

NH BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

121 S. FRUIT STREET, SUITE 302

CONCORD, NH 03301-2412

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The March 2, 2020, public portion of the meeting of the New Hampshire Board of Dental Examiners was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by Puneet Kochhar, DMD with the following members present:

Puneet Kochhar, DMD, President (PK)
Dennis Hannon, DDS, Vice President (DH)
Muhenad Samaan, DMD (MS)
Lisa Scott, RDH (LS)
Ellen Legg, RDH (EL)
Linda Tatarczuch, MSW, Public Member (LT)
Tara Levesque Vogel, DMD (TV)

Not Present: Roger Achong, DMD (RA); Jay Patel, DDS (JP)

Attendees: Christine Senko, Rebecca Ricard, Esq.

1. **Review of Public Minutes – February 3, 2000:** Upon motion by LS and seconded by MS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes with the correction as noted below: TV abstained.

Motion was made by EL and seconded by MS to grant Dr. Butt a license to practice dentistry in NH. LT abstained, EL opposed.

2. **Update Dental Hygienist Committee**

- a. Minutes from the February 3, 2020 meeting – Upon motion by LS and seconded by MS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as submitted. TV abstained.
- b. Report from Committee – Myra Nikitas, RDH reported that the committee is working on clarification for medical emergency training in order to answer questions as the requirement becomes effective. Verbiage for communicating the NPI requirement will be presented in April to the Board. The Committee is also waiting for the process appointing Jessica Card, RDH to the committee to be completed

3. **NH Dental Hygienists' Association (NHDHA) Comments** – Myra Nikitas, RDH, President, NHDHA reported on the following activities

- a. Conference will be held, Saturday, March 28, “From Pockets to Pathogens”, at Derryfield Country Club in Manchester, NH.

4. **Dental Society Update** – Mike Auerbach, Executive Director, NH Dental Society, provided the following comments:

- a. NHDS and ADA are in contact, coordinating efforts to share best practices and to address potential challenges to medical and dental supplies caused by the growing issue of COVID-19. Members discussed the current shortage of masks and the guidelines for single use.
 - b. We are increasingly excited about the NHDS Annual Meeting, which takes place from 14-16 May in Meredith. Among the programs we are offering will be all courses required for licensure (opioids, infection control, emergency management and BLS for healthcare workers). We will also be offering a PALS course for relevant dental professionals.
 - c. NHDS is actively trying to engage NHTI to address issues they are having with their dental hygiene and dental assisting training programs. It is a major priority for NHDS to address the state's ongoing dental assistant shortage.
5. **Commission on Dental Competency Assessment (CDCA) Update** – no new information to report.
6. **Board Administrative Office Report** – Chris Senko, Administrator, provided the following comments and updates:
- a. **Investigator Request for Proposal Process** – the deadline for accepting applications is March 13, 2020. An evaluation checklist is being developed to be used by Board members to evaluate the applications. Proposals will be discussed next month.
 - b. **Renewals** – the online process is continuing to be smooth and effective.
7. **WREB Discussion – Andrew Albee, DMD**

Discussion opened with a motion made by EL and seconded by LS to continue to exclude the WREB exam based on past concerns regarding scoring and transcript reporting.

Dr. Andrew Albee and Dr. Mark Christiansen were present to discuss the benefits of using the WREB test format.

The Board currently allows the ADEX exam and excluded the WREB exam in 2018. Members engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the WREB exam. It was noted that if an applicant fails a section of the WREB exam and then the applicant cannot pass the exam. Other points discussed were the: differences in passing and failing among the different tests; failing the prep sections and being able to continue; requirements of restorative procedures and how they scored; categories of restorative procedures that are tested; critical deficiencies in which candidates are marked down; grading process (WREB uses median). It was reported that the WREB exam covers about one third of the dental candidates in the west.

It was indicated that some Board members are not present, and further discussion should occur when they are present.

Dr. Albee and Dr. Christiansen commented that by allowing NH candidates to take the WREB exam, it offers a choice to new applicants and does no harm.

Members discussed the trend to create universal application and only allowing one exam to assure consistency in applicants.

Members also discussed the current rule language [Den 301.02 (8)(b)] that references the *ADEX or other similar clinical exam*. Linda Tatarczuch also thought rules were recommended to be changed to include the exact exam components. Others agreed.

Chris Senko will research where these rule changes may be in the approval process.

The motion above to exclude the WREB exam was withdrawn. A new motion to table further discussion was made by EL, seconded by LS and approved unanimously by the Board.

8. **Richard Harold, DMD – Opioid Course - #20-58** – Dr. Harold submitted information regarding a 3 CEU credit course he is presenting at Tufts Dental School on Pharmacologic Management of Acute Dental Pain, and would like to offer it to NH dentists. It was noted that in October 2019 he was informed that he needed to be able to offer a certificate with CEU credits obtained from a certifying agency.

Upon motion made by MS and seconded by LS, the Board unanimously approved the request.

9. **Karen Meyer, Red Cross Course - #20-59** – Members reviewed a request from Ms. Meyers regarding an American Red Cross Resuscitation Suite for Healthcare Professionals. Members discussed the information submitted and were uncertain it would cover some of the emergencies seen in a dental office.

Upon motion made by MS and seconded by TL, the board voted unanimously to request a course syllabus and certificate prior to approving the course and adding it to the resource list.

10. **Request from Kristen Saczawa RDH, regarding CEU #20-79** – Members reviewed Ms. Saczawa's request to utilize her on-line graduate education for the majority of her CEUs. Den 403.07 (a)(1)(h) allows for 100% of post graduate course work to be applied, but does not specify on-line work. Den 403.07 (g) indicates 30% may be on-line. It was thought that graduate course work could hold more weight than other on-line CEUs. It was also noted that some of her courses may not be qualified.

Upon motion made by PK and seconded by MS, the board voted unanimously to inform Ms. Saczawa that 30-40 % of her qualified courses would be considered for on-line CEU credits.

At 4:13 p.m., the Board voted by roll call to recess the public meeting for the purposes of consulting with legal counsel. At 4:48 p.m., the Board voted by roll call to resume public session.

Rebecca Ricard, Esq reported that she has accepted a position with Health and Human Services in the Division for Children, Youth and Families. Members thanked her for her service and guidance over the past months. It was reported that JD Lavalley, Esq will be the Board attorney.

11. **Teledentistry Rules - #20-60**- It was reported that Smile Direct representatives will be attending a meeting in May. No new information has been added. Documents will continue to be kept on the secure site.
12. **Survey Rules – Memorandum of Understanding - #20-61** – Members reviewed the request to include date of birth in the data collection being completed by the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care.

Upon motion made by PK and seconded by TV, the Board unanimously approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with The Office of Rural Health and Primary Care to utilize the date of birth of licensees.

13. **Medicaid to Schools Update - #20-62**– Chris Senko reported that the application for licensure will need to be updated to include a question as to whether or not the applicant plans on participating with the Medicaid to Schools Program.
14. **Standing Orders - #20-78**– A standing order was presented that allows members of the Board to approve applications for licensure without waiting for a Board meeting.

Upon motion made by EL and seconded by MS, the board unanimously approved the standing order.

15. **Rules -Conditional Approval Process - #20-80** – The following rules were available for review: Den 402.03, Den 402.01, Den 403.03, Den 403.07. It was noted that on Den 403.03 that the date changed from January 1 to April 1.

Upon motion by PK and seconded by MS, the Board unanimously granted conditional approval to the rules listed above.

16. Licensure and Reports

16.A Dentist Applications Approved

Mohamed H. Butt, DMD
Munaf M. Mahmood, DMD
Jonathan J. Pinette, DMD
Janet K. Zinter, DDS

Dr. Samaan reported that he continues to approve the applications when they are complete and forwarded from OPLC. Upon motion made by PK and seconded by DH, the Board voted unanimously to approve the applications as presented.

16.B Hygienist Applications Approved

Lindsey M. Ago, RDH
Lisa M. Centrella, RDH
Brianna M. McDougal, RDH
Rachel A. Parr, RDH
Brynn J. Rouleau, RDH

Lisa Scott reported that she continues to approve the applications when they are complete and forwarded from OPLC. Upon motion made by LS, and seconded by DH, the Board voted unanimously to approve the applications as presented.

16.C Public Health Supervision

Update of Current Active Public Health Supervision Programs ion NH #20-63
This report is an informational report and no action is needed. However, members indicated that the amount of outreach is positive.

16.D Anesthesia/Sedation Permits

1. Lily Hu, DDS – requesting Board approval to waive facility inspection – members reviewed the request and Dr. Crowley’s comments about rule changes that are needed. Currently, each facility completing sedation, is required to have a license.
2. Jason Lee, DMD – requesting approval of permit applications for 2 locations.

Upon motion made by TL and seconded by MS, the board voted unanimously to approve the permits as recommended by Dr. Crowley and the subcommittee.

At 5:00 p.m., pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, the Board voted by roll call to go out of public session and into non-public session because public disclosure may render a proposed action ineffective or adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a Board member.

At 5:40 p.m., the Board voted by roll call to go out of non-public meeting and into public session to conduct the Show Cause Hearing in matters related to Elizabeth Bochino, RDH.

At 6:08 p.m., the Board voted by roll call to go out of public session into nonpublic session because public disclosure may render a proposed action ineffective or adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a Board member.

At 6:23 p.m., the Board voted by roll call to go out of non-public meeting and into public session.

Dr. Kochhar adjourned the meeting at 6:23p.m.