

These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the Board of Dentistry.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DENTISTRY

April 10, 2020

ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Dentistry was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Dennis Anderson, DDS, Chairperson, in the Licensure Unit Conference Room 1 at the State Office Building, located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. The Agenda and Revised Agenda (revised more than 24 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting and posted/available for public inspection at the Board's office more than 24 hours prior to the meeting) were sent to the Board members and other interested parties prior to the meeting. The following members answered the roll call:

Dennis Anderson, DDS, Chairperson – via WebEx
Lisa Kucera, RDH, Vice-Chairperson – via WebEx
Michael J. O'Hara, JD, PhD, Secretary – via WebEx
Yoshiharu Ameku, DDS
David Blaha, DDS – via WebEx
Dean Cope, DDS – via WebEx
Melanie Steckelberg, DDS – via WebEx
John Thomas, DMD – via WebEx
Hannah Randell, RDH – via WebEx
Public member – vacant

Also present were: Jesse Cushman, Program Manager (via WebEx); Vonda Apking, Health Licensing Coordinator; Natalee Hart, Assistant Attorney General (via WebEx); Larry Wiehn, Investigator; and Jeff Newman, Investigator.

Anderson announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Thomas moved, seconded by Kucera, to adopt the Agenda with the ability for the Chairperson to rearrange as necessary. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 10, 2019

Page 1: No changes, but O'Hara requested to add the initial "J" to his name.
Page 2: No changes.
Page 3: No changes
Page 4: No changes.

Steckelberg moved, seconded by Cope, to approve the January 10, 2020 minutes as modified. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the Board of Dentistry.

DISCUSSION ON COVID-19 ISSUES

Charles F. Craft, DDS, Dental Director, Office of Oral Health, Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provided a current update on dental issues surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Craft explained that on March 16, 2020 the American Dental Association (ADA) provided the dental community with guidance coinciding with the Center of Disease Control (CDC) recommendations to stop elective dental procedures for three weeks. Dr. Craft worked with the Nebraska Dental Association (NDA) to develop a similar notification to their membership which was also released March 16. The Board of Dentistry agreed with the NDA's notification and posted a letter on their Department's website on March 20, 2020. Dr. Craft and Dr. Tom Safranek then released a Health Alert Advisory (HAN) on March 23 that explained the impact of these statements on Nebraska's dental community. The Governor and Chief Medical Officer have also released several Directed Health Measures (DHM), at least 10 statewide and 6 local DHMs, on various dates. The NDA has been providing daily COVID updates on their website. The Board of Dentistry is providing a new statement as of today. Dr. Craft explained that the ADA recently extended their recommendations until the end of May however state and local DHMs would take precedence over the ADA's recommendations. Dr. Craft explained he receives updates daily from other state dental directors. Nebraska dentists are continuing to provide emergency treatment and lessening the burden on hospital emergency departments. Safety supplies/PPEs can be requested through the local health departments. The NDA is trying to place orders now. Dr. Craft provides the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) with brief updates on the dental status in Nebraska. Both the University of Nebraska - College of Dentistry and Creighton University's School of Dentistry are open for emergency treatment only, as are the FQHCs. Some free clinics are still open providing emergency treatment also. Dr. Craft thanked the Board for helping to send out consistent and clear messages to the dental profession at this critical time. The Board thanked Dr. Craft.

INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS AND APPLICATION REVIEW – CLOSED SESSION

Steckelberg moved, seconded by Cope, to go into closed session at 1:25 p.m. for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

O'Hara moved, seconded by Thomas, to reopen the session at 9:54 a.m. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

LICENSURE APPLICATION(S)

Dental Application(s)

Thomas moved, seconded by Blaha, to recommend issuing a dental license to Joseph May, DDS. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

Blaha moved, seconded by Cope, to recommend issuing a dental license to Jess Ellis, DDS. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the Board of Dentistry.

Steckelberg moved, seconded by Thomas, to recommend issuing a dental license to Trent Tobler, DDS. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

Dental Hygienist Application(s)

Cope moved, seconded by Kucera, to recommend issuing a dental hygiene license to Benjamin Lindquist. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

Dental Assistant Application(s)

Kucera moved, seconded by Thomas, to recommend issuing Laura Biga a dental assistant license on probation for four (4) years. Probationary terms and conditions should include abstaining from drugs and alcohol, submit to body fluid screens, complying with all treatment recommendations including support groups meetings, and any standard terms and conditions required for individuals having a diagnosis of alcohol use disorder, severe. The basis for the probationary license is past conviction history and a recent diagnosis of alcohol use disorder, severe. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

Dental Hygienist Application(s) cont'd

Thomas moved, seconded by Blaha, to recommend issuing a dental hygiene license to Mary Peterson. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

E-MAIL BALLOTS SINCE THE LAST MINUTES

The Board voted by email ballot to approve the following:

- To support the CDC and NDAs recommendations on COVID-19 with a Board of Dentistry statement dated March 20, 2020;
- To approve the modification to the radiography course offered by UNMC College of Dentistry on March 20, 2020; and
- Voted to approve an additional Board of Dentistry statement regarding updated COVID-19 recommendations on April 10, 2020.

Cushman gave a brief update on the status of the draft regulations.

PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT (CDCA) – PATRICIA CONNOLLY-ATKINS, BETH CLEMENCE AND MARK ARSTRONG

Ms. Connolly-Atkins, a Senior Advisor for CDCA, presented on the ADEX competency examinations and requested the Board of Dentistry accept the ADEX examination for Nebraska dental hygiene licensure. Ms. Connolly-Atkins explained that the ADEX examination is administered by two testing agencies, CDCA and CITA and it is accepted in 44 states and 2 Jurisdictions and is currently seeking acceptance in the remaining 6 states. CDCA is working

These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the Board of Dentistry.

towards acceptance of the dental hygiene clinical examination similar to the dental licensure examination among other states. Ms. Connolly-Atkins provided background of the developing of the ADEX dental hygiene clinical licensure examination. Dental Hygiene examination content is determined by the findings of a national occupational analysis completed in August of 2017, dental hygiene skills raked according to a survey, designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and judgement, and by the American Dental Examination (ADEX) Dental Hygiene Exam Committee and 3 psychometricians that determine the most effective exam modality. The examination has a patient treatment clinical examination (PTCE) which evaluates candidates on their clinical and judgement skills. The clinical skills evaluated are detection and removal of calculus, accurate periodontal packet depth measurements, tissue management, and final case presentation. The examination also has a computer simulated clinical examination (CSCE OSCE) which assesses various levels of diagnosis and treatment planning knowledge, skills and abilities including extra/intra oral assessment and offers clinically-based questions by utilizing a computer-enhanced photographs, radiographs, optical images of study and working models and lab data. Ms. Connolly-Atkins provided the Board with how the ADEX examination both differs from other regional clinical examinations and how CDCA feels their examination is similar to other clinical examinations and should be acceptable as a licensure examination for dental hygiene. They are working on developing a dental hygiene manikin based examination. The Board thanked CDCA for their presentation.

PRACTICE QUESTION

Providing IV Therapy

The Board is tabling discussion on this practice question until their July meeting.

Portable Dental Services

The Board is tabling discussion on this practice question until their July meeting.

Teeth Whitening

The Board is tabling discussion on this practice question until their July meeting.

DISCUSSION ON COVID-19 ISSUES

The Board will be discussing continuing education hours at their July meeting and whether the Board needs to issue a Board Advisory for the 2021 renewal requirements for continuing education requirements because of the impact COVID-19 has on attending continuing education courses.

The Board was asked to accept different ways for graduating students (dental and dental hygiene) to meet testing requirements due to COVID-19. Cushman explained that the Licensure Unit staff is drafting a new Executive Order to address licensure for all professions during this pandemic.

These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the Board of Dentistry.

The Board members reviewed a requests submitted UNMC College of Dentistry and Creighton University School of Dentistry Dental programs and a request submitted UNMC Dental Hygiene program regarding a proposal for issuing licenses to graduating students of 2020. Thomas moved, seconded by O'Hara, to agree with the proposals submitted to issue provisional licenses based on passing the National Board examination and proof of graduation. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

The Board suggested adding discussion of accepting manikin examinations for dental hygiene on the agenda for the July meeting.

Cope moved, seconded by Blaha, to allow all 2020 graduating dental students to take a manikin based clinical examination. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

The Board suggested adding discussion regarding Abbott Laboratory's rapid testing to the agenda for the July meeting.

CENTRAL REGIONAL DENTAL TESTING SERVICE (CRDTS)

Thomas offered to talk with CRDTS regarding when CRDTS would have the typodonts ready for students to test.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL BOARDS (AADB)

AADB canceled their mid-year meeting.

Cushman explained that the hearing date on the draft regulations has changed.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Steckelberg moved, seconded by Randell, to adjourn the meeting at 5:24 p.m. Voting aye: Ameku, Anderson, Blaha, Cope, Kucera, O'Hara, Randell, Steckelberg, Thomas. Voting nay: None. Absent: Public member. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

(signature on file with the Department)

Michael J. O'Hara, JD, PhD, Secretary
Board of Dentistry