

Board of Registration of Optometry

General Session Minutes

Meeting Held by Phone/Video Conference

DATE: October 16, 2024 TIME: 10:00am

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Optometry (“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:

Rhonda Willinger, OD

Everett Sabree, OD

Julie Hiura, OD

DPH Staff Present by Phone/Video:

Jaqueline Petrillo, Board Counsel

Lisa Guglietta, Executive Director

Margaret McKenna, Board Staff

Isaac Badner, Board Intern

Board Members Not Present by

Phone/Video:

Jeanette Sewell, OD

Meeting called to order at 10:03 AM by Dr. Sabree

Meeting called to order:

- Roll Call Vote for Attendance

Board chair Dr. Sabree established a quorum via calling attendance: Everett Sabree, Julie Hiura, and Rhonda Willinger. All members participated remotely via Webex by Cisco.

Board Business:

- Review of General Session Agenda: October 16, 2024

Deferred.

- Review of General Session Minutes: September 18, 2024

Tabled.

- Meeting Dates 2025

The Board reviewed the meeting dates for the subsequent calendar year and requested that the form be corrected to state that the meetings will be held in 2025. **Dr. Willinger moved to accept the amended 2025 meeting date calendar. Dr. Hiura seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – “yes”; Dr. Sabree – “yes”; Dr. Sewell – “Not Present”; Dr. Hiura – “yes”.**

- Board Elections
 - Board Chair

Dr. Willinger nominated Dr. Sabree as the Board chair and Dr. Hiura seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – “yes”; Dr. Sabree – “yes”; Dr. Sewell – “Not Present”; Dr. Hiura – “yes”.
 - Board Secretary

Dr. Sabree nominated Dr. Willinger as Board secretary and Dr. Hiura seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – “yes”; Dr. Sabree – “yes”; Dr. Sewell – “Not Present”; Dr. Hiura – “yes”.

Discussion

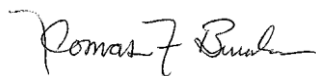
- Application Review for C. Belanger – Deferred.
- Review and discuss current optometry monitoring requirements and practice restrictions
- Recommendations for URAMP requirements and practice restrictions for optometrist

The Board reviewed sample supervisor agreements and reports from other BHPL boards and discussed possible monitoring requirements and return-to-work conditions for optometrists who choose to enter URAMP as an alternative to discipline. The Board raised questions about how licensed professionals will be chosen and approved to participate as monitors in URAMP and directed Board Counsel to inquire with URAMP staff and report to the Board. The Board agreed to discuss specific optometry monitoring requirements and practice restrictions at subsequent meetings.

Adjournment:

At 10:21 a.m., Dr. Willinger moved to adjourn the public session meeting. Dr. Hiura seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – “yes”; Dr. Sabree – “yes”; Dr. Sewell – “Not Present”; Dr. Hiura – “yes”.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Burke, Executive Director

Documents used in the public session meeting:

- Agenda for October 16, 2024 Board meeting
- Public session minutes for September 18, 2024

- Meeting Dates 2025
- Job Performance Report
- Job Supervisor Acceptance Participant
- Monitoring Instructions for Optometrists
- Nurse Employment Supervisor Report
- URAMP PowerPoint presentation