



Mississippi State Board of Optometry  
Special Called Teleconference Meeting  
June 3, 2025; 6:00 P.M.  
5 Old River Place, Suite 105, Jackson, MS 39202

MINUTES

In accordance with MCA § 25-41-11

- I. Call to Order  
The Mississippi State Board of Optometry meeting was called to order by Board President, Kimberly Ragan, O.D. at 6:04 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2025.
- II. Roll Call  
The following Members were present via teleconference:  
Lori Blackmer, O.D. Anna Middleton, O.D.  
Hilary Parrish, O.D. Kimberly Ragan, O.D.  
Board representatives present at public location:  
Cynthia Brown, Administrative Assistant  
Leyser Hayes, Board Counsel – Special Assistant Attorney General  
Yvonne Laird, J-Bar and Associates, Inc.  
Members of the Public present:  
Noel Morgan – Simmons Consulting  
A quorum was present for voting purposes.
- III. Approval of the Agenda  
Dr. Blackmer moved, with a second by Dr. Middleton to accept the Agenda as revised and previously distributed. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- IV. Hearing / Executive Session / Report of Counsel

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. Middleton moved to go into closed session to determine whether as Executive Session is needed. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Dr. Blackmer moved, seconded by Dr. Parish, that the Board had reason under Miss. Code Ann. §25-41-7 (4)(b) and (d), as amended, to go into Executive Session namely

to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violations of law with respect to prospective litigation or issuance of an appealable order when an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the Board. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Dr. Middleton moved, with a second by Dr. Parish to come out of Executive Session. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

## RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Executive Director Yvonne Laird announced actions taken during Executive Session as follows:

A. 02-03-24

Pursuant to Counsel, this case is still under investigation.

Dr. Blackmer moved, with a second by Dr. Parish to extend the investigator contract for Dr. Amy Crigler for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 without change. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

B. 2025-748-04

Dr. Blackmer moved, with a second by Dr. Middleton to accept the recommendation of investigative Board member Dr. Parrish, and to dismiss this matter and take no action as there are no reasonable grounds to believe that the accused optometrist has been guilty of unprofessional conduct or conduct evincing unfitness for the practice as optometry. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

V. FAQ Review

Upon review of the FAQs previously distributed, Dr. Blackmer moved, with a second by Dr. Parrish to accept FAQs as amended and upon final review by counsel, post to the website and announce the availability of in the upcoming newsletter. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Future FAQs will be approved by the Board prior to placement on the website.

VI. Equipment Requirements and Floor Plans for Practice Location

Dr. Parrish moved, with a second by Dr. Middleton to approve and initiate the use of the Equipment Requirements for Practice Location form with modification and the location specific Optometry license. This is in compliance with statute and rules which have been in existence since July 1, 1991 (equipment requirement) and July 1, 1996 (floor plan requirement). The form will be sent upon receipt of a request for a practice location. No practice location certificate will be released without a validated practice location and receipt of the completed form and required floor plans. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

VII. Practice License Certificate

Dr. Middleton moved with a second by Dr. Parrish to approve and initiate the use of the practice specific license certificate as distributed. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

VIII. Retreat

Discussions were held regarding a Board Training Retreat. Location options; proposed agenda items; and a September 2025 date will be further discussed at the July 12, 2025 regular meeting.

IX. Old Business

A. Legislative Update

House Bill 26, 1<sup>st</sup> Extraordinary Session, 2025, was introduced on May 28<sup>th</sup> to appropriate \$256,272. for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the board for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. The bill has officially passed both the House and the Senate and enrolled (signed by both House and Senate) on June 2, 2025 and is due from the Governor on June 19, 2025.

X. Adjournment

Dr. Parrish moved, with a second by Dr. Blackmer to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MS STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2025. TESTING APPLICANTS TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN 8:30 A.M. TESTING TO BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M. THE MISSISSIPPI OPTOMETRY ASSOCIATION WILL BE PRESENT IN THE LOBBY BEGINNING AT 8:30 A.M. BOARD MEETING TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING APPLICANT TESTING.

APPROVED:

  
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Kimberly Ragan, O.D., Board President

  
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Hilary Parrish O.D., Board Secretary

Distributed for Board President & Secretary's Review: Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Distributed to Board Members: Wednesday, June 11, 2025



# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Mississippi  
State Board of Optometry**

**Special Called  
Board Meeting**

**Tuesday  
June 3, 2025  
6:00 PM**

**5 Old River Place, Suite 105  
Jackson, Mississippi**

Posted pursuant to *Miss. Code Ann.* §25-41-5