

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY EXAMINERS
301 Main Street, 23rd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70801
MINUTES
September 26, 2025

I. Roll Call/Call to Order/Confirmation of posting of notice and agenda

The roll was called at 9:07 AM with the following LSBOE board members present: Drs. Kasovich, Lamar, Anastasio and Ms. Wicker. Dr. Gerdes, Dr. Jong and Dr. LaPoint were absent. Also present were public guests, including OAL members. Ms. Carrie Jones was present as Board counsel and Ms. Anna Cahill was present as the Executive Director. A quorum was present, and Dr. Kasovich called the meeting to order.

II. Public Comment – There was no public comment.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Wicker moved to adopt the agenda, which was seconded by Dr. Anastasio. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Lamar moved to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting with the following revisions: change “tropical” to “topical” and double check the wording in section VII in Dr. Anastasio’s motion. This was seconded by Ms. Wicker. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Executive Director’s Report

A. Finance and Budget Report – Ms. Cahill provided an update to the Board regarding the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss documents.

B. License Activity

- 1. Renewals** – There were two outstanding renewals that will be discussed during the hearing.
- 2. Applicants/New Licensees** – Ms. Cahill notified the Board that the certificates for those who passed the exam will be ready for signature at the next meeting.
- 3. Retirements** – No new requests.
- 4. Endorsement requests** – One new request, Ms. Cahill will recommend that applicant take the licensing exam as applicant has not been licensed in a state with similar scope of practice to Louisiana.
- 5. Inactive requests** – No new requests.
- 6. Hardship requests** – No new requests.
- 7. Requests for Reinstatement** - No new requests.

C. Required Training – Ms. Cahill reminded the Board that the Ethics training can be taken at any time with a deadline of December.

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D. Requests for Guidance – No requests for guidance.

OLD BUSINESS

- VI. CE Rule Promulgation Update** – Ms. Jones provided an update and will submit to OLRP based on the change in the minutes previously discussed.
- VII. Telehealth Update** – Ms. Jones reported that she is meeting with OAL regulatory counsel on October 14, 2025 to discuss the telehealth rule revisions. OAL informed the Board that they submitted concerns to their regulatory counsel and will circulate them to the Board as well.
- VIII. CPA Contract** – Ms. Cahill is working with the new CPA firm to obtain signature on the contract.
- IX. NCS Phone Invoices** – Ms. Jones provided a brief update to the Board regarding the invoices.
- X. Board Email and Web Address** – The board discussed desire to have official LSBOE email and website associated with the State of Louisiana. Ms. Cahill informed the Board that she will reach out to her contact at the Governor’s office and report back to the Board at the next meeting.
- XI. Ratification of Consent Order** – Ms. Cahill provided update on Consent Order for Dr. Joshua Davidson that requires board ratification. The matter has been completed and the check was submitted. Dr. Kasovich moved to ratify the consent order as presented. Dr. Lamar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- XII. License Suspension Hearing** – Dr. Anastasio moved to amend the agenda to move the hearing to the end of the agenda. Ms. Wicker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- XIII. ARBO Liaison Request** – Dr. Kasovich provided an update to the Board regarding the liaison appointed to the Board by ARBO. No action was taken.
- XIV. Online Complaint Form** – Dr. Kasovich opened a discussion regarding the creation of an online complaint form/portal to streamline the complaint review process. Ms. Cahill

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informed the Board of the current process in place for complaints. She will work on creating the form and present it at the next Board meeting.

- XV. ORM Invoice** – Ms. Cahill informed the Board that it received an invoice from ORM and asked if the Board would like to break up the payments similar to last year. The Board instructed Ms. Cahill to split the payments into four parts. No action was taken.
- XVI. Louisiana Property Assistance Agency Audit Response** – Ms. Cahill reported on the LPAA audit response. Ms. Jones noted that the Board needs to adopt a Data Sanitization Policy to comply with the audit. She mentioned that the state offers a comprehensive policy that many state agencies adopt and she will present the policy for consideration at the next board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Dr. Anastasio moved to enter Executive Session and Ms. Wicker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

- XVII. Update on Outstanding Litigation:**
- A. OAL v Heitmeier, et al, No C-729018 19th JDC State of Mediation between LSBOE and OAL**
 - B. LSBOE v OAL et al, No. C-729434 19th JDC State of Louisiana**
 - C. Update on Ethics Board Proceedings Related to LSBOE/OAL Pending**
- XVIII. Update on Complaints**
- 1. Pending Complaints**
 - 2. New Complaints Since Last Meeting**
- XIX. Requests for Reinstatement from Prior Disciplinary Action**

The Board exited Executive Session at 10:46 AM. Dr. Kasovich moved to return to the open session. Dr. Lamar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

- XX. Taking of any votes on items discussed in Executive Session**

Regarding the OAL litigation, Dr. Kasovich moved to accept the 9/24/25 version of the settlement agreement with the contingency that the State also signs off. Ms. Wicker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Dr. Kasovich also stated on the record that he would like Ms. Jones to be copied on correspondence between ORM counsel and the

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State regarding the settlement. Mr. Jacques Roy, counsel for OAL was present along with Alesia Ardoin and Gray Sexton, counsel for Dr. Sandefur. Mr. Roy stipulated on the record that he had no objection if LDH wanted to add additional LDH Secretary signatory pages.

The Board returned to agenda item XII: License Suspension Hearings - There were two delinquent hearing scheduled in the matters of Kenneth Parker and Jacob Bray. The ED reported that both licensees were sent notice to their official address of record. Neither licensee was present. Dr. Anastasio moved to continue the hearing to the October meeting date and to send notice to the licensees via certified mail. Dr. Lamar seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

- XXI. Set Date for Next Meeting** – The next meeting was set for October 24, 2025.
- XXII. Motion to Adjourn** – Ms. Wicker moved to adjourn. Dr. Anastasio seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 10:57 am.