

## **Board of Registration in Optometry**

### **General Session Minutes**

Meeting Held by Phone/Video Conference

DATE: June 18, 2025 TIME: 10:00am

**A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Optometry (“the Board”) was held via WebEx.**

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

Everett Sabree, OD  
Rhonda Willinger, OD  
Julie Hiura, OD  
Jeanette Sewell, OD  
Michael Hawley

#### **DPH Staff Present by Phone/Video:**

Meghan Bresnahan, Board Counsel  
Thomas F. Burke, Executive Director  
Margaret McKenna, Board Staff  
Lisa Park, Board Intern

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

None

#### **Meeting called to order:**

Meeting called to order at 10:02 AM by Dr. Sabree.

- Roll Call Vote for Attendance

Board chair Dr. Sabree established a quorum by conducting a roll call of board members present: Everett Sabree, Julie Hiura, Jeanette Sewell, Rhonda Willinger and Michael Hawley. All members participated by video via Webex.

#### **Board Business:**

- Review of General Session Agenda: June 18, 2025

**Dr. Sewell moved to accept the general session agenda for June 18, 2025. Dr. Hiura seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – “yes”; Dr. Sabree – “yes”; Dr. Sewell – “yes”; Dr. Hiura – “yes”; Michael Hawley “yes”.**

- Review of General Session Minutes: May 21, 2025

**Dr. Hiura moved to accept the general session minutes for May 21, 2025 as written. Mr. Hawley seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – “yes”; Dr. Sabree – “yes”; Dr. Sewell – “yes”; Dr. Hiura – “yes”; Michael Hawley “yes”.**

## **Correspondence:**

COPE 2024 Annual Report

**Read and filed.**

## **Discussion:**

- Massachusetts Society of Optometrists glaucoma course proposal

The Board met with Ms. Lindsay DeSantis, executive director of the Massachusetts Society of Optometrists (MSO), and Dr. Gary Chu, Vice President of Professional Affairs at the New England College of Optometry (NECO), to discuss proposed changes to the MSO directed glaucoma certification course. After review, the Board recommended that the addendum regarding rules for completing the clinical portion of the glaucoma and orals certification course be amended. The Board instructed Ms. DeSantis to provide a revised course proposal and agreed that the proposal shall be approved subject to Dr. Sewell's review.

**After discussion, Dr. Sewell moved to approve the MSO Expanded Scope of Practice Certification Course 2025 – 2027 contingent upon changes to the addendum and Dr. Jeanette Sewell's review. Mr. Hawley seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – "yes"; Dr. Sabree – "yes"; Dr. Sewell – "yes"; Dr. Hiura – "yes"; Michael Hawley "yes".**

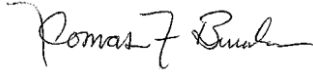
## **Adjournment:**

**At 10:42 a.m., Dr. Hiura moved to adjourn the public session meeting. Dr. Sewell seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – "yes"; Dr. Sabree – "yes"; Dr. Sewell – "yes"; Dr. Hiura – "yes"; Michael Hawley "yes".**

## **Executive Meeting Session:**

**At 10:16 a.m., Dr. Willinger moved to enter Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purpose of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition, or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual. Specifically, evaluate the Good Moral Character as required for registration for a pending applicant. Mr. Hawley seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Dr. Willinger – "yes"; Dr. Sabree – "yes"; Dr. Sewell – "yes"; Dr. Hiura – "yes"; Mr. Hawley – "yes".**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas F. Burke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Burke" clearly distinguishable.

---

Thomas F. Burke, Executive Director

Documents used in the public session meeting:

- Agenda for June 18, 2025 board meeting
- General session minutes for May 21, 2025 board meeting
- COPE 2024 Annual Report
- Massachusetts Society of Optometrists Glaucoma course for Massachusetts optometrists