

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD *DECEMBER 10, 2025*

THESE DRAFT MINUTES WERE PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING. THEY HAVE NOT BEEN REVIEWED OR APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

Date:	December 10, 2025
Time:	08:30 AM
Location:	Teleconference (Zoom)
Attending:	Members: Kathleen Rice (Chair, OD), Ethan Arndt (OD), Sheryl Lentfer (OD), Pamela Steffes (OD), Charles Rudstrom (Public Member) Staff: Ashley Carabajal (Licensing Examiner), Reid Bowman (Program Coordinator)
Absent:	

1a. Call to Order/Roll Call: <u>Ethics Report</u>	
Brief Discussion:	<i>Each member of the board confirmed they had no ethical conflicts to disclose.</i>
1b. Call to Order/Roll Call: <u>Review/Approve Agenda</u>	
Brief Discussion:	<i>No discussion to amend the agenda.</i>
Motion:	<i>Motion to approve the agenda as written. (First: Dr. Steffes; Second: Mr. Rudstrom)</i>
Recorded Votes:	<i>Dr. Rice – Y</i>
	<i>Dr. Lentfer – Y</i>
	<i>Dr. Steffes – Y</i>
	<i>Dr. Arndt – Y</i>
	<i>Mr. Rudstrom – Y</i>
Action Items:	<i>The board will follow the agenda as written unless amended later in the meeting.</i>
2. <u>Public Comment</u>	
Brief Discussion:	<i>Ms. Carabajal informed the board an Alaska OD joined prior to public comment but was not present now. Ms. Carabajal told the board she would let them know if he joins again.</i>
3. <u>AO360 Discussion: Regulation Review</u>	
Brief Discussion:	<i>Before the board began reviewing and discussing regulations, Ms. Carabajal presented a spreadsheet as a plan that will help keep the board organized on which regulation changes would be made and why regarding Administrative Order (AO) 360. The board began reviewing discretionary regulations and discussed their suggestions. They reviewed 12 AAC 48.920 (Prescription Requirements). Dr. Steffes brought up that the board</i>

	<p>already agreed to remove 12 AAC 48.920 (a)(1)(C) and the board should consider looking at all of 12 AAC 48.920. Dr. Lentfer asked about the expiration date requirement and Dr. Rice stated that it would be a problem if it was removed. Dr. Steffes brought up 12 AAC 48.920(b). The board discussed keeping (b) but amending it to remove (a)(2) which is specific to spectacles and making it state the expiration date for spectacles and contacts. The board agreed to remove 12 AAC 48.920(a) and remove (b) to re-word it.</p> <p>Dr. Lentfer brought up 12 AAC 48.910 (Display of Certificate). Dr. Steffes agreed this was a regulation they could potentially remove. Dr. Steffes asked if it was covered in centralized regulation and Ms. Carabajal and Mr. Bowman confirmed it was under 12 AAC 02.900 (Name and Address Changes).</p> <p>The board reviewed 12 AAC 48.022 (Restricted Licenses), Ms. Carabajal informed the board there are currently three active restricted licenses and the board determined this cannot be removed until there are zero active restricted licenses.</p> <p>Dr. Arndt brought up 12 AAC 48.035 (Temporary Military Courtesy License) regulations and mentioned the federal laws for military licensure. Mr. Bowman mentioned there was some ability to get rid of some of the regulations in that section. The board agreed to put 12 AAC 48.035 on the planning spreadsheet for AO360. Mr. Rudstrom asked who would be completing the spreadsheet. Mr. Bowman informed the board Ms. Carabajal would use the meeting recording to fill out the spreadsheet for the board. Mr. Bowman reminded the board that the deadline to have an approved plan is February 13, 2026.</p> <p>Dr. Steffes mentioned reviewing 12 AAC 48.040 (Expanded Therapeutic Procedures) to see if anything can be removed or adjusted; specifically, regarding the course required in 12 AAC 48.040(c)(1). Dr. Arndt brought up 12 AAC 48.040(k) and asked the board if it was necessary to leave that in regulation, as they already need board approval to perform the requested procedures. Dr. Rice brought up 12 AAC 48.040(i) and the board agreed to keep this regulation. The board decided to continue discussing and reviewing regulations at a later meeting.</p>
Action Items:	Ms. Carabajal will add the changes discussed to the AO360 spreadsheet to bring to the next meeting.

Next Meeting:	January 07, 2026
Adjournment:	09:59 AM