

**NH BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

**7 Eagle Square, Suite 300**

**CONCORD, NH 03301**

**MONDAY, August 31, 2020**

**PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Puneet Kochhar, DDS, President, the NH Board of Dental Examiners (“Board”), convened a public meeting of the Board on August 31, 2020 at 3:08p.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/96788339361?pwd=bmwzKzNFY29GNIJCNEhkMm1HSVhCQT09>

**Meeting ID: 967 8833 9361**

**Passcode: 901155**

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](mailto: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 –August 3, 2020:** Upon motion by LT and second by EL, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept the minutes of the August 3, 2020, meeting as submitted.

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

- a. Minutes from the August 3, 2020 Dental Hygiene Committee (DHC) - Upon motion by LS and second by EL, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept the minutes as submitted.
- b. Report from DHC – Myra Nikitas, RDH reported the following:
  - i. The committee has been informed that all of the Pharmacy rules and Dental rules are in place to allow RDHS to prescribe antimicrobials and flourides. An email notification as well as previously approved language on NPI will be communicated in an email to RDHs.
  - ii. The committee engaged in a conversation regarding dental assistants and the pros and cons of requiring licensure and/or registration. Dr. Kochhar indicated that this topic may not be in the scope of the DHC and would need Board member involvement. It was reported that both LS and JP are on the DHC as well as the Board and that the DHC was only discussing the topic in hopes to work with the Board to further research the topic.
- c. Report from New Hampshire Dental Hygiene Association (NHDHA) – Myra Nikitas, RDH, President, NHDHA reported the following:
  - i. The educational calendar continues to be developed.
  - ii. The NHDHA may begin offering liability insurance to members through the National Association of Dental Hygienists.

**3. Dental Society Update – none available this meeting.**

- 4. ADEX Comments**- Dr. Kochhar indicated that Dr. Vogel is currently on the ADEX Board but is no longer on the NH Board of Dental Examiners and questioned whether or not the NH Board of Dental Examiners representative to ADEX needed to change. Members agreed that a current Board member to ADEX is preferable in order to assure information is communicated timely. Guy Champagne, CEO of ADEX, Parliamentarian and Senior Advisor to CDCA was present during the meeting and indicated that Dr. Vogel is a regional representative for NH, NY, NJ and RI and cannot be replaced for only NH. Additionally, her term is not over for another year. Members of the Board want to assure it is ok for a past board member to continue to participate on ADEX. Guy Champagne further explained that every Board gets one vote through the House of Representatives of ADEX which could also be represented by the Exam Committee Representative. It was reported that Ellen Legg is the current Hygiene Exam Representative to ADEX.

Upon motion by EL and second by PK, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to allow Dr. Vogel to remain on the ADEX Board.

Upon motion by PK and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to elect Ellen Legg to be the ADEX House Representative and ADEX Hygiene Committee Representative for NH.

**5. Board Office Comments**

- A. Move to 7 Eagle Square** – CS indicated that overall the move from Fruit Street to Eagle Square went well. Paula and Jeanne continue to work remotely.

**B. Vacancies on Board** - It was reported that some information is being received from interested dentists.

6. **Conditional Approval Response to Rules (Survey Rules)** – Members reviewed the language to Den 301.03 and 301.04 as presented from JLCAR. It was noted that there were no changes from previous approvals. Upon motion made by EL and second from JP, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to conditionally approve the response to Den rules 301.03 and 301.04 in accordance with RSA 541-A:13.
7. **Assignment of Dental Director and Medical Director Accountability**– Dr. Samaan provided a summary of information available from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts licensure requirements. It was noted that Massachusetts requires a Dental Director be named in a practice and be responsible for the implementation of policies and procedures that assure compliance with Board rules. Members discussed this topic at length. It was acknowledged that a Dental Director role could improve accountability of the practice and enhance communication. Members discussed the different complexities involved with this topic as well as the differences in associate dentist, owner dentist and a practice license. Members agreed to continuing investigating and defining the role of a Dental Medical Director for the next meeting.
8. **Teledentistry – Smile Direct** –Representatives from Smile Direct will be present during the October 5 meeting for a presentation (20 minutes) and question and answer period (55 minutes).

**9. Licensure and Reports**

**A. Dentist Applications Approved**

Bedair, Nadine A, DMD	04582
Carere, Melissa, DMD	04586
Ciancarelli, Nicholas T, DMD	04594
Francis, Anthony K, DMD	04593
Garibyan, Ilya, DMD	04588
Hamad, Hussam K, DMD	04585
Huang, Alice, DMD	04591
Khawam, Tanya, DDS	04587
Kuang, Tiffany S, DMD	04589
Liu, Bing, DMD	04590
Mudumba, Divya, DMD	04592
Patel, Krutiben, DMD	04584
Shaikhi, Khaled, DMD	04595
Shazib, Muhammad A. Divid, DDS	04583

**B. Hygienist Applications Approved**

Agostino, Brianna P, RDH	03649
Arsenault, Hailee R, RDH	03653
Board, Jillian L, RDH	03661
Boutwell, Ashley K, RDH	03655
Costa, Laurinda L, RDH	03650
D'angelo, Cassandra M, RDH	03647
Domenichello, Samantha K, RDH	03652
Fisher, Victoria A, RDH	03644
Fucile, Lorri A, RDH	03645
Hoffviän, Alexandra L, RDH	03656
Islam, Michelle, E, RDH	03654
Kocurek, Naomie L, RDH	03657
Maziarz, Michael J, RDH	03660
McDonough, Danielle, RDH	03648
Michaud, Bethany M, RDH	03662
O'donnell, Shayla P, RDH	03651
Partridge, Ashley J, RDH	03658
Robinson, Elsa E, RDH	03646
Shafer, Robin E, RDH	03659

Upon motion by EL and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept the report of items A- B above.

C. Anesthesia/Sedation permits and updates

1. Jason Lee, DMD– Upon motion by MS, and second by PK, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve Dr. Lee’s application as recommended by Dr. Crowley.
2. Lily Hu, DMD (Late Item) #20-207- application for permit to administer anesthesia/deep sedation at host Jon Wendell, DDS practice. Upon motion by EL and second by LS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the application and Dr. Crowley’s recommendation.

D. August 2020 Public Health Summary Reports– Upon motion by LS, and second by EL, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the report.

E. Dental Student Report from UNE – Upon motion by MS, and second by EL, the board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the report submitted. PK abstain.

10. Hearing Dates– the following dates were confirmed:  
 Blake Wullbrandt, DDS – Friday, September 11, 2020  
 Praveena Bhat, DMD – Friday, October 5, 2020

11. **Licensure and Registration of Dental Assistants** – members reviewed and discussed at length a request submitted by Kori Boeckeler, CDA, M.Ed., requesting mandatory education, credentialing, licensing or registration of dental assistants to ensure the protection of the public and patients served. Members discussed the concerns at length regarding credentialing, consistency in defining standards and qualifications, access to care and defining the standard of care as well as developing a state exam. Additionally, workforce matters were also discussed. Dental Assistants are an entry level position into the dental workforce community and requesting additional fees and paperwork may be considered a deterrent. It is also a current period of low volume and high demand for dental assistants. It was noted that by investigating a registration process only (similar to medical technologists), would encourage dental assistants to be familiar with the rules and practice act. Members agreed to develop issue lists of both sides of the issue: quality and consistency of standards for patient care and workforce related concerns. A subcommittee may be developed at a future meeting.

12. **Update CDCA – Guy Shampaine** – provided a further update on the activities of the CDCA. It has been a challenging exam year, however 60 % of the 2020 graduates completed exams prior to the exams being closed due to COVID with either a live patient or manikin based. Most schools are remaining closed for exams or are only offering to their own students. Dental Hygiene has been the primary focus with 4,000 students needing to take an exam. The CompuDont manikin model is proving to be effective. A CDCA webinar is scheduled for Tuesday, September 1.

At 3:11 p.m, pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), and upon motion by PK, and 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 5:16 p.m., pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), and upon motion by TV, and 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 6:04 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 6:04 p.m.