

Minutes for October 16, 2025  
Arkansas State Board of Optometry  
Regular Board Meeting  
Freeway Medical Tower Building

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. By Dr. Beatrice Reed, President.

Those in attendance: President Dr. Beatrice Reed

Vice President Dr. Susan DeBlack

Secretary/Treasure Dr. Robert Fitzhugh

Dr. James Hertzog

Dr. Matt Jones by remote

Also in attendance: ArOA Executive Director Matt Burns

ArOA Board Member Dr. Allison Hall

Matt Gilmore Arkansas Department of Health

From the Arkansas Attorney General's Office: Arkansas State Board of Optometry

Board Attorney: Attorney Jessica Kloss

Board Executive Director: Suzette Weast

Fiscal Support Specialist: Amber Leclerc

Also in attendance: Candidates for Licensure by Endorsement:

Dr. Travis Bailey

Dr. Caleen Burke

Dr. Dana Hobi

Standing Items:

1. Minutes of August meeting were presented by Board secretary Dr. Robert Fitzhugh. Motion by Dr. James Hertzog to accept as presented, seconded by Dr. Susan DeBlack. Motion passed.

At this point the meeting was directed to old business due to audio problems with Dr. Matt Jones.

Old Business:

1. Dr. Reed reminded all members to review possible changes to Arkansas State Board of optometry Rules and Regulations, prepared by previous State Board Attorney. Board may review sections at the February 2026 meeting.
2. The Archived List of Optometrists is now loaded on the Board Website.
3. Designation of Convention Courses qualifying as advanced Procedures and Optometric Physician credit.

Dr. DeBlack stated 10 hours must be general ocular pharmacology approved by the State Board. Two of these hours can be approved for advanced procedures, making sure these are labeled as such. The Board President may also approve these and report the action to the Board. The Board needs to get

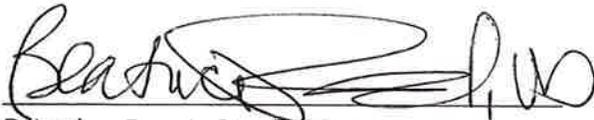
- e. October 15, 2026
- f. November 19, 2026

Motion by Dr. DeBlack to approve present schedule to include June 11, 2026 as date in June, seconded by Dr. Hertzog. Motion passed.

Open Items

- 1. Next meeting and testing date is November 20, 2025
- 2. Motion by Dr. Hertzog for Per Diem and mileage, seconded by Dr. DeBlack. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourne by Dr. Hertzog, seconded by Dr. DeBlack. Motion passed.



Beatrice Reed, OD, President



Robert Fitzhugh, OD, Secretary Treasurer