

The mission of the California State Board of Optometry is to protect the health and safety of California consumers through licensing, registration, education, and regulation of the practice of Optometry and Opticianry.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Jeffrey Garcia, O.D., President
 Eunie Linden, J.D., Vice President
 Stacy Bragg, O.D., Secretary
 Alex Clemens, Public Member
 Paul Hsu, Public Member
 Robert Klepa, J.D. Public Member
 Joseph Pruitt, O.D.
 Martin Dawson, SLD/CLD
 Lillian Wang, O.D.
 Taylor Tedder, O.D.
 Vacant Governor Appointee, Public Member
 Gregory Pruden, Executive Officer



**OCTOBER 17, 2025
 FINAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**PHYSICAL LOCATION:
 Ketchum Health Medical Clinic
 5460 E La Palma Avenue
 Anaheim, CA 92807**

Remote attendance via WebEx

Members Present	Staff Present
Jeffrey Garcia, O.D.	Gregory Pruden, Executive Officer
Eunie Linden, J.D.	Erica Bautista, Administrative Coordinator
Stacy Bragg, O.D.	Brennan Meier, Legal Counsel
Alex Clemens,	
Paul Hsu	
Robert Klepa, J.D.	
Joseph Pruitt, O.D.	
Martin Dawson, SLD/CLD	
Taylor Tedder, O.D.	
Members Absent	Guests
Lillian Wang, O.D.	On File

**Open session of this Board Meeting was webcast
 A recording of the webcast is available at: <https://youtu.be/YC7xLGDbKZM>**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum

Audio of Discussion: [0:06](#)

This meeting was run according to the Open Meetings Act. It was the first in-person meeting held outside of Sacramento since COVID-19. The Board's mission is to protect California consumers through licensing, education, and regulation of optometry. The Board welcomed its newest Board Member, Dr. Taylor Tedder, O.D.

Board President, Dr. Jeffrey Garcia called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board Secretary, Stacy Bragg took roll call and a quorum was established. Dr. Lillian Wang was absent. Member Paul Hsu arrived later.

2. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Note: The Board may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting [Government Code Sections [11125](#), [11125.3](#), [11125.7\(a\)](#)].

Audio of Discussion: [4:21](#)

Public comment was heard from Ruby Garcia, Executive Officer of the California State Society for Opticians (CSSOs). She announced the career choices/accomplishments/goals of the CSSO's five apprentices. One of these apprentices, Myrtle Brubacher spoke to the Board about the apprenticeship program and her experiences.

Dr. Julie Schornack, O.D. and President of Marshall B. Ketchum University expressed how honored they feel to host the Board of Optometry and continue to look forward to collaborative relationships with the Board.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Meeting Minutes

A. July 11, 2025, Board Meeting

Audio of Discussion: [10:06](#)

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Alex Clemens moved to approve the July 11, 2025 minutes as written. Paul Hsu seconded. The board voted (8-Aye, 1-Abstention) and the motion passed.

Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
Mr. Clemens	X				
Mr. Dawson	X				
Mr. Hsu	X				
Mr. Klepa			X		
Dr. Pruitt	X				
Dr. Wang				X	
Dr. Bragg	X				
Ms. Linden	X				
Dr. Garcia	X				
Dr. Tedder	X				

4. Discussion and Possible Action on Department of Consumer Affairs Update

A. Executive Office

- B. Budget Office
 - i. Fund Condition

Audio of Discussion: [11:19](#)

Jullianne Allen, with the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) provided an update. Two new members joined the DCA Executive team to enhance board support and relations. A reminder was provided that the Board Member Orientation Training (BMOT) must be completed within one year of appointment and reappointment. Late this summer the DCA Annual Report, containing a wealth of helpful information, was posted to DCA's website.

October is cyber security awareness month. DCA reminds all boards and bureaus to 'think before you click'.

DCA Budget Manager, Nicole Dragu and DCA Budget Analyst, Emily Malino reported on the Board's expenditures and fund condition. The Board began 2024-25 with 2.931 million and collected 3.345 million in revenues with 427 thousand from initial license fees, 2.596 million from license renewals, and 322,000 collected from the issuance of citations, fines, delinquent fees, and other revenue. For current year 2025-26 the Board projects of 3.346 million with _ from the issuance of citations, fines, delinquent fees, and other revenue. The Board is left with 2.114 million or 5.8 months in reserve. The Board achieved a surplus for the first time in many years, primarily due to increased fees and cost control measures.

There were no requests for public comment on this agenda item.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Executive Officer's Report

- A. Program Update
- B. Enforcement Program
 - i. Statistical Review, Quarter 1, Fiscal Year 2025-26
 - ii. Continuing Education Audit Statistics
- C. Examination and Licensing Programs
 - i. Statistical Review, Quarter 1, Fiscal Year 2025-26
 - ii. California Law and Regulations Exam Statistics, Quarter 1, Fiscal Year 2025-26
- D. Regulatory Update
 - i. Optometry Disciplinary Guidelines
 - ii. Optician Program Omnibus Regulatory Changes
 - iii. Dispensing Optician Disciplinary Guidelines
 - iv. Requirements for Glaucoma Certification

Audio of Discussion: [4:36:08](#)

A. Program Update

Executive Officer, Greg Pruden provided the report beginning with a program update. The Sunset Report has been completed with implementation expected to be the next step. SB 776 was the Board's sunset bill and received final passage in the Legislature and was sent to the Governor's Office on September 23. On October 13th the Governor signed the bill. It has been chaptered and will take effect on January 1, 2026. Mr. Pruden explained that the completed sunset review process leads to implementation of new licensing requirements and regulatory updates.

During public comment, Ruby Garcia extended an invitation to a virtual meeting with the CSSO.

B. Enforcement Program

Mr. Pruden reported on the enforcement program. There are a variety of implementation steps staff must complete to implement the sunset bill. Many of these steps involve the online licensing platform (BreEZe). Implementation does not just mean changing some of the IT business process. Some regulations that support these processes will need to be updated as well.

The Board is on pace to have a much higher case load of unlicensed activity on the opticianry side. An increased focus on unlicensed activity cases results in higher enforcement caseload compared to the previous fiscal year. Continuing education audits show a 66% pass rate, indicating compliance issues among licensed practitioners.

At this time the Board moved to Agenda Item 6 according to the Time Certain.

C. Examination and Licensing Programs

The Board's new Licensing and Administration Manager, Erica Bautista presented this report.

A new Policy Analyst, Serena St. Mary has been hired. She brings extensive background in legislative and regulatory analysis, outreach coordination, and government program administration.

BreEZe licensing portal updates include updating the NBEO Part III exam title from 'Clinical Skills' to 'Patient Encounter Performance Skills', optometry license and renewal certificates (to include the Board's logo and the CSBO's email address). A technical issue preventing the mobile optometric office permit holders from accessing the report template has been resolved. The proposed enhancement is to automatically allow exam retakes after the 90-day waiting period, eliminating the need for staff to manually open exam requests.

A revised template and approach to how staff display licensing data has been implemented. A quarterly year-over-year change category will be added to Members materials.

There were no requests for public comment on this agenda item.

6. Petition for Early Termination of Probation

A. Wooyeon Lee, SLD #42244 and CLD #8888; EyeNoon Optical, RDO #71334

Audio of Discussion: [1:01:19](#)

Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Jennifer Russel presided over the Hearing. Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Michael Yi represented the people of the state of California, pursuant to government code 11522. Petitioner Wooyeon Lee represented herself.

The meeting moved into closed session for deliberations.

7. Closed Session

A. Pursuant to Government Code, section 11126, subd. (c)(3), the Board Will Meet in Closed Session for Discussion, Deliberation, and Possible Action on Disciplinary Matters, Including the Above Petition and Proposed Decision

Closed session was adjourned 11:22 a.m.

The meeting moved into recess and was called back to order at 1:10 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

The meeting moved to part C of Agenda Item 5 – C. Examination and Licensing Programs

8. Strategic Planning Session

Audio of Discussion: [2:12:51](#)

Trish St, Clair with DCA SOLID training provided a presentation/discussion. Strategic planning highlights the significance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) in organizational practices. Members and staff learned about unconscious biases and myths surrounding DEIA, as well as the benefits of DEIA in strategic planning.

Why create a strategic plan? Strategic planning enhances effectiveness by optimizing time and resources to achieve objectives. The mission, vision, and values guide the Board's strategic direction and priorities. An edit suggestion was made for the Board's vision statement.

Goal Area 1 Discussion: Stakeholder perceptions inform the Board's environmental scan, shaping current priorities and goals. Licensing times have improved significantly, necessitating better communication of these changes to stakeholders. Strategic goals include improving communication with stakeholders regarding application statuses and response times and updating the website for better navigation and user experience. Another goal is realigning CE regulations/requirements with statutory requirements for ocular disease treatment and management.

Goal Area 2 Discussion: Examinations, factors considered were DCA overseeing national exams for optometry and opticianry to ensure they are fair, valid, and defensible. Exam scheduling improvements have been noted, exam retake reduced from six months to three months. Low exam pass rates prompted outreach efforts to familiarize students with exam content.

Goal Area 3 Discussion: Stakeholders raised concerns about enforcement issues; the Board encourages reporting of violations, for better oversight. There is a need for the Board to conduct outreach presentations to educate licensees and help them stay compliant.

There were no public comments.

Goal Area 4 Discussion: The Board aims to enhance outreach and communication with stakeholders about optometry and opticianry practices. Identified weaknesses include low awareness of outreach efforts and the need for improved educational materials.

Stakeholders seek clearer legislative guidance and regular updates on laws and regulations. The Board aims to streamline outdated regulations to improve clarity and consumer protection. Suggested improvements focus on concise, plain language summaries to inform stakeholders about legislation and regulations.

There were no public comments.

Goal area 5 and 6 discussions focused on outreach, organizational effectiveness, and the strategic planning process overall.

A ten-minute meeting break was taken and the meeting resumed at 4:10 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established. The strategic plan discussion continued with goal area 6.

Mr. Pruden noted that he would like to see more optometrists attend Board meetings and take advantage of the free CE. Ruby Garcia announced that she can help bring opticians to Board meetings.

9. Future Agenda Items

Audio of Discussion: [5:05:58](#)

Member Klepa requested a discussion on the circumstances relating to fines imposed on individuals when the issue might be outside of their control.

Member Clemens requested another meeting in Southern California.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

