation by board members who are not necessary to make a quorum can be allowed but only if the Board take this vote to allow such remote participation under 940 CMR 29.10. Board

Counsel advised the board on procedures for remote participation by board members under that regulation.

**After discussion, Dr. Davini moved to allow for remote participation by board members at future board meetings under the Open Meeting Law. Mr. Ellis seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Dr. Davini: “Yes”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Not Present”.**

### **Application Review (Initial):**

- At 10:12 a.m. the Board was scheduled to meet with applicant(s) for licensure and reviewed applications and additional documentation. Below is a list of the candidate(s) for review and the motion and roll call vote for each:

Avari Marie Valle – **Deferred.**

### **Application Review (reactivation)**

Kimberly Seymour – Ms. Seymour met with the board to discuss her reactivation application to resume licensed practice in the Commonwealth. Ms. Seymour has been continuously licensed in another jurisdiction (CT) since her Massachusetts license expired and actively practicing as a DO for most of that time. Ms. Seymour meets the requirements for licensure in MA through endorsement/reciprocity, but had to apply as a reinstatement applicant because she held a MA license from 1995-1997. Ms. Seymour requested that the Board waive the requirement for reinstatement that she retake the practical examination in 235 CMR 2.12(3)(c). After review, the Board found that requiring Ms. Seymoure to retake and pass the practical examination was impractical and overly burdensome, and there were sufficient safeguards to protect the public health because she was eligible for licensure by endorsement in MA under 235 CMR 2.08 without retaking the practical examination. **After discussion, Mr. Ellis moved to grant the applicant a waiver of the practical exam required per 235 CMR 2.12(3)(c) based on the fact that she met the requirements for licensure by endorsement under 235 CMR 2.08 and to approve the reactivation application. Dr. Davini seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Mr. Carleton: “No”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Not Present”, Dr. Davini: “Yes”.**

### **Discussion**

- Review draft dispensing optician apprenticeship policy and frequently asked questions

The board reviewed a draft dispensing optician policy and discussed concerns for individuals in management roles working as apprentices. The board instructed counsel to amend the word “mentor” to read as “supervising mentor” in the policy. **After further discussion, Mr. Carleton moved to submit the policy for administrative review by the Department of Public Health with the minor change. Dr. Davini seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Ms. Black: “No”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Not Present”, Dr. Davini: “Yes”.**

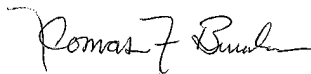
- Review draft interpretation of 235 CMR 4.04(6) *Lens Hardening, including ball drop testing*

**Mr. Carleton moved to submit the draft interpretation of 235 CMR 4.04(6) for administrative review by the Department of Public Health. Mr. Ellis seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Not Present”, Dr. Davini: “Yes”.**

**Adjournment:**

**At 11:21 a.m. Mr. Ellis moved to adjourn the general session meeting. Ms. Black seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Ms. Black: “Yes”, Mr. Ellis: “Yes”, Mr. Carleton: “Yes”, Ms. Prachanronarong: “Not Present”, Dr. Davini: “Yes”.**

Respectfully Submitted,



---

Thomas F. Burke  
Executive Director

**Documents used in the open meeting:**

- Public session meeting agenda for March 5, 2025
- Draft public meeting minutes from February 5, 2025
- Initial Application for A. Valle (protected personal data redacted)
- Reactivation Application for K. Seymour (protected personal data redacted)
- Apprenticeship Policy Board Discussion
- Interpretation of 235 CMR 4.04(6)