



## **DENTAL HYGIENE EXAMINING COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, July 21, 2016  
9:00 AM

Members Present: Latashia Bergan, RDH, Vice-Chair  
Andrew Johnston, RDH  
Melissa Rice, PhD, Public Member

Staff Present: Bruce Bronoske, Jr., Program Manager  
Trina Crawford, Executive Director  
Sandie Pearson, Program Representative

Others Present: Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)  
Tanya Mills, Department of Health  
Melissa Johnson, Washington State Dental Hygiene Association  
(WSDHA)

The Washington State Dental Hygiene Examining Committee met on Thursday, July 21, 2016 at the Department of Health in Tumwater, Washington.

**Thursday, July 21, 2016**

### **OPEN SESSION**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The business meeting of the Dental Hygiene Examining Committee (committee) was called to order at 9:01 AM on Thursday, July 21, 2016 by Latashia Bergan, RDH, Vice-Chair.

##### **1.1 Introductions**

The committee, staff and audience introduced themselves.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to amend the agenda. Section 2.9 Central Regional Dental Testing Services: Exam Review Committee Meeting Update was added. The committee approved the agenda as amended.

1.3 Approval of April 29, 2016 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes from April 29, 2016. The April 29, 2016 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

**2. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

2.1 Licensing and disciplinary statistics

Tanya Mills presented licensing statistics to the committee. Presentation included number of dental hygiene credential holders, as well as application processing statistics. For the time period of 01/01/2016 – 06/30/2016, 95 percent of applications were processed within 14 days of receipt of a completed application. Recent applications have been processed within two working days of receipt of required documentation.

Trina Crawford presented disciplinary statistics to the committee. Presentation statistics were from the time period of 01/2014 – 07/2016. A total of 77 complaints received, 41 Notices of Corrections were issued, two cease and desist orders issued, two Notices of Decision and one Statement of Allegations / Stipulation to Informal Disposition were issued. There were 15 complaints investigated.

2.2 Portland Community College – update

Bruce Bronoske, Jr., informed the committee that the Portland Community College application to provide a restorative exam course was still pending. The department expert had completed a preliminary review of the program and provided suggested changes to the college.

2.3 Eastern Washington University – update

Mr. Bronoske informed the committee that Eastern Washington University had completed the restorative exam approval process and that the course was approved effective June 01, 2016.

#### 2.4 The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments standards

Ms. Bergan observed a clinical examination provided by The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments (CDCA), formerly known as North East Regional Board of Dental Examiners (NERB). Ms. Bergan reviewed the calculus requirement for the dental hygiene exam. The exam covered appropriate topics to ensure minimal competency. Ms. Bergan voiced concerns in a couple of areas. Local anesthesia was not provided at this exam location due to school liability concerns. The candidate is only allowed one patient submission and one opportunity to submit the patient with proper teeth selections to the examiners. The candidate is not notified that their exam was disqualified due to improper teeth selection until after they receive their test results by mail. Per Andrew Johnston, RDH, Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) allows 4 submissions to choose acceptable teeth for testing. Per Ms. Bergan, WREB allows 2 submissions to choose acceptable teeth for testing. Melissa Rice, PhD, asked if allowing resubmissions was a good or bad exam practice. Consensus was that resubmissions should be allowed. Ms. Bergan was unable to observe calibration due to miscommunication on the part of CDCA. Ms. Bergan's recommendation is that CDCA exam should not be accepted at the present time. The committee discussed and agreed that CDCA will not be accepted for the Dental Hygiene exam in Washington State at this time.

#### 2.5 Canadian National Dental Hygiene Certification Board

The committee reviewed information provided on the Canadian National Board Exam. This information included the availability of a preparatory test and sample exam questions. Ms. Rice asked about the context in which the committee is considering accepting the Canadian exam. Ms. Crawford clarified that the committee needs to determine if the Canadian exam is substantially equivalent to the U.S. Dental Hygiene National Board exam for the purpose of licensure of dental hygienists coming to Washington from Canada. Ms. Crawford also added that the committee is allowed to approve exams, it might be cleaner to make a rule revision at the future date if the exam is approved. Ms. Carter clarified that "dental hygiene national board examination" in RCW 18.29.190(1)(e) refers generically to such an exam, not specifically to the U.S. Dental Hygiene National board exam. Mr. Bronoske will look into the possibility of taking a practice exam. Mr. Johnston will take the practice exam and report back to the committee if the option is available. The committee is requesting further investigation and will reconsider the Canadian National exam at a future meeting.

2.6 Southern Regional Testing Agency, Inc., (SRTA) standards

Mr. Bronoske reported that there have been no updates regarding the Southern Regional Testing Agency. An exam workbook has not been received as of the date of the meeting. Mr. Bronoske will attempt to make contact with SRTA again. If the exam workbook is received, it will be sent to the committee for review. If Mr. Bronoske is unsuccessful in obtaining the required information, the committee will consider an indefinite postponement of the SRTA exam review.

2.7 Committee Terms

Mr. Bronoske reviewed committee terms and informed the committee that this will be Ms. Rice's last business meeting as a committee member. Her term will end on September 30, 2016.

2.8 Dental Collaboration Committee update – Melissa Rice, Public Member and Bruce Bronoske, Jr.

Ms. Rice summarized the topics discussed at the Dental Collaboration Committee conference call. The Board of Denturists is working on rule changes. Their work with the national organization to contract for examinations is currently on hold. The next denturist clinical exam is scheduled for August. Dr. Mercier with the Dental Quality Assurance Commission reported that the commission is working on dental hygiene task rule modifications. Ms. Rice also informed the committee that there was substantial discussion regarding the CRDTS restorative exam during the conference call. Committee discussion of the CRDTS restorative exam was postponed until section 5 of this agenda.

2.9 Central Regional Testing Service: Exam Review Committee Report – Andrew Johnston.

Mr. Johnston attended the meeting in order to assist in the review of all exams provided by CRDTS. No major changes were suggested at this time. CRDTS is currently working on providing an anesthesia exam to their member states. The committee discussed anonymous examinations vs. blind examinations and determined that either would be appropriate for dental hygiene exams in Washington State. CRDTS is continuing to develop their anesthesia exam and will have a presentation available for submission at the October business meeting.

- 3. DENTAL HYGIENE EXAMINING COMMITTEE 2015 – 2017 BUSINESS PLAN**  
The committee reviewed and considered making changes to their 2015 – 2017 business plan.

No changes were recommended at this time.

- 4. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT REPORT** – Information was provided to the committee by the Program Manager and Executive Director.

**4.1 Interim Operating Budget Report**

Ms. Crawford updated the committee on the interim operating budget. Ms. Crawford informed the committee that revenue exceeds expenses, but advised that upcoming travel expenses will have an impact on the operating budget.

**4.2 Rules update**

Ms. Crawford informed the committee that there had been two more stakeholder meetings which provided great feedback on the open rules. An additional rules workshop is planned for October, in conjunction with the Washington State Dental Hygiene Association Annual meeting.

**4.3 Recruitment update**

Mr. Bronoske informed the committee that there had been six applicants interviewed and that the list had been forwarded to the Secretary of Health for appointment. Mr. Bronoske is hopeful that the new committee member will be appointed before the October business meeting.

- 5. CENTRAL REGIONAL DENTAL TESTING SERVICE (CRDTS) RESTORATIVE EXAM** – The committee discussed concerns raised regarding the CRDTS Restorative Exam. The committee considered whether to withdraw the exam approval.

Mr. Bronoske summarized comments received as of the date of the meeting. Some of the comments received stated that having additional exams would give graduates a choice of locations, some of which might be closer to home. The deadline for comments was set for August 11. An extended deadline was given so that stakeholders would have enough time to submit comments.

Mr. Johnston reported that he had observed the CRDTS mock restorative exam and talked to the examiners. He stated that the exam appeared satisfactory and well organized. It was noted that both testing agencies (CRDTS and WREB) have items that

are remarkable, and both agencies have items that could be improved. Mr. Johnston had observations from the mock exam that needed to be addressed by the committee regarding randomized tooth selection and randomized materials. Ms. Crawford suggested that the committee come up with a list of general recommendations that should be ideally included in a restorative exam. The committee decided that this list should be given to both WREB and CRDTS for consideration and possible implementation. The list includes: anterior tooth selection, posterior tooth selection, randomized material selection and randomized tooth selection for posterior teeth. Ms. Crawford recommended bringing this list to the Dental Collaboration Committee to discuss the general principles of a restorative exam since Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary take the same restorative exam as Dental Hygienists. Gathering the collaboration committee's input should make a more rounded exam.

Ms. Rice asked if there were systems in place with regards to reviewing and approving exams. Mr. Johnston commented that this was the reason the committee members are WREB and CRDTS examiners, so that they can bring back any comments or concerns to the committee. Heather Carter stated that if the committee members see something that concerns them that they are supposed to bring it back to the committee.

The committee discussed the option of withdrawing the CRDTS restorative exam approval. Mr. Bronoske stated that CRDTS does not have any upcoming restorative exams scheduled and that the next exams won't be held until next year. After deliberation, the committee decided that there was no reason to withdraw the exam approval at this time. Due to the fact that there wasn't ample time for stakeholder comment, the CRDTS restorative exam will be added to the agenda for the next business meeting so that concerns raised can be considered.

## **6. CONSENT AGENDA – CORRESPONDENCE**

The following item(s) and any additional correspondence received or sent is for the committee's information. If separate discussion is desired on an item, a single motion by a committee member will place the specific item(s) on the regular business agenda. If there is no motion, there will be no discussion.

No additional correspondence received.

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Licensing and disciplinary statistics
- Business Plan for 2015 – 2017
- Presentation on the role of the Investigations and Inspections Office
- Update on Canadian National Exam
- Update on Southern Regional Testing Agency Exam
- Dental Collaboration Committee Update
- 2017 Meeting Dates
- Election of Officers
- Legislation

**8. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC INPUT** – Any member of the public may address the committee with questions or concerns regarding any of the agenda items.

Melissa Johnson, WSDHA, stated that she was looking forward to having the committee at the House of Delegates meeting in October.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:19 pm on Thursday, July 21, 2016. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 14, 2016 in Bellevue, Washington. Updated meeting information will be posted to the dental hygiene webpage.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Approved By:

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Bruce Bronoske, Jr., Program Manager

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Latashia Bergan, RDH, Vice -Chair