

NH BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

7 Eagle Square Suite #300

CONCORD, NH 03301-2412

WEDNESDAY, April 14, 2021

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Puneet Kochhar, DMD, President, the NH Board of Dental Examiners (“Board”), convened a public meeting of the Board on April 14, 2021 at 5:01 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/85790392498>

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: [Board of Dental Examiners Meeting Information | NH Office of Professional Licensure and Certification](#). Additionally, the public notice indicated to contact Christine Senko at 271-7618 or Christine.Senko@oplcnh.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)
Ellen Legg, RDH (EL)
John Giraldo, DMD (JG)
Howard Ludington, DDS (HL)

Attendees: Christine Senko, Administrator; Jessica Whelehan, Senior Board Administrator;
Victoria Davies, Program Specialist, Thomas Broderick, OPLC Attorney

Dental Hygienist Renewal Notice/Late Fee: The Board discussed the confusion caused by the 60-Day Renewal Notice that was emailed out to those Dental Hygienists who had not yet been able to renew. The fact that the late fee, assessed before expiration, and mandated by statute, was not mentioned in the renewal notice caused a lot of confusion and resulted in hygienists waiting to renew their license, assuming they would not be assessed a fee until after April 30. It was noted by Attorney Tom Broderick that the renewal notice was not incorrect, and that knowledge of the RSAs regarding the licensing in their field was each licensee's responsibility. Upon motion by EL, second by LT the Board voted unanimously to waive the late fee due to confusion caused by the working/dates on the 60-Day renewal notice. Upon motion by PK, second by HL, the Board voted unanimously to send an email (drafted by Chris Senko, administrator) to those licensees who had not yet renewed, inform them of the error, and explaining that they would be able to request a waiver/refund, citing confusion from the 60-Day renewal notice.

Anesthesia Permits: The Board discussed three separate requests to administer General Anesthesia/Deep Sedation, each submitted by a different Dentist. PK asked if Dr. Crowley had made a recommendation on these applications. Jes Whelehan noted that Dr. Karen Crowley, Chair of the NH Anesthesia and Sedation Evaluation Committee, had not provided a recommendation, stating that she had no authority to issue permits. Jes Whelehan explained that Dr. Crowley had not been asked to approve or issue these permits, simply to provide a recommendation, and having not done so, Jes was bringing these permit requests to the Board for their approval, as it was ultimately their approval that was needed.

- A. Jonathan Williams, DMD/NH OMS, Pembroke- Dr. Williams has 1 active GA/DS permit, and the facility he is requesting a permit for was last evaluated on 8/23/2017. Upon motion by HL, second by JG, the Board voted unanimously to approve the GA/DS permit for Dr. Jonathan Williams.
- B. Zachary Schonfield, DDS, MD/NH OMS Dover (formerly White Birch Oral Surgery)- Dr. Schonfield has 5 active GA/DS permits, and the facility he is requesting a permit for was last evaluated on 3/12/2018. Upon motion by HL, second by JG, the Board voted unanimously to approve the GA/DS permit for Dr. Zachary Schonfield, noting that it appeared his BLS/ACLS was soon expiring.
- C. Daniel Cameron Braasch, DMD/NH OMS Dover (formerly White Birch Oral Surgery)- Dr. Braasch has 4 active GA/DS permits, and the facility he is requesting a permit for was last evaluated on 3/12/2018. Upon motion by HL, second by JG, the Board voted unanimously to approve the GA/DS permit for Dr. Cameron Braasch.

At 5:28 pm, pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), and upon motion by EL, second by JG, 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 5:35 p.m., upon motion by PK, and second by RA, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to go out of non-public session and into public session.

Upon motion by LT, second by LS, the Board voted unanimously to seal the

Emma Ross license renewal- Upon motion by EL, second by LS, the Board voted to renew the license of RDH Emma Ross, #03342, with a note on her account to make sure this hold-up does not occur in the future.

Dr. Kochhar adjourned the meeting at 5:36 pm.