



**Dental Hygiene Examining Committee  
Public Meeting Minutes  
October 24, 2014**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Stephanie Brown, RDH,  
Jacqueline Perry, RDH, Vice-Chair  
Cheryl Lewis, RDH  
Melissa Rice, PhD., Public Member

**STAFF PRESENT:** Vicki Brown, Program Manager  
Trina Castle, Executive Director  
Erika Montes, Program Representative  
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General  
Jennifer Santiago, Program Manager, Dental Quality Assurance  
Commission

**OTHERS PRESENT:** LouAnn Mercier, DDS, Chair, Dental Quality Assurance  
Commission (DQAC)  
Melissa Johnson, Lobbyist, Washington State Dental Hygienists'  
Association (WSDHA)  
Colleen Gaylord, RDH, WSDHA  
Nancy Alleman, RDH, WSDHA  
Lynn Stedman, Columbia Basin Community College

The Washington State Dental Hygiene Examining Committee met on Friday, October 24, 2014 at the Davenport Hotel, Isabella Ballroom, 10 South Post Street, Spokane, WA.

**Friday, October 24, 2014**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The business meeting of the Dental Hygiene Examining Committee (committee) was called to order at 1:05 p.m. on Friday, October 24, 2014 by Jacqueline Perry, RDH, Vice-Chair.

**1.1 Introductions**

The committee, staff, and audience introduced themselves.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Ms. Perry motioned for approval of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved as amended. Added to the agenda was Item 11.5.a Update to Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) examinations and Item 11.5.b Health Systems Quality Assurance (HSQA) Association meeting.

1.3 Approval of August 15, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Perry motioned for approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lewis and unanimously approved as amended.

**2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Committee members nominated and voted for the chair and vice-chair positions. The terms are effective to September 30, 2015.

- Jacqueline Perry, RDH, was nominated for chair. She accepted the nomination and the committee unanimously elected Ms. Perry as chair.
- Cheryl Lewis, RDH, was nominated for vice-chair. She accepted the nomination and the committee unanimously elected Ms. Lewis as vice-chair.

**3. PARTICIPANTS FOR THE JANUARY 1, 2015 TO DECEMBER 31, 2015 STEERING COMMITTEES AND DENTAL HYGIENE EXAMINATION REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- Ms. Perry will represent the committee at the Central Regional Dental Testing Services (CRDTS) examination review committee meetings.
- Ms. Brown will represent the committee at the CRDTS executive and steering committee meetings.
- Ms. Lewis will represent the committee at the Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) examination review committee meetings

**4. SETTING THE 2015 MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS**

The committee reviewed the 2015 calendar and set their meeting dates and locations as follows:

- February 13, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. will be a conference call.
- June 5, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Tumwater.

- August 7, 2015 9:00 a.m. in Tumwater.
- October 9, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Lynnwood. This meeting will be in conjunction with the Washington State Dental Hygienists' Association meeting.

**5. 2015 LEGISLATIVE LIAISON AND MEET ME CALL PARTICIPANT**

After discussion regarding the purpose of the legislative liaison and the meet me call participant, the committee requested to have two members serve as the meet me call participant. The legislative liaison will be Jacqueline Perry, RDH. The meet me representative will be Jacqueline Perry, RDH and the back-up representative will be Melissa Rice.

**6. DENTAL HYGIENE EXAMINING COMMITTEE 2013-2015 BUSINESS PLAN**

The committee reviewed the amended 2013-2015 business plan. There were no concerns.

**7. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS**

Ms. Rich provided a written overview to the committee of the Central Regional Dental Testing Services, Inc. (CRDTS) annual meeting held on August 21 - 23, 2014.

**8. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT, ETHICS AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

Heather Carter, AAG provided training to the committee on the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) and Ethics for public officials as required by 2014 Engrossed Senate Bill 5694. Ms. Carter also provided training on public disclosure.

The OPMA is designed to promote government transparency and accountability. The law applies to any multimember board, commission, council, committee, subcommittee, or other policy or rule-making body of a public agency. Ms. Carter explained how email conversations could be considered a meeting, and suggested committee members avoid clicking on "reply all" when responding to emails regarding committee business. She also explained that private meetings in small groups to discuss committee issues are not allowed under the OPMA.

**9. TOPICS FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

Trina Castle reported on the Board of Health, Oral Health Workgroup meeting she attended on July 23, 2014. The Board of Health has issued a Health Impact Review. The review supports a mid-level provider practitioner. The Board of Health is looking at Alaska and Minnesota's mid-level providers and New Zealand's report on the oral health status of children. The Oral Health Workgroup will be meeting again in March 2015.

## 10. INTERACTION WITH DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION

LouAnn Mercier, DDS of the Dental Quality Assurance Commission (DQAC) met with the members of the Dental Hygiene Examining Committee (DHEC).

DHEC requested the commission to consider modifying the following delegation of tasks for dental hygienists:

- Local anesthesia – move to general supervision from close supervision.
- Head and neck exams and oral cancer screenings – add to general supervision.
- Delivery of an oral sedative – add to general supervision.
- Delivery of pre-medications – add to general supervision.

The committee discussed this with Dr. Mercier and with the stakeholders present. The commission created a Dental Professional Collaboration Committee. Dr. Mercier and Dr. Song will represent the commission. The committee appointed Cheryl Lewis, RDH and Melissa Rice to be the DHEC representatives on this committee. Ms. Santiago will send Ms. Lewis and Ms. Rice future meeting notices and agenda.

Ms. Rice explained to the committee her concerns. She asked if there was a way possible to attend the DQAC meetings by phone and how does the committee select a DHEC representative to attend DQAC meetings? Ms. Castle explained how someone can obtain copies of meeting packets, attendance at the meetings and which meetings can be attended by phone. Ms. Rice suggested that in the future the department may wish to consider video/audio recordings of the meetings and place on the web. Ms. Perry suggested that each DHEC member should try to attend one DQAC meeting a year.

## 11. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

### 11.1 Interim Operating Budget Report

Ms. Castle provided an updated budget report to the committee. She explained that the budget is in good shape and the income is exceeding the expenditures.

### 11.2 Licensing statistics

- Committee members were provided a handout with the following licensing statistics:
  - 91 Dental Hygienists with Initial Limited Licenses
  - 312 Dental Hygienists with Renewable Limited Licenses
  - 6,048 Dental Hygienists Licenses
  - 58 Dental Anesthesia Assistant Licenses

- 13,328 Dental Assistant Registrations
- 6,053 Dentist Licenses
- 207 Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary Licenses

The committee requested staff provide the nature of complaints at the next meeting.

### 11.3 Rules update

The committee was provided an update regarding WAC 246-815-020 Dental hygiene examination eligibility and WAC 246-815-140 Continuing education for dental hygienists. The rule hearing has been scheduled for November 12, 2014 at the Department of Health in Tumwater.

### 11.4 Sexual Misconduct Rules

Ms. Castle provided the committee with information relating to the Department of Health Sexual Misconduct rules. Once the language has been finalized for the secretary professions, it will be sent out for review and comment.

### 11.5 Other

#### 11.5.a Update to Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) examinations

It was mentioned to the committee that WREB will no longer be offering the written Process of Care (POC) exam as of January 1, 2015. WREB is making this an optional exam. Staff was requested to place this information in the dental hygiene application packet.

#### 11.5.b Health Systems Quality Assurance (HSQA) Association meeting.

Melissa Johnson, Lobbyist for the Washington State Dental Hygienists' Association provided the committee with an update of the HSQA Association meeting she attended. She presented a breakdown of the topics that were discussed. WSDHA appreciated the department putting on this meeting for the associations.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE

The committee reviewed an email dated July 10, 2014 from Columbia Basin College. Ms. Santiago provided a brief background regarding the email. She explained that DQAC had reviewed the email at the commission's last meeting. The commission stated that dentists are responsible for diagnosis and treatment planning of their patients. The commission also was interested to hear the committee member's thoughts regarding the

email. Dr. Song posed the question, how does a hygienist, or any dental professional, complain against a corporate dentistry policy? She added that the question may be considered an ethical dilemma by some dental professionals. The committee and the attending commission members discussed the question.

The committee reviewed an email dated October 20, 2014 regarding a Canadian dental hygienist trying to obtain a Washington Initial Limited dental hygiene license. Ms. Brown explained that currently a dental hygienist licensed in Canada does not qualify for the Initial Limited dental hygiene license. After discussion, the committee requested staff review the Initial Limited dental hygiene application, instructions, website and the frequently asked questions to make sure they are clear on the qualifications to obtain an Initial Limited license. The Washington State Dental Hygienists' Association asked if the department would have agency request legislation to include Canadian provinces in the law for initial limited licenses. Ms. Castle advised that this could be something that is presented next summer for department consideration.

### **13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- American Dental Hygiene Association (ADHA) standard of care incorporated into Washington State dental hygiene rules
- Licensing and disciplinary statistics
- Business Plan for 2015 – 2017
- Presentation on the role of the Investigations and Inspections Office (June meeting)
- Foreign trained (Canadian) dental hygienists
- Mid-level dental provider – Trina Castle
- Sexual misconduct rules
- Rule making process
- Legislation for 2015

### **14. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC INPUT**

The open forum included public input on:

- Standards of American Dental Hygiene Association (ADHA) care incorporated into the dental hygiene rules;
- Dental hygiene continuing education rule; and
- WSDHA will be submitting legislation for a Board of Dental Hygiene and mid-level practitioner.

### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. on Friday, October 24, 2014.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2015, via conference call. If members of the public wish to call in, instructions will be provided on the agenda.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved by:

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Vicki Brown, Program Manager

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Cheryl Lewis, RDH, Vice-Chair