

# OPTN Executive Committee Meeting Summary

## Meeting Information: Agenda and Attendees

Friday, February 13, 2026 | 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET | Location of Event: Zoom

The following is a summary of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) Executive Committee meeting, which took place on **February 13, 2026, 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET.**

### Agenda

#### Open Session

- Welcome
- Call to Order
- Approval of Meeting Summary – **VOTE**
- Updates on Current OPTN Priorities
  - Implementation of Emergency Lung Continuous Distribution (CD) Policy
  - Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) Workgroup
  - Committee Nominations
- Bridge Period Governance Update
- Other/New Business

#### Closed Session

- The Executive Committee met in a closed session.

### Attendees

Attendee Name(s)	Affiliation
John Magee (President), Shelley Hall (Vice President), Justin Wilkerson (Secretary), William (Bill) Ryan (Vice President of Patient Donor Affairs), George Bayliss, Jen Benson, Nahel Elias, Samantha Endicott, Cathi Murphey, Annette Needham	OPTN Executive Committee
Brianna Doby, Raymond Lynch, Nolan Simon	Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Representatives
Doug Fesler	OPTN Executive Director
Christine Jones, Rachel Shapiro, Vanessa Amankwaa, Melanie Bartlett, Tennille Daniels, Jady Dunning, Becca Fritz, Samuel Hoff, Mary Lavelle, Markus Louis, Christina Sledge	OPTN Board Support Staff

## Meeting Summary

### *Open Session*

#### ***Call to Order***

OPTN Executive Director Doug Fesler convened the open session and confirmed quorum. After the meeting was called to order, OPTN Board President (“President”) John Magee reminded the Executive Committee members that the meeting was being recorded, the session was open, and the raise-hand feature should be used to facilitate discussion. He encouraged Executive Committee members to keep cameras on, and microphones muted to support engagement and meeting efficiency.

#### ***Approval of Meeting Summary***

The Executive Committee moved a motion to approve the January 9, 2025, meeting summary. Following the motion to approve, the Executive Committee voted on the following:

RESOLVED, that the meeting summary for the Executive Committee meeting held on January 9, 2026, be and hereby are approved, as presented, with authority granted to the Secretary to make any non-substantive corrections as may be necessary.

**Final Vote: 9 approve, 0 reject, 0 abstain.**

#### ***Updates on Current OPTN Priorities***

##### [Implementation of Emergency Lung Continuous Distribution \(CD\) Policy](#)

The Executive Committee reviewed progress of the change to the lung continuous distribution (CD) policy approved via emergency action by the Board at the Board of Directors meeting on November 20, 2025 in response to a HRSA directive addressing allocation inequities. The OPTN Operations Contractor has received formal instruction to implement the policy change, and implementation is currently pending. Coordination with HRSA to implement the emergency action continues.

In accordance with OPTN Bylaws, the policy will be released for public comment within six months of approval to provide stakeholders the opportunity to submit feedback and inform future refinements.

##### [Normothermic Regional Perfusion \(NRP\) Workgroup](#)

The NRP Workgroup continues active engagement in response to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretarial directive. The group is finalizing a draft policy concept intended to clarify clinical and ethical considerations associated with NRP practices.

Following internal review by the workgroup and Board leadership, the draft concept will be shared more widely. Any resulting formal policy proposal will proceed through the standard OPTN policy development process, including public comment, Board deliberation, and HRSA review before implementation.

##### [Committee Nominations](#)

The formal call for committee nominations will open February 17, 2026, with a one-month application period. Executive Committee members were encouraged to actively promote participation to ensure broad representation across transplant centers, Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs), laboratories, and patient communities.

Terms for newly appointed committee members will begin July 1, 2026. Executive Committee members emphasized the importance of diverse expertise and geographic representation as modernization efforts continue. Individuals may submit their nomination applications via the OPTN website.

### ***Bridge Period Governance Update***

The Board President provided an overview of modernization progress as the OPTN transitions to a government-owned, contractor-operated model. Core operational functions—including the national matching system and donor/candidate data infrastructure—remain supported by the current operations contractor to ensure uninterrupted system performance.

- Migration of OPTN materials and historical committee documents is underway to ensure continuity, improved accessibility, and centralized record management under the new governance model.
- A new OPTN public-facing website is live and continues to be enhanced.
- Implementation of the OPTN360 platform will occur shortly. The platform will provide secure document sharing, clearer access controls, and a centralized environment for volunteers and stakeholders.
- Patient safety committees, including the Membership and Professional Standards Committee (MPSC) and Disease Transmission Advisory Committee (DTAC), continue to meet as needed. These committees are currently supported through coordinated efforts between HRSA and AIR to maintain oversight continuity during contractor transition.
- HRSA has added surge contractor support to assist with onboarding, contract management, and systems transition activities. Future contractor awards are expected to be staggered to minimize operational disruption and allow smoother transitions.

HRSA clarified that while the Board does not directly evaluate federal contractors, structured volunteer feedback will be solicited to ensure services meet operational needs. The distinction between federal contract oversight and operational performance monitoring was emphasized.

Outreach efforts during the bridge period included presentations at the American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS) and Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO) winter meetings, leadership discussions with committee chairs, and engagement with Regional Councillors. These efforts aim to maintain transparency, reinforce alignment, and proactively address stakeholder concerns.

### ***Other/New Business***

#### [Donation After Circulatory Death \(DCD\) Refinements and West Nile Virus Policy](#)

The Board President shared that the public comment period on proposed refinements to the DCD policy as well as related guidance from the DTAC regarding West Nile Virus risk management has closed. The public comments are being synthesized by theme to ensure comprehensive review and appropriate response. Following the synthesis of the comments, the committees will review and respond to stakeholder input, proposals will advance through standard governance channels for Board consideration and final approval prior to implementation.

### ***Closed Session***

The Executive Committee met in a closed session.