

NH BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

121 S. FRUIT STREET, SUITE 302

CONCORD, NH 03301-2412

MONDAY, January 4, 2021

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Puneet Kochhar, DMD, President, the NH Board of Dental Examiners (“Board”), convened a public meeting of the Board on January 4, 2021 at 3:06 pm. 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://us02web.zoom.us/j/85412719074?pwd=NFFsT3lFMjA3M3NRam9reGttZF10Zz09>

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

Attendees: Christine Senko, Administrator

Presentation – SBIRT – Martha Bradley and Lea LaFave – Ms. Bradley and Ms. LaFave provided a presentation on SBIRT (Screening, brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment). SBIRT

is an approach and framework to identify patients who may be at risk for substance abuse. It is a public health initiative that has seen great success in pediatrics and primary care. The tools are designed to help motivate individuals to make changes. It was thought, that the more education that gets out, and the more providers talk to their patients, then the more patients who are at risk may be identified. Ms. Bradley indicated that either she or Ms. LaFave would be available to do in-person or virtual presentations to offices. Dr. Kochhar thanked Ms. Bradley and Ms. LaFave and agreed that it was good information for providers. However, the Board cannot promote or endorse a course, however the Medical Society would assist in with providing continuing education,

Oral Health Coalition – Gail Brown – Ms. Brown was present to provide an overview of the Oral Health Coalition. It is a not for profit group that started in 2002 and is not under the Department of Health and Human Resources. It is a multi-disciplinary group recognized as the oral health voice in New Hampshire. Ms. Brown indicated that the Coalition works closely with the dental society and dental hygiene association to advocate for oral health. The Coalition is currently funded by the NH Association of Public Health professionals.

1. **Review of Public Minutes –December 7, 2020:** Upon motion by JP and second by LT, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept the minutes as submitted. MS, LS recused.
2. **Update Dental Hygienist Committee (DHC)**–Myra Nikitas, RDH reported the following:
 - A. Upon motion by EL and seconded by LS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes of the December 7 DHC meeting.
 - B. A speaker is being arranged to present to the Board on Orofacial myology during either the February or March meeting.
 - C. The Committee has a vacancy. Chris Senko is researching where the appointments might be in the process.
3. **NH Dental Hygiene Association** – A virtual education calendar for 2021 continues to be developed. The Association elected the current officers for another term; there is a 6-year term limit.
4. **Dental Society Report** – Mike Auerbach, Executive Director, NH Dental Society, provided an extensive update on vaccination efforts and scheduling providers. Regular updates on this process are being forwarded.
5. **Board Office Comments** –Chris Senko, Administrator, reported the following:
 - A. New Member – John Girald, DMD (term ends 7/15/22) has been appointed as a new member to the Board.
 - B. Encrypted Secure email – Chris briefly reviewed the process to open secure emails. This method will be used to forward confidential documents.
 - C. LBA Audit – the Board will be undergoing a performance audit from the Legislative Budget Analysis (LBA) group. Chris will be the primary contact and be able to provide the requested information. However, a board member is also needed as a contact person. Ellen Legg, RDH agreed to be the Board representative.
 - D. PDMP Council – a Board member is needed to represent dental on the PDMP council. Jay Patel, DDS agreed to assume this role.
6. **COVID and related topics** – an email from OPLC was sent to all licensees regarding vaccination distribution.
7. **Other New Business and Inquiries**

A. Graduate Dental Assistants – representatives from NHTI were present to discuss the ongoing concerns with the shortage of dental assistants. NHTI is currently in a hybrid education model with some classes remote and some in person. Representatives from NHTI have also presented changes to their curriculum and plans to expand capacity. Upon motion by PK and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to send a letter of support and acknowledgement to NHTI that states: *The Board understands and recognizes, the shortage of dental assistant students; and the Board supports the changes to the curriculum and plans to increase capacity by increasing the number of dental assistants enrolled as long as the program remains CODA accredited.*

8. Licensure and Reports

Dentists

De Guzman, Angelyn, DDS	04616
Eid, Fady, DMD	04611
El-Ounsi, Mohamed, DDS	04614
Jawandha, Jatinder, DMD	04613
Sheikh, Sara, DMD	04612

Hygienists

Bochino, Elizabeth, RDH	03700
Colbert, Rachel, RDH	03699

Upon motion by PK and seconded by LS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the applications.

Anesthesia/Sedation –

- a. Anesthesia Evaluation Chart – Upon motion by PK and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the actions as indicated on the chart.
- b. Applications for General Anesthesia/Deep Sedation Permits:
 - Greg Aprillano, CRNA (Host: Blake Wullbrandt, DDS)
Upon motion by LT, and second by EL, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to table review of this application as some sections could not be read. Chris Senko will request a clearer copy.
 - Lily Hu, DMD (Host: T. Tadros)
(Dr. Crowley’s recommendation)
Upon motion by MS, and second by LS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to accept the application as presented above and with Dr. Crowley’s recommendation.
- c. Minutes from the Anesthesia and Sedation Evaluation Subcommittee -the following minutes were submitted for review and approval:
June 18, 2020
September 26, 2020
October 8, 2020
December 18, 2020
Upon motion by PK and second by MS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to accept and file the minutes. Dr. Samaan also suggested sending a thank you letter to Dr Crowley and the subcommittee members.

At 4:33 p.m., pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), and upon motion by PK, second by LT, 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 5:31 p.m., upon motion by LS and second by RA, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to go out of non-public meeting and into public session.

Dr. Kochhar adjourned the meeting at 5:31 p.m.