

**NH BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

**7 Eagle Square - Hearings Room**

**CONCORD, NH 03301-2412**

**MONDAY, July 12, 2021**

**PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The July 12, 2021, public portion of the meeting of the New Hampshire Board of Dental Examiners was called to order at 3:02 pm by Puneet Kochhar, DMD, President of the Board, with the following members present:

Puneet Kochhar, DMD, President	(PK)	
Ellen Legg, RDH, Vice President	(EL)	
Lisa Scott, RDH	(LS)	
John Girald, DMD	(JG)	
Jay Patel, DDS	(JP)	-arrived at 3:07 pm
Howard Ludington, DDS	(HL)	

Absent:

Roger Achong, DMD	(RA)
Muhenad Samaan, DMD	(MS)
Linda Tatarczuch, Public Member	(LT)

Attendees present:

Myra Nikitas, Stacie Moeser, Sheri Phillips, Victoria Davies, Jessica Whelehan, Stacy Plourde, Mike Auerbach, Jay Henry, Steve Grady, Paige Lorenz

Zoom teleconferencing technology was in use for this electronic meeting through <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85126445235>.

- 1. Review of Public Minutes –June 7, 2021** Upon motion from HL and second by LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as written.
- 2. Update Dental Hygienist Committee (DHC)**–Myra Nikitas, RDH reported that the Dental Hygiene Committee had not been able to meet due to a last minute quorum issue.
- 3. NH Dental Hygiene Association** – Myra Nikitas advised the NHDHA was continuing to form up their Continuing Education calendar. She also stated that they would be unable to attend the pinning ceremony for the Dental Hygiene graduation, but had prepared 29 packages for each graduate. Myra explained she would also be working with Bridges House of Hope to distribute toothbrushes and toothpaste in the future. She also said she had attended a conference hosted by the American Dental Hygienists Association and had served as the NH representative.
- 4. Dental Society Report** – Mike Auerbach, Executive Director, NH Dental Society, provided at the following update:
  - The NHDS is preparing for the ADA First District Caucus in September in Nashua. Among the many topics to be discussed are engaging new and a more diverse population of dentists.
  - The NHDS has long been involved in the discussion regarding New Hampshire should reconsider its position not to accept the WREB. Our primary concern is that examinations should effectively

challenge the range of skills a dentist must possess before earning their licenses, so that both the dentists and their patients are best served. The examination field continues to evolve, and we as a dental community should eschew the politics that often accompanies the decision to accept one exam over another, evenly configured exam.

- Finally, it is our hope that Virginia Moore, whose candidacy for the Dental Hygiene Committee was submitted in September 2020, can be considered for the still-vacant post.

#### 5. **Board Office Comments –**

A. Jessica Whelehan, Board Administrator, asked that Board members please carefully keep track of their credentials for the secure FTP site. She asked that they make sure their credentials work well in advance of the meeting, perhaps when they receive the email that all documents have been loaded. She also instructed them on how to reach out to the Help Desk to resolve any issues, as it is something that no member of OPLC staff is able to do for the members. EL asked if there was help available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; JW explained that there was not, which is why it is important to keep track of the credentials, and check them with enough time for the Help Desk to fix any issues that may come up.

B. PK asked that OPLC staff make sure that all forms that were scanned to the site were scanned upright whenever possible.

C. PK asked that the FTP site be organized by meeting date, etc. Jessica Whelehan apologized for not being able to make sure that occurred, as she had been on vacation when the documents were loaded to the secure site.

#### 6. **Presentation –**

A. Stacy Plourde, RDH, presented to the Board, asking for their reconsideration regarding accepting a manikin exam rather than a live-patient exam. Stacy explained that it was not fair to those hygienists who had not been able to take a live patient exam. She also stated that she felt that live patient exams were unethical, and it was often difficult to find people to be the live patients. Stacy also stated she felt that the rules and laws in NH allowed for acceptance of the manikin exams. PK pointed out that the definition of clinical, rule Den 101.06 read “‘Clinical’ means having to do with the direct observation and treatment of patients”, which meant live patients, not manikins.

#### 7. **Discussion –**

A. The Board reviewed the WREB documents from past meetings. Upon motion from PK, second by HL, the Board voted unanimously to table the WREB acceptance discussion until the August meeting.

B. The Board discussed the ongoing issue with manikin exams/ADEX for the 2020 and 2021 class of graduates. The Board was made aware of the fact that there were a handful of applications that were already being held up simply because the applicants had only been able to take a manikin exam, not a live-patient exam. Upon motion from HL, second by JP, the Board voted to issue an Emergency Ruling that would allow the manikin exam to be accepted if taken in 2020 or 2021.

#### 8. **Other New Business and Inquiries**

- A. The Board reviewed the CDCA-WREB Announcement.
- B. The Board reviewed an inquiry from Jennifer Hsu regarding the manikin exam and her potential future application; upon motion from HL, second by EL, the Board voted unanimously to write to Jennifer Hsu advising her to apply as soon as possible.
- C. The Board reviewed the training certificates and letter from Sara Sheikh, DMD, requesting Board approval to provide Botox and/or Dermafiller procedures. Upon motion from HL, second by JG, the Board voted unanimously to accept her training certificates and allow her to provide these services.

**9. Licensure and Reports -**

- A. The Board reviewed the OPLC Dentists applications approved and pending document.
- B. The Board reviewed the OPLC Hygienist applications approved and pending document.

\*At 4:11 pm, upon motion from PK, second by JP, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to go into to non-meeting.

\*At 5:12 pm, upon motion by PK, second by HL, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to return to public session.

**10. Public Health Supervision Program –**

- A. Upon motion from HL, second by LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the 2020-2021 UNE Dental Student Program summary report form and issue a thank you letter.
- B. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the summary report form for WIC Pay for Prevention, while issuing a thank letter.
- C. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the summary report form for Southwest Community Headstart, while issuing a thank letter.
- D. Upon motion from EL, second by HL, with an amendment from PK, the Board voted unanimously to notify Richard Hetke that rule Den 403.07 should answer any questions he had about acceptance of the course he was offering.
- E. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the summary report form for the Great Derry Oral Health Collaborative Corporation, while issuing a thank letter.
- F. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the summary report form Cheshire Smiles, while issuing a thank letter.
- G. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the summary report form for Manchester Oral Health, while issuing a thank letter.
- H. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the summary report form for Dental Health Works of Cheshire County, while issuing a thank letter.
- I. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the summary report form for Oral Healthcare at Home, while issuing a thank letter.

J. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the summary report form for Mid-State Health Center, while issuing a thank letter.

11. **Anesthesia/Sedation permits and update –**

- A. Upon motion from PK, second from HL, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommended pass of the Comprehensive Evaluation for Rachel Madden, DMD.
- B. Upon motion from HL, second from LS, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommended pass of the Comprehensive Evaluation for David Pak, DMD.
- C. Upon motion from HL, second from PK, the Board voted unanimously to approve the GA/DS application of Gregory Biron pending receipt of current certifications for all staff members listed.
- D. Upon motion from HL, second from PK, the Board voted unanimously to approve the GA/DS application of Mohammed El-Ounsi pending receipt of a list of all associated staff and current certifications for all staff.
- E. Upon motion from PK, second from HL, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommended pass for the Comprehensive Evaluation for Benjamin Harry Farr, DDS.

12. **Public Health –**

(none)

13. **Other Informational –**

(none)

12. **Scheduled Hearings -**

(none)

At 5:44 pm, pursuant to RSA 91-A:2. I (b), and upon motion from PK, second by JP, the Board voted unanimously to go out of public session and into a 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 8:04 p.m., upon motion by PK, and second by LS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to go out of non-public session and into public session.

Upon motion by PK, second by JP, the Board voted unanimously to seal the non-public minutes and to maintain the privacy of the items discussed in non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), on the grounds that public disclosure may adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a Board member, or render the proposed action ineffective.

At 8:05 p.m., PK adjourned the meeting.