

OPTN Board of Directors Meeting Summary

Meeting Information: Agenda and Attendees

Friday, April 3, 2026 | 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET | Location of Event: Zoom

The following is a meeting summary from the OPTN Board of Directors meeting, which took place on **April 3, 2026, 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET.**

Agenda

Open Session

- Welcome
- Call to Order
- Nominating Committee Recommendation to Fill Board Vacancy – **VOTE**
- Consideration of One-Year Extension of Board Officer Terms – **VOTE**
- Other/New Business

Closed Session

- The Board met in a closed session.

Attendees

Attendee Name(s)	Affiliation
John Magee (President), Shelley Hall (Vice President), Alan Reed (Treasurer), Justin Wilkerson (Secretary), William (Bill) Ryan (Vice President for Patient and Donor Affairs) Gina-Marie Barletta, George Bayliss, Jen Beson, Vincent Casingal, James Cason, Kenneth Chavin, Ari Cohen, Andrew Courtwright, Meelie DebRoy, Nahel Elias, Samantha Endicott, Gitthaline (Candie) Gagne, Joshua Gossett, John Hodges, Mary Homan, Darren Lahrman, Kevin Lee, Reynold Lopez-Soler, Joseph Magliocca, Jerold Mande, Dan Meyer, Cathi Murphey, Annette Needham, Robert (Cody) Reynolds, Austin Schenk, John Sperzel, Mark Wakefield, Kymberly Watt	OPTN Board of Directors
Aite Aigbe, Jim Bowman, Brianna Doby, Mesmin Germain, Kristen Hansen, Amy Harbaugh, Sarah Laskey, Raymond Lynch, Joni Mills, Nolan Simon	Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Representatives
Christine Jones, Rachel Shapiro, Vanessa Amankwaa, Melanie Bartlett, Camellia Bollino Doyle, Jadyn Dunning, Sam Hoff, Mona Kilany, Anthony LaBarrie, Mary Lavelle, Markus Louis, Taylor Melanson, Zulma Solis	OPTN Board Support Staff

Attendee Name(s)	Affiliation
Allyson Hart, Jon Snyder	Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR) Representatives

Meeting Summary

Open Session

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

OPTN Board President (“President”) John Magee convened the open session and confirmed quorum. After the meeting was called to order, the President reminded the Board members that the meeting would start in open session and then move into closed session. He noted the meeting was being recorded and encouraged Board members to keep cameras on, microphones muted unless speaking, and to use the raise-hand feature for any questions or comments to support engagement and meeting efficiency.

Nominating Committee Recommendation to Fill Board Vacancy

Board Vice President Shelley Hall presented on the Nominating Committee’s recommendation to fill the Board’s recent vacancy. The OPTN Final Rule states that the Board must be comprised of at least 25% of Board members that represent transplant candidates, transplant recipients, organ donors, and family members. Peter Nicaastro’s passing created a vacancy that placed the Board below the required compositional threshold, and the Nominating Committee was convened to fill the vacancy. The Nominating Committee conducted a review of previously vetted candidates and selected Steven Weitzen, JD, a heart transplant recipient and active OPTN volunteer to fill the vacancy. Weitzen’s experience includes service as Region 2 representative on the Patient Affairs Committee and as a member of the Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) policy workgroup.

Following a discussion of Weitzen’s experience and qualifications, the Board voted on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board, having considered the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and the compositional requirements of the Final Rule and the Bylaws, hereby appoints Steven Weitzen, JD, as a Director of the Board to fill the vacancy created by Peter Nicaastro, to serve for the unexpired portion of Mr. Nicaastro's term, effective as of the date hereof.

Final Vote: 26 approve, 1 reject, 0 abstain.

Consideration of One-Year Extension of Board Officer Terms

Board Secretary Justin Wilkerson presented on the consideration of one-year term extensions for Board Officers (President and Vice President) to maintain leadership continuity during a period of significant organizational change. Key rationales for the extension included:

- Ongoing OPTN modernization efforts are in their beginning phases.
- Recent disruptions, including contractor transitions and funding interruptions, have impacted the Board’s ability to move initiatives forward.
- There is a need for continuity in relationships with HRSA and partner organizations.
- There is complexity in ongoing policy and bylaw development.

Wilkerson emphasized that the current environment constitutes “exceptional circumstances,” as required by the Bylaws to justify term extensions.

The Board engaged in thoughtful discussion regarding the governance process and precedent. Key considerations included:

- Ensuring the Board’s adherence to the Bylaws while using available flexibility;
- Balancing continuity with the need for leadership rotation;
- Clarifying the role of Board Officers versus the Executive Committee; and
- Avoiding unintended precedent for broader term extensions.

Following the discussion, the Board voted on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board, having considered the documented evidence presented and finding that an extension of the term of the President is in the best interest of the OPTN and warranted on an exceptions basis, hereby extends the term of John C. Magee, MD, as President of the Board for a period of one year through June 30, 2027, at which time a successor shall be duly qualified.

Final Vote: 25 approve, 0 reject, 1 abstain.

RESOLVED, that the Board, having considered the documented evidence presented and finding that an extension of the term of the Vice President is in the best interest of the OPTN and warranted on an exceptions basis, hereby extends the term of Shelley Hall, MD, as Vice President of the Board for a period of one year through June 30, 2027, at which time a successor shall be duly qualified.

Final Vote: 25 approve, 1 reject, 1 abstain.

Other/New Business

Vice President of Patient Affairs Bill Ryan announced his intent to seek reelection. The President shared that that, at the next scheduled meeting on April 16, 2026, the Board Support team will brief Board members on the national election process.

Closed Session

The Board met in a closed session.