

NH BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

121 S. FRUIT STREET, SUITE 302

CONCORD, NH 03301-2412

MONDAY, July 6, 2020

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Puneet Kochhar, DDS, President, the NH Board of Dental Examiners (“Board”), convened a public meeting of the Board on July 6, 2020 at June 1, 2020 at 3:05p.m. Due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor’s Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically. There is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, it was confirmed that public access to the meeting by telephone or other electronic means was possible. Zoom teleconferencing technology was in use for this electronic meeting.

All members of the Board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 646 558 8656, or by clicking on the following website address: <https://zoom.us/j/93044005462?pwd=SUtBY1RFaVg0a2tOd2NWdkZuNWIPZz09>
Meeting ID: 930 4400 5462
Password: 560910

Public notice with the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonic instructions have also been provided on the website of the Board at: <https://www.oplc.nh.gov/dental-medicine/index.htm>. Additionally, the public notice indicated to contact Christine Senko at 271-7618 or Christine.Senko@oplc.nh.gov if there were problems with access.

It was noted that no one from the public expressed issues in accessing the meeting platform. In the event the public was unable to access the meeting, the meeting would have been adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that **all votes** taken during this meeting were done by **roll call vote**. The following members announced their presence and confirmed no one else was in the room with them:

Puneet Kochhar, DDS, President (PK)
Muhenad Samaan, DMD (MS)
Lisa Scott, RDH (LS)
Ellen Legg, RDH (EL)
Linda Tatarczuch, MSW, Public Member (LT)
Roger Achong, DMD (RA)
Jay Patel, DDS (JP)

Attendees: Christine Senko, Administrator

1. **Review of Public Minutes –June 1, 2020:** Upon motion by JP and second by RA, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept the minutes as submitted. PK, MS abstain.

2. **Update Dental Hygienist Committee (DHC) and NH Dental Hygienist Association (NHDHA)**

- a. Minutes from the June 1, 2020 Dental Hygiene Committee (DHC) - Upon motion by EL and second by LS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept the minutes as submitted. PK, MS abstain.
- b. Report from DHC – Myra Nikitas, RDH reported the following:
 - i. The committee is following up on the appointment of Jessica Card, RDH to the Committee. It was indicated that her name was provided as a potential new member in November. It was also reported that the current members are interested in continuing their appointment. Dr. Samaan indicated he will be stepping down.
 - ii. The committee is following up on whether or not the Pharmacy Rules have been amended to allow dental hygienists to prescribe fluoride treatments.
- c. Report from New Hampshire Dental Hygiene Association (NHDHA) – Myra Nikitas, RDH, President, NHDHA reported the following:
 - i. Gift cards to Dunkin Donuts were provided by the NHDHA to recent graduates as a small token of appreciation.
 - ii. Programs continue to transition to an on line platform.
 - iii. Response letter from Susan Paschall, Senior Associate Dupont Group – members reviewed the correspondence submitted by Ms. Paschall on behalf of the NHDHA. The purpose of the letter was to clarify recent discussions between the NHDHA and NHDS. Members of the Board expressed appreciation for the education and the steps being taken to assure professional relationships continue between the societies.

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

- NHDS and ADA continue to examine the data and available information about the virus. This information is helping us make sure the PPE Guidelines, Return to Work Toolkit and Hazard Assessment and Checklist documents are up to date.

Members discussed the availability of PPE, particularly the N95 masks. Mike indicated that the PPE guidelines change based on CDC recommendations and additionally, the ADA continues to work with manufacturers.
- Dentists are working with their hygienists, assistants and office managers to ensure adherence to proper protocols and maintain open lines of communication during the pandemic. Feedback NHDS has received regarding this team communication effort is very positive.
- We are still receiving feedback from dental offices that a large number of hygienists are not returning to work, despite being offered opportunities to do so.
- This Saturday in Meredith, NHDS will be hosting a fit test for our Member dentists, hygienists and assistants. Although OSHA is presently not enforcing fit test requirements, NHDS has secured an RN who will conduct a comprehensive, OSHA-compliant fit test as well as brief training on PPE.

4. **Board Office Comments**

- A. Election of Board President and Board Vice President –The term for the president role ends on July 15, 2020. Dr. Kochhar has indicated that he is interested in serving another term. Additionally, Dr. Hannon has recently resigned his position from the Board, which leaves a vacancy for the Vice President Role. Upon motion by LT and second by PK the Board voted

to nominate Ellen Legg, RDH for this position. Upon further motion by LT and second by PK, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to cast votes for these positions by emailing Chris Senko.

- B. Appointment of Board Members to the Dental Hygienist Committee (DHC)– Lisa Scott, RDH has agreed to serve another term on the DHC. Dr. Patel agreed to replace Dr. Samaan as the other Board representative on the DHC.

5. **Board Examination for Dental Hygienists– Discussion**

- A. Short Form - Members discussed at length a revised short form to the National Dental Hygiene Exam. It appears to be developed as a response to the backlog in testing centers. Licensing Boards will not know, based on the results, if the exam taken is traditional or shortened. Deb Albrecht, Department Head Allied Health Education at NHTI indicated the success rate with the traditional exam and that there is no current information available on the validity and reliability of this exam. Additionally, there is a 90 day wait period to retake the exam.

EL will complete more research on the short form test with the Joint Commission and report back next month.

- B. Request from Lynn Noonan, NHTI, Dental Continuing Education Coordinator – a request was submitted to allow 5 dental assistant students to be able to complete coronal polishing. These students took the Coronal Polishing course as an extended function course and were able to complete the didactic portion, typodont model work, and polished on other students. They were unable to complete the live patient portion due to the pandemic and school closing. The request is to allow these students to complete this final portion on the typodont model.

Upon motion made by LS and seconded by RA, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the request of Lynn Noonan, replacing the live patient portion of the course with the typodont portion.

- 6. **Use of Ultrasonic Scalers by Hygienists** – It was reported that the Governor’s Economic Task Force, recently revised its Stay At Home Guidelines 2.0, to no longer exclude ultrasonic scalers. Although the CDC does not recommend the use of these types of scalers.
- 7. **Dental Hygienist Shortage – request from Dr. Decker** – members reviewed the request from Dr. Decker asking to utilize Dental Students in the role as a Dental Hygienist. Members discussed the need for the Dental Student to be qualified for licensure as a dental hygienist and be eligible to take the National Board exam in dental hygiene. Upon motion by EL and second by PK, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to inform Dr. Decker that the students would need to qualify for dental hygienist licensure.
- 8. **Public Hearing – Den Rules 301.03 and 301.04** – On February 3, 2020, the Board of Dental Examiners voted on an initial proposal for **Den 301.03 and 301.04**. Today at 4:00 p.m., the Board of Dental Examiners commences a public hearing to hear testimony on proposed changes to its administrative rule: The Board will hear testimony regarding the proposed amendment to Den 301.03 and Den 301.04.

Any person who wishes to provide oral comment is asked to identify themselves by name before providing their public comments. Furthermore, please remember that all individuals are invited to submit written testimony on the proposed rules in lieu of or in addition to providing oral testimony at this hearing. Written testimony will be accepted through the end of this public rules hearing, and can be mailed or emailed directly to the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification.

If there is anyone who wishes to provide comment, I now recognize the first speaker.

The hearing is now closed at 4:19 p.m. It is noted that there was no public comment. Upon motion by LT and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept the rules as submitted.

9. **Temporary Licensure Process** – Attorney Broderick indicated that the proposal for a temporary license for dentists and dental hygienists has changed from an Emergency Order to an Order because it involves other Boards. This Order is currently with the Attorney General’s Office waiting further approval. Clarification was sought on the dental board proposal for 6 months to obtain the clinical portion of the test after the State of Emergency is declared to be over. It was also noted that if an applicant with a temporary license, fails the exam, the applicant is no longer licensed. Updates will be provided as they become available.

10. **Request from Allison Billingsley, DMD on behalf of 2020 Graduates**

Dr. Billingsley submitted information regarding the manikin exam and data from other states. She expressed concern on the proposed temporary license process as not being an adequate solution. Members discussed at length and agreed to not change the current temporary license proposal in which licensees will have 6 months after the State of Emergency is declared to be over, to obtain the clinical portion of the exam via a manikin or live patient.

CS will inform Dr. Billingsley of the Board’s decision.

11. **Teledentistry**

No new items to discuss.

12. **Licensure and Reports**

A. **Dentist Applications Approved**

Anderson, Jeremy K, DMD	04556
Bhusari, Rishi M, DMD	04567
Brown, Rachel S, DDS	04558
Daza, Laura C, DMD	04571
Hancock, Rachel L, DMD	04569
Harvey, Susan A, DMD	04562
Haley, Daniel S, DMD	04570
Hoerz, Madalyn J, DMD	04566
Ingersoll, Tyler J, DMD	04563
Kim, Isaac B, DMD	04560
Liu, Jia, DMD	04572
Lwanga, Lillian, DMD	04568
Mccormack, Christopher Jr., DMD	04552
Mullaney, Ashley, DMD	04553
Nassaney, Tarin A, DMD	04457
Schonfield, Zachary J, DMD	04561
Shah, Rohan Jayeshkumar, DMD	04565

Stearns, Jenna A, DMD	04559
Teebagy, James A, DMD	04554
Velez, Miguel A Iii, DMD	04555
Yavner, Susan B, DMD	04564

B. Hygienist Applications Approved

Baer, Katherine A, RDH	03637
Gray, Mariah L, RDH	03635
Mcisaac, Lauren P, RDH	03638
Stanton, Jillian M, RDH	03634
Swasey, Jessica R, RDH	03636

C. Anesthesia/Sedation permits and updates

1. Stiefel, Kyle, DMD (application for 2 permits)(#20-152) - It was noted that there was not a recommendation from Dr. Crowley or the SubCommittee. Dr. Crowley will be contacted for the recommendation. Members agreed to table action until next month.
2. Schonfield, Zachary, DDS (application for 5 GA-DS permits)(#20-153) – Upon motion by PK and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve Dr. Schonfield’s applications, including a facility inspection at the Exeter location.
3. Anesthesia Evaluation Chart from Dr. Crowley (#20-154) – Upon motion by PK and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the recommendations included in the chart.
4. Request to extend evaluation deadline (#20-155) – members reviewed the request from Dr. Crowley to extend the time period to complete evaluations and inspections for permits. Upon motion by PK and second by EL, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve this request.

D. Dental Student Externships Reports

- a. Goodwin Community (#20-156a)
- b. Dental Health Works (#20-156b)
- c. Mountain View Dental (#20-156c)
- d. Summary (#20-156d)

Upon motion by EL and second by LS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept the report of items D.a – D.d above.

- e. Request from Jim Williamson (#20-156e) – members reviewed the request of Mr. Williamson and noted that the only changes that need to be reported to the Board are: location address and supervising physician. It was indicated that Mr. Williamson does not have a new address yet. Upon motion by EL and second by PK, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to have CS inform him that his request was reviewed and appears to be in compliance with RSA 317:A-20(III)(c) and to report the address change once known.

13. Blake Wullbrandt, DDS – Hearing Continuance- A request from the Respondents attorney has been received to change the date of the Hearing from July 31 to August 14. This change is being requested to accommodate a change in the Respondent’s counsel. Hearing Counsel, Sherri Phillips agreed to this change. Upon motion by MS and second by JP, members voted unanimously by roll call to change the date of the hearing for Dr. Wullbrandt from July 31, 2020 to August 14, 2020.

At 4:48 p.m., pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), and upon motion by PK, second by MS, the Board voted unanimously 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 6:54 p.m., upon motion by PK and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to go out of non-public meeting and into public session.

Dr. Kochhar adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.