



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Friday, January 17, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT

LouAnn Mercier, DDS, Chair
Robert Shaw, DMD, Vice Chair
Karim Alibhai, DMD
Kara Baza, EFDA
Paul Bryan, DMD
John Carbery, DMD
Todd Cooper, DDS
Willis Gabel, DDS
Charles Hall, DDS
James Henderson, Public Member
Bree Kramer, EFDA
Colleen Madden, Public Member
Benjamin Weege, DDS

MEMBERS ABSENT

Hyun J. Song, DDS
John Liu, DDS
Andrew Vorono, DDS

STAFF PRESENT

Trina Castle, Executive Director
Jennifer Santiago, Program Manager
Sandie Pearson, Program Representative
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General
Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT

Charles Meredith, MD, Medical Director,
Washington Physicians Health Program
Brian Jackson, DDS
Bracken Killpack, Washington State Dental
Association (WSDA)
Mike Walsh, WSDA
Emily Lovell, WSDA
Melanie Knupp, Pacific Dental Services
(PDS)
Jennifer Bryant, PDS
Tom Tilson, DDS
Tommy Simpson, Program Manager, Health
Professions and Facilities

OPEN SESSION

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Dr. Mercier, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

- 1.1. The commission, staff, and audience introduced themselves. Dr. Mercier thanked Mr. Maresh for working with the commission. Trina Castle introduced herself as the new Executive Director and provided a brief background of her experience.
- 1.2. The commission added Item 3.3 – Request for Lists and Labels to the agenda. The commission approved the amended business meeting agenda.
- 1.3. The commission approved the December 6, 2013 business meeting minutes as presented.
- 1.4. The commission approved the December 6, 2013, panel A, B, and C minutes as presented.

2. PRESENTATIONS

- 2.1. Charles Meredith, MD, Medical Director of Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP) provided information regarding disruptive behavior. Disruptive behavior can include negative interpersonal interactions that are repetitive and may be an indicator of some sort of impairment. WPHP is a resource available to help practitioners who display this type of behavior. They are the qualified provider for impaired practitioners; and it is their objective to motivate impaired practitioners to enter treatment and to recover from their illness. WPHP promotes early detection of treatable diseases. This work helps to protect the patients of Washington, and to keep safe and healthy providers in practice.
- 2.2. Tommy Simpson, Department of Health (department), Military Education Program Manager updated the commission on the military education comparison project. The project includes the application process of military personnel and their spouses transitioning to the civilian workforce. The department is required to expedite licensing for spouses of military personnel who move to Washington State. Military spouses may be eligible for a temporary permit while completing the full credentialing process for those who hold an unrestricted credential in another state.

Additionally, the department is required to evaluate military training and/or experience towards meeting Washington's licensure requirements. The department continues to evaluate and determine military healthcare occupations that are equivalent to Washington's health professions using a military to civilian education crosswalk. The crosswalk also provides other courses that would close any gaps in military training.

3. OTHER

- 3.1. The commission discussed the original correspondence and follow-up questions received from Dr. Taylor:
 - Are dentists who are interpreting radiographs of Washington State residents, practicing dentistry here in Washington State (even though the dentists themselves are not in Washington State)?

- If a patient makes a complaint to DQAC about an interpretation or reading of radiographs, how will DQAC address patient complaints, if they have no jurisdiction over the interpreting dentist?

The Secretary of Health, not the commission, regulates complaints regarding unlicensed practitioners.

The commission discussed several ways to respond to Dr. Taylor's questions. They voted ten in favor and two opposed to a response letter citing the statutes. Ms. Santiago and Heather Carter will draft for Dr. Mercier's signature. The commission voted ten in favor and two opposed for all commission members to review the letter prior to mailing.

- 3.2. The commission approved Dr. Gabel to present to the Northwest Study Club on February 13, 2014. Dr. Gabel will use the approved commission power point presentation.
- 3.3. The commission reviewed a request from Verisys Corporation to receive list of practitioners with addresses. The commission previously delegated the review and approval or denial of such requests to Ms. Santiago. Ms. Carter, AAG advised that the commission should review these requests directly. She informed commission members that when they may approve, deny or request more information from the requestor. Commission members voted in favor of requesting Verisys Corporation supply more information within 30 days about their organization. Ms. Santiago will request the additional information.

4. LEGISLATION

The commission discussed potential 2014 legislation.

- 4.1. Dr. Shaw and Kara Baza provided an update on the weekly meet-me-calls. There have been two meet-me-call conference calls held. The weekly calls focus on legislation that may affect multiple professions.
- 4.2. Expanded function dental auxiliary (EFDA) continuing education – The commission discussed House Bill 2379, which adds the authority to the commission to require continuing education for EFDA license renewal. The commission supports this legislation.
- 4.3. Dental Hygiene Mid level providers - House Bill 2321 – This bill creates two new professionals: dental practitioner and dental hygiene practitioner. The bill would also increase the commission by adding a dental practitioner and a dental hygiene practitioner. The commission continues to have concerns with ratio of public member to professional members on the commission. The commission discussed concerns that the bill restricts the practice location of these new practitioners. A similar bill introduced in 2013 and the commission sent a letter to legislators opposing the bill. The commission voted in favor of drafting a similar letter to legislators, stating their concerns and opposition of HB 2321. Ms. Santiago will draft a letter for Dr. Mercier's signature.

- 4.4. Dentist Renewal Grace Period – 2013 House Bill 1603 can be considered again this year.
- 4.5. Information was also provided to the commission on the following legislation:
 - House Bill 2445 – Creates a Dental Hygiene Board. This bill designates disciplining authority for dental hygienists. Bracken Killpack, Washington State Dental Association (WSDA) indicated they are opposed to the bill. WSDA recommends the hygiene committee be combined with the commission. The commission unanimously approved to send a letter opposing HB2445 with the recommendation of combining the Dental Hygiene Committee with the Dental Quality Assurance Commission. Ms. Santiago will draft a letter for Dr. Mercier’s signature.
 - House Bill 2338 requiring the rule-making process to change/interpret scope of practice of a health care profession. The commission discussed concerns with this bill. Statutes are outdated and interpretation is necessary. Dr. Shaw will share the commission’s concerns at the next weekly meet-me-call.
 - Senate Bill 6170 – The bill requires cultural competency education for health care professionals.
 - House Bill 2351 – The bill allows out-of-state licensed health care professionals to practice as a volunteer in Washington. The commission discussed concerns of follow-up care, malpractice, and continuity of care. Dr. Shaw will share the commission’s concerns at the next weekly meet-me-call
 - Senate Bill 6091 and House Bill 2326 – The bill provides requirements for prescription of biological products.

5. RULES

- 5.1. The commission reviewed and approved draft rule language for WAC 246-817-770 general anesthesia and deep sedation. Draft rule language will be sent to stakeholders for comment.
- 5.2. The commission reviewed and approved draft rule language for WAC 246-817-160 graduates of non-accredited schools. Draft rule language will be sent to stakeholders for comment.
- 5.3. The CR102 form establishes the rules hearing date for dental treatment record rules WAC 246-817-305 and 246-817-310. The form will be filed soon.
- 5.4. The CR102 form establishes the rule hearing date for acts that may be performed by licensed dental hygienists under general supervision rule WAC 246-817-550. The form will be filed soon.
- 5.5. The Anesthesia Committee will meet to begin rule modifications after the CR101 is filed for WAC 246-817-701 through 790 administration of anesthetic agents for dental procedures.

6. POLICIES / GUIDELINES

The commission approved the updated Guidance for Approving Groups for Exemptions dated December 3, 2010. Changes include adding dentists licensed in other countries and clarified the guidance document applies to both instructors and participants.

7. EXPANDED FUNCTION DENTAL AUXILIARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- 7.1 The committee reviewed the expanded function dental auxiliary (EFDA) written restorative examination with the Dental Assisting National Board.
- 7.2 The commission reviewed and approved the EFDA written restorative exam as presented.

8. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Ms. Madden reported the committee met on December 6, 2013 to work on the next newsletter. The committee will establish a separate interested parties (listserv) for the newsletter.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

The commission received no correspondence to review at this time.

10. PROGRAM REPORT

- 10.1. The commission received the November 2013 interim operating budget report. Trina Castle, Executive Director reported that the commission is currently under spent. Staff will continue to monitor the budget and will provide an updated report at the next meeting.
- 10.2. There are 22 active dental anesthesia assistants and 4 pending applications. Dr. Cooper asked where applicants are obtaining intravenous training. Ms. Santiago will research the application files regarding training.
- 10.3. The commission received an updated list of active committees.

11. FUTURE COMMISSION BUSINESS

The commission did not discuss future business.

The commission adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Submitted By:

Commission Approval By:

Signature on file
Jennifer Santiago, Program Manager

Signature on file
LouAnn Mercier, D.D.S., Chair