



## April 6, 2023, DHC Meeting Minutes

Dental Hygienists Committee

Apr 6, 2023 at 2:00 PM EDT

@ OPLC - 7 Eagle Square, Concord, NH 03303 - Meeting in person required

### **Attendance**

#### **Present:**

Members: Mary Duquette, Virginia Moore, Jay Patel, Jennifer Pearl, Barbara Stowers

Guests: Jessica Whelehan - Board Administrator

#### I. Call to Order

Barbara Stowers, interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm.

Mary Duquette left at 3:07 pm.

#### II. Approval of Public Minutes

##### **Motion:**

Approve the April 4, 2022, minutes as submitted.

Motion moved by Jay Patel and motion seconded by Mary Duquette. Motion passed unanimously.

#### III. New Business

##### A. Observations No. 25 and 26 - LBA Audit

The Committee discussed the Legislative Budget Assistant Performance Audit that the Board of Dental Examiners had gone through. Members Virginia Moore and Jay Patel explained the background of the audit and went into detail regarding what had been found in the audit, and what the Board of Dental Examiners was asking the Dental Hygienists Committee to accomplish by reviewing the audit. Jessica Whelehan, Board Administrator, pointed out that the Dental Practice Act does not even allow for rulemaking on the topic of local anesthesia or nitrous administration (317-A:12); Jay Patel to work on drafting language for suggested statute change to allow rulemaking.

The committee discussed the portion of the audit report that reads, "actively oversee permitting", regarding local anesthesia and nitrous permits - the committee noted that these are competencies and do not require constant upkeep or monitoring. It was noted that the rules for permits assumed you will

use that skill, but that is not necessarily the case, which is likely why the audit report recommends oversight. Recommendation #5 - oversight - probably requires a CE requirement, which the committee will consider, with Jay Patel to draft potential regulation language.

The committee also discussed the CPHDH credential. CPHDH is a direct access provider. The committee decided to research the language of other state's laws and regulations regarding CPHDH, with the goal of improving the CPHDH control framework, as mentioned in the audit report. The members will also research for language regarding local anesthesia and nitrous oxide and look to see how other states addressed issues such as continuing competency. The members will research the following states:

Mary - Massachusetts and Michigan

Jay - Illinois and Arizona

Virginia - Alabama and Arkansas

Barb - Florida and Hawaii

Jen - Colorado, Connecticut, and Rhode Island

B. Committee Chair

**Motion:**

Elect Barbara Stowers to act as interim chair through the end of September, 2023, completing her second term on the Board.

Motion moved by Jay Patel and motion seconded by Virginia Moore. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Adjourn Meeting

Barbara Stowers adjourned the meeting at 3:25 pm.