

GEORGIA BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS
Conference Call/ZOOM Board Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2025 8:30 A.M.

The Georgia Board of Dispensing Opticians met via teleconference/Webex on Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Board Members Present:

Gloria Ethridge, Chair
 Amy Stowers, Vice-Chair
 Dave Meldrum
 Angelic Moore, Consumer Member

Administrative Staff Present:

Amanda Allen, Executive Director
 Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist
 Jalaina Fuller, Licensing Supervisor
 Ann Shiver, Licensing Analyst

Board Members Absent:

Glenn Morris
 (VACANT – Disp Opt)

AG’s Office Representative:

Anna Scartz AAG

Visitors Present:

Brian Diener, OTI
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Ms. Ethridge, Chair, established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m.

Agenda: Approved with no additional items

Meeting Minutes:

- October 16, 2024 C.C. Board meeting

Recommendations:

Approve as presented

Mr. Meldrum moved, Ms. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted to approve the Board Meeting Minutes from the October 16, 2024 C.C. Board meeting as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Application Ratify List: Issued Date: 10/16/2024 - 1/14/2025

| License No | Licensee |
|------------|--------------------------|
| LDO003032 | Priscilla Diaz |
| LDO003033 | Nicola Breanne Salle |
| LDO003034 | Randee Alaina Minton |
| LDO003035 | Ashley McCoy Brinson |
| LDO003036 | Oliver Keaton Stansel |
| LDO003037 | Shadia M Saleh |
| LDO003038 | Chasidy Shari Simmons |
| LDO003039 | Jonelle Lee-Ann Walker |
| LDO003040 | Nicholas Ryan Cohran |
| LDO003041 | Michael Lee Robinson |
| LDO003042 | Genesis Opokularbi |
| LDO003043 | Nicholas Dillon DeMato |
| LDO003044 | Harold Lester Grosch, Jr |
| LDO003045 | Janine Thibodeau |
| LDO003046 | Maria Lynn Tokar |

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| LDO003047 | Sarah Marie Jensen |
| LDOA002609 | Margaret Ann Bryant |
| LDOA002610 | Angel Anthony Cortez |
| LDOA002611 | Alvintina Taylor |
| LDOA002612 | Melanie Jo Maynard |
| LDOA002613 | Jocelyn Maria Orioles-Romero |
| LDOA002614 | Rosa Nely Guijon |
| LDOA002615 | Ashley Megan Bogart |
| LDOA002616 | Carla Ann Barber |
| LDOA002617 | Astria L Moreland |
| LDOA002618 | Joshua R McPherson |
| LDOA002619 | Walter A Brown |
| LDOA002620 | LaMaysa Dexaria Sorrells |
| LDOA002621 | Kaylee Elizabeth Tomlin |
| LDOA002622 | Meisha Cartrell Goodbee |
| TOTAL: | 30 |

Mr. Meldrum moved, Ms. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted to approve the ratified listing of licenses issued between meetings administratively as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

CE Program Application Approval Request:

- SECO 2025

Recommendation:

Approve as presented

Ms. Stowers motioned, Mr. Meldrum seconded, and the Board voted to approve the CE program application approval request for SECO 2025 as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Board Rules Discussion:

- 420-5-.01 Application and Examination Requirements

Ms. Stowers moved, Mr. Meldrum seconded, and the Board voted to refer Board Rule 420-5-.01 Application and Examination Requirements to the AG’s office for a Memo of Statutory Authority and to post the proposed rule amendments for the minimum thirty days for public view with a public rule hearing to be scheduled for the next available date. None opposed, motion carried

Ms. Ethridge moved, Ms. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted to enter Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) (1) (2), 43-1-2(k) (3) (4), 43-1-2(k) (4) and 50-14-4(b) to review applications, the AG report, complaints, and prior meeting executive session minutes. Voting in favor of the motion were those Board members present Ethridge, Stowers, Meldrum and Moore.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, Ms. Ethridge declared the meeting back into “open” session pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were obtained during the Executive Session.

Applications:

- M.P.

Recommendation:

Tabled; Pending receipt of additional information

Ms. Ethridge motioned, Ms. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted to approve the recommendations on all applications as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Cognizant/Enforcement Complaint Report:

- **Schedule for Investigative Interview:** DISP220005/DISP220006 (Companion Cases – Same R)
- **Refer to Investigations:** DISP250002

Ms. Ethridge motioned, Ms. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Cognizant Enforcement report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Attorney General’s Report:

Ms. Anna Scartz, AAG, provided a status and activity report to the Board for review and discussion.

Ms. Ethridge motioned, Mr. Meldrum seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Assistant Attorney General’s report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Executive Session Minutes:

- October 16, 2024 CC Board Meeting

Recommendation:

Approve as presented.

Ms. Ethridge motioned, Ms. Stowers and the Board voted to approve the October 16, 2024 Conference Call Board Meeting Executive Session minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

2025 Officer Elections:

Chair: Amy Stowers

Vice-Chair: Gloria Ethridge

Ms. Ethridge motioned, Mr. Meldrum and the Board voted to approve the Officer Elections for the 2025-2026 term as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Ethridge moved, Mr. Morris seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Minute recorded by:

Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Amanda Allen, Executive Director

GLORIA ETHRIDGE

Chair

AMANDA ALLEN

Executive Director, HC1

Meeting minutes were approved **April 9, 2025**

Affidavit Supporting Closing of Public Meeting

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. 50-14-1 et seq., requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions an identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. O.C.G.A. Sec. 50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question:

Comes now, Amy Stowers the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

- I am the presiding officer of the Georgia Board of Dispensing Opticians
- I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
- On January 15, 2025 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
- The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was §§§ 43-1-2(k), 43-1-19(h), and 50-14-2 (1).
- The subject(s) discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are:

| SUBJECT DISCUSSED: | LEGAL AUTHORITY |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Investigations including reports and deliberations | O.C.G.A. Sect. 43-1-19(h)(2)&(4) |
| Applications | O.C.G.A. Sect. 43-1-2-(k)(1)(2) |
| Exams (including questions, materials and deliberations) | O.C.G.A. Sect. 43-1-2(k)(3)(4) |
| Attorney General's Report (certain matters of attorney/client privilege) | O.C.G.A. Sect. 50-14-2(1) |
| Investigative Interviews if part of disciplinary | O.C.G.A. Sect. 43-1-19(4) |
| Probation Report (employer and self report) | O.C.G.A. Sect. 50-18-72(G)(2) |
| Probation Reports (medical information) | O.C.G.A. Sect. 50-18-72(G)(2) |
| Executive Session Minutes | O.C.G.A. Sect 50-14-4 |
| Cognizant Member's Report | O.C.G.A. Sect. 43-1-2(k)(4) |
| Voting | None (must be in open session) |

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT

with Express Permission
Amanda Allen, Executive Director

Amy Stowers
(Presiding Officer)

Sworn and subscribed before me,

This 15 day of January 2025

Linsey Joiner
Notary Public

