SOUTHDAKOTA
BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

# South Dakota Board of Examiners in Optometry
## Meeting Minutes

**March 23, 2026**
**8:00AM (CST)**
**In-Person Meeting**
**Americinn Conference Room**
**312 Island Drive, Fort Pierre, SD 57532**

| Board Members | | Board Staff Present |
|---|---|---|
| Jamie Farmen, Consumer Member | Present | Deni Martin, Executive Secretary |
| Brian Gill, OD, Vice President | Present | Elizabeth Cave, Board General Counsel |
| Shane Hartman, OD | Present | **Guests** |
| Angela Hase, OD, President | Present | Deb Mortenson, SD Optometric Society |
| Ryan Scarborough, OD | Present | |



**Attendance:** President Hase called the meeting to order at 8:01am on March 23, 2026.

(Start part 1 audio.)

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Board Action: S Hartman moved to approve the agenda, seconded by J Farmen. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

**2. Conflict of Interest**

All board members reported no conflicts with agenda items.

**3. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**4. Approval Minutes**

Board Action: J Farmen moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on August 25, 2025, seconded by S Hartman. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

**5. Financial Reports**

Board Action: D Martin presented the treasurer's report found on pages 7-8 of the agenda packet. J Farmen moved to approve treasurer's report, seconded by S Hartman. She noted that because of the update to ARSD 20:50:06:02, the increase in office inspections will also result in an increase in board member per diem and travel expenses. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

**6. Board Review and Approve Non-COPE CE Courses**

Board Action: Non-COPE continuing education was reviewed and approved via signature vote with the documents.

**7. Old Business**

**A. National and State Issues Monitored**

D Mortenson reported that the South Dakota Rural Health Transformation Program has expanded to include optometrists. Individuals who commit to underserved areas receive three years of tuition reimbursement.

D Martin reported that ARBO has increased communication and collaboration with states and she's been engaging in these efforts. President Hase will be attending the ARBO annual meeting in June in Phoenix, AZ. She also presented a letter from ARBO regarding Kentucky emergency regulation.

**B. Statute & Administrative Rule Review**

Nothing to review at this time.

**8. New Business**

**A. Licensing**

Three general applications were reviewed:

- 26-3 Katherine Simko
- 26-4 Alisa Brogden
- 26-5 Donna Goukler

Board Action: J Farmen moved to ratify the approval of all three applications, seconded by S Hartman. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

Eight advanced procedure applications were reviewed and approved via signature vote within the documents:

- Joel Quist (AP)
- Jonathan Nebelsick (LAS-T & LAS-YAG)
- Rachel Osmundson (INJ-S & LAS-YAG)
- Gregory Kouri (LAS-YAG & LAS-T)
- Justin Schweitzer (INJ-PA)

The following licensees completed a Voluntary Non-Renewal document and expired September 30, 2025:

- Derek Allmer
- Arabella Arabejo
- Kevin Brown
- Karla Bucknall
- Gregory Evans
- Cynthia Johnson
- Jordan Langel
- Claire Purser
- Thomas Rieger
- Tomas Sundet
- Kristine Zabala

D Martin reviewed the current procedure for complaints, investigations and dismissal reporting. With transition in legal counsel, those procedures may change. S Harman moved to approve the investigative committee:

- Deni Martin, Board Executive Secretary
- Lisa Kollis-Young, Contracted Board Investigator
- Shelly Munson, Board Legal Counsel

Seconded by J Farmen. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

**B. Meeting Audio Recording**

A Hase reported that only one board under the South Dakota Department of Health currently posts audio recordings. Transparency has always been a priority; however, posting audio creates additional administrative burden. S Hartman moved that the Board continue recording and retaining meeting audio and make those recordings availabile upon public request, seconded by J Farmen. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

**C. Online Application Update**

D. Martin reported that she has been working with Codewise to begin development of the online application. Development has not yet started, and she will provide a progress update at the next meeting. She also provided an update on the need to ensure all external websites and forms are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Since the South Dakota Department of Health manages the Board's website, they are responsible for ensuring ADA compliance for the website. She has worked with Codewise to ensure the licensee portal is also ADA compliant. The final step will be to review and update all online forms. Transitioning applications to an online format will help ensure ADA compliance, and she is also exploring the most cost-effective and efficient options for bringing all current and future forms into compliance. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

**D. SLT Application Update**

Discussion was had regarding adding “Competency demonstration for Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty must be gonioscopy assisted SLT. Direct SLT alone is insufficient for documentation” to the LAS-T application. At 8:57am, A Hase recommended the board enter into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 to consult with legal counsel. S Hartman moved to enter into executive session, seconded by J Farmen. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

(End part 1 audio.)

(Start part 2 audio.)

Came out of executive session at 9:40am. Motion by S Hartman to not include the note highlighted in yellow on the draft application in the agenda packet, but, prior to the supervisor signature section of the application, add an attestation for the supervising ophthalmologist or optometrist that reads, “I certify that I observed the applicant demonstrate competency in gonioscopy prior to their demonstration of competency in Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty.”, seconded by J Farmen. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

**E. Review Mission Statement**

D Martin presented the current South Dakota Board of Examiners in Optometry mission statement, and mission statements from other health boards under the SD Department of Health, on pages 18-20 of the agenda packet. The board reviewed and had no recommendations for updates. No action taken.

**F. Corporation Application**

D Martin presented the Application for Corporation Registration on pages 21-23 of the agenda packet. She provided the background that corporation registration has always been handled administratively. Currently licensees inquire about registration, she shares 20:50:11:01 so they are aware of the items that need to be submitted. This application will formalize the process and provide licensees with more information regarding corporation registration and renewal. If there will be a formal application, she also asked for clarification regarding whether the board would like to review and approve the applications or if they would like to leave it as an administrative function. S Hartman moved to approve the application and keep it as an administrative function that can be reviewed and approved by the board executive secretary, seconded by J Farmen. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

**G. Contracts**

A Hase presented the summary of contracts and recommendations found on page 24 of the agenda packet.

S Hartman moved to approve a 3-year contract with Codewise with the same annual terms, seconded by B Gill. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

B Gill moved to approve a one-year contract for board investigator with Lisa Kollis-Young with same annual terms, seconded by S Hartman. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

Discussion was had about moving up the March meeting to the beginning of the month next year in order to be able to provide contracts to the SD Department of Health earlier for the administrative deadlines.

**9.Time and Place of Next Meeting**

**Monday, August 24, 2026- In-Person Meeting**
AmericInn- Conference Room
312 Island Drive, Fort Pierre, SD 57532
8:00am (CST)

**10. Adjournment**

Board Action: J Farmen moved to adjourn meeting at 9:55am, seconded by S Hartman. Vote:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmen | YES | Hase | YES |
| Gill | YES | Scarborough | YES |
| Hartman | YES | 5 YES, MOTION CARRIED | |

Approved: 8/24/2026