



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

WASHINGTON DENTAL COMMISSION

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 6, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Sonia Pal, DMD, Vice-Chair
Sarah Khan, DMD
Cheon Joo Yoon, DDS
Joy McDaniel, DMD
Samantha Kofler, DDS
Nisha Sharoff, DDS
Marlynne Fulton, Public Member
Carolin Spice, Public Member
McKinley Rainey, Public Member
Miryam Nossa, EFDA
David Carsten, DDS, Pro Tem
Member

STAFF PRESENT

Amber Freeberg, Executive Director
Bruce Bronoske Jr., Dental Program
Administrator
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Sherri Stratton, Assistant Program
Manager
Cassandra Gerard, Administrative
Assistant
Catharine Roner-Reiter, Supervising Staff
Attorney
Heather Carter, AAG
Ben Lee, Policy Analyst
Jeff Orwig, Finance Officer

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tiffany Bass, DDS
Rama Oskouian, DMD
Evelyn Harry, EFDA

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION – 10:03 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair

1.1. Introduction of commission members and staff

- Ms. Gardner introduces commission members and staff.

1.2. Public Comment

- Dr. Swanson opens the floor for public comment.

- No comment received.

1.3. Approval of agenda

- Dr. Swanson requests amendments that include the addition of: Item 2.0 – Seattle Central College; Item 7.0 – Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact.
- There is a motion to approve the agenda with the requested amendments.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

1.4. Approval of the July 26, 2024, business meeting minutes

- There is a motion to approve the July 26, 2024, business meeting minutes.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

2. **SEATTLE CENTRAL COLLEGE** – Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) Program site visit on August 30, 2024 – Dr. Sonia Pal, EFDA Committee Chair

- Dr. Pal provides the Commission with a report from the Seattle Central College (SCC) site visit.
- Dr. Pal notes that Dr. McDaniel, Mr. Rainey, and Ms. Gardner were also in attendance.
- Dr. Pal notes that the clinical amalgam requirement is a challenge for this program and the other EFDA programs in our state.
- Dr. Pal shares that WAC 246-817-195, Licensure requirements for expanded function dental auxiliaries (EFDAs), requires the placement of amalgam restorations on clinical patients and notes that the number of restorations is at the discretion of the individual EFDA program.
- Dr. Pal shares that the EFDA Committee will discuss this issue at the next committee meeting and bring back ideas for consideration to the Commission.

3. **DENTAL THERAPY COMMITTEE** – Committee meeting held on July 30, 2024 – Dr. Bryan Swanson, Chair

- Dr. Swanson shares that representatives from two testing agencies were present at the last Dental Therapy Committee meeting: CDCA-WREB-CITA (CWC) and Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS).
- Dr. Swanson shares that the committee found both examinations to be adequate for Washington State, and the dental therapy examination will be a blend of the dental exam and dental hygiene exam.
- The next step will be to have the Commission discuss what components of the exam are necessary for dental therapists in Washington State to obtain licensure.
- The committee discussed whether a local anesthesia component needs to be included, like it is for dental hygienists, and discussed the periodontal component.

- Dr. Swanson notes that representatives from both testing agencies will be present at a future business meeting, so the Commission can ask questions.
- Dr. Swanson asks Mr. Bronoske Jr. to give an update on CWCs request to have a Commissioner on the Dental Therapy Steering Committee.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. asks the Commission if any members are interested in volunteering to be on the CWC Dental Therapy Steering Committee.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. notes that a dental therapist can take over this role once the Commission fills the vacant dental therapy positions.
- Dr. Pal offers to volunteer for the CWC Dental Therapy Steering Committee.
- There is a motion to approve Dr. Pal to the Dental Therapy Steering Committee for CWC.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

4. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Committee meeting held on August 21, 2024 – Marlynne Fulton, Public Member, Chair

- Ms. Fulton shares that the committee discussed the upcoming October retreat and the Washington State Dental Association (WSDA) magazine article.
- Ms. Fulton expresses concern over only having two committee members present at the most recent committee meeting, so quorum was not met.
- Ms. Fulton shares that the committee is holding a meeting on September 12, 2024, so the committee can vote on necessary items.

5. RULES UPDATE

5.1. WAC 246-817-187 Temporary practice permit – Military spouse eligibility and issuance

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-105 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-15-006 on July 3, 2024. A notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on July 11, 2024. The deadline for public comment is Monday, September 23, 2024.
- No comments have been received so far.
- Ms. Gardner shares that if there are no objections to this rule, a CR-103 will be filed, and the rule will take effect 31 days after filing.

5.2. WAC 246-817-135 Dental licensure without examination – Eligibility and application requirements; WAC 246-817-160 Graduates of nonaccredited schools

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-15-022 on July 9, 2024. A notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on July 19, 2024.
- The next step will be having the Continuing Competency Committee work on rule writing, which will occur at the September 11, 2024, committee meeting.

5.3. WAC 246-817-190 Dental assistant registration

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-16-138 on August 6, 2024. A notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on August 8, 2024.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the next step will be working on rule writing and that this rule needs to be assigned to a subcommittee.
- Ms. Gardner suggests the EFDA Committee.
- Dr. Swanson asks the Commission if there are any questions about the EFDA Committee working on this rule.
- There are no questions.
- There is a motion to assign this rule to the EFDA Committee.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.
- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Gardner to give a background on why the Commission is working on this rule.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the Commission is considering adding a minimum age requirement to dental assistant registration, 18 years of age.
- Ms. Gardner shares that stakeholders have emailed feedback in opposition of adding a minimum age requirement, and notes that public comment will be taken in the future.
- Dr. Swanson shares that the minimum age requirement correlates with a Labor and Industries rule that prohibits minors from working in environments where there is a risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

5.4. WAC 246-817-905 Exclusions

- Ms. Gardner shares that on March 1, 2022, the Commission received a rulemaking petition requesting adding Residential Habilitation Centers (RHC) to the list of exclusions for the opioid prescribing rules.
- The Washington Medical Commission (WMC) received a similar petition and has since adopted opioid prescribing exclusion rules.
- The proposed language aligns with the WMCs adopted rules to ensure consistency and alignment with best practices.
- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-102 has been completed and is currently in the internal review process.
- If the review stages are completed with enough time for public notification, the rules hearing may be scheduled as early as the December 6, 2024, business meeting.

5.5. WAC 246-817-773 Continuing education for dentists administering sedation

- Ms. Garner shares that a CR-101 has been completed and is currently in the internal review process. Once completed and published with the Code Reviser,

rule language will begin and then it will be brought to the Commission at the appropriate business meeting.

- Ms. Gardner notes that this rule was assigned to the Dental Anesthesia Committee at the July 26, 2024, business meeting.

5.6. WAC 246-814 Access to dental care for children

- Ms. Gardner shares that Kitty Einert is working on the rules package for this rulemaking petition that requested clarifying, revising, or adding language around the use of silver diamine fluoride in school settings for both dental hygienists and dental assistants.
- This rule is under the Secretary's authority in consultation with the Dental Commission and Dental Hygiene Examining Committee.
- Ms. Gardner shares that once the CR-101 is filed with the Code Revisor, the Dental Collaboration Committee can begin the rule writing process.
- Ms. Gardner notes that this was assigned to the Dental Collaboration Committee at the July 26, 2024, business meeting.

5.7. Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact

- Ms. Gardner shares that CR-101 has been completed and is currently in the internal review process.
- Once completed and published with the Code Revisor, rule language work will begin and then it will be brought to the Commission at the appropriate business meeting.

6. **AESTHETICS INTERAGENCY TASKFORCE** – Meeting held on August 14, 2024 – Dr. David Carsten, Pro Tem Member

- Dr. Carsten shares that the dental program is part of an Aesthetics Interagency Taskforce subcommittee that looks at infection control and environment of care issues.
- The subcommittee met on September 5, 2024, to review the dental infection control inspection checklist to determine how it can be adapted for aesthetic medicine settings.
- Dr. Carsten asks the Commission to submit any de-identified bad outcome cases to the Aesthetics Interagency Taskforce.

7. **DENTIST AND DENTAL HYGIENIST COMPACT** – Meeting held on August 28, 2024 – Catharine Roner-Reiter, Supervising Staff Attorney

- Ms. Roner-Reiter shares that the inaugural Compact Commission meeting was held virtually and had all the current participating state representatives in attendance.
- The meeting covered the material that is in the packet, which is available on the compact website.

- The Council of State Governments (CSG) gave a presentation about their history and what compacts they have worked on in the past.
- The CSG shared some of their proposals for bylaws and rulemaking.
- Ms. Roner-Reiter noted that no voting occurred at the meeting.
- The CSG discussed what the Compact Commission leadership may look like and noted that voting on this topic may occur at the next meeting.
- Ms. Roner-Reiter does not know the exact date for the next meeting, but it will likely be held during the first quarter of the calendar year.
- The CSG is still determining if the next meeting will be hybrid or just virtual, and likely will be voting on the Compact Commission bylaws.

8. WASHINGTON DENTAL COMMISSION BYLAWS

- Dr. Swanson provides an overview of the Commission bylaws and notes that they contain the Commission's unofficial name, the *Washington Dental Commission*.
- Dr. Carsten shares that although he cannot vote as a pro tem, he is in full support of using the new name.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that the dental program has requested that leadership add the official name change to the list of 2025 Department of Health sponsored legislation.
- There is a motion to accept the proposed bylaws as written.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.
- Dr. Swanson announces that the Commission can now use the name *Washington Dental Commission*, other than on legal documents.

9. CENTRAL REGIONAL DENTAL TESTING SERVICES (CRDTS) – Meeting held on August 23 & 24, 2024 – Dr. Joy McDaniel will report on the CRDTS annual meeting

- Dr. McDaniel shares that the Steering Committee met and shared that a pending merger was announced between CRDTS and States Resources for Testing and Assessments (SRTA); the merger may occur in late December of this year.
- The states that are now added in the merger are Alabama, Arkansas, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and West Virginia.
- Dr. McDaniel shares about CRDTS CARE programs that pertain to board mandated remediation or re-education for people returning to the profession.
- Dr. McDaniel shares that CRDTS dental therapy exams will have simulated restorative and periodontal components, and the typodonts will have mixed dentition.
- The cost of the dental therapy exam is \$2,490 without the periodontal component, and \$2740 with the periodontal component. The cost includes one retake opportunity.

- Dr. McDaniel shares that the next Steering Committee for CRDTS is set for January 24, 2025.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. asks Dr. McDaniel if the CRDTS-SRTA merger will take over the SRTA states.
- Dr. McDaniel shares that CRDTS plans to keep their exam requirements the same, and that the merger allows CRDTS to have more states and SRTA to have the backing of CRDTS.
- Colleen Gaylord shares that Alabama is the only state that allows dental hygienists to obtain a license without graduating from a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredited school and asks Dr. McDaniel to give updates regarding this.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares with Ms. Gaylord that this will be shared with the Dental Hygiene Examining Committee at the next meeting.

10. PROGRAM REPORT

10.1. Washington Dental Commission unofficial name change update

- Ms. Carter discusses the name change and notes that the agenda packet contains informational documents including a Washington Medical Commission (WMC) House Bill report pertaining to the WMC name change, and another WMC document that states the reasoning behind the name change.
- Ms. Carter suggests that the Commission may want to consider adopting some of the WMC language as the name change request moves through legislation.
- Ms. Carter shares that legal documents need to use the official name of the Dental Quality Assurance Commission until legislation officially changes the name to the Washington Dental Commission.
- Ms. Gardner asks if any commission members are interested in writing a newsletter article to address the rebranding/name change.
- Dr. Carsten offers to write the article.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the new name is being used on GovDelivery notices and on the agenda, minutes, and bylaws.

11. OTHER

11.1. Business meeting locations for 2025

- Ms. Gardner shares that the Commission approved up to four hybrid/in-person meetings at the June 14, 2024, business meeting, but the locations still need to be determined.
- Ms. Gardner suggests beginning with three hybrid/in-person meetings and welcomes feedback from Trish Flaig with the WSDA Regulatory Affairs Committee.
- Ms. Flaig shares that the WSDA Regulatory Affairs Committee would like to see at least one more hybrid/in-person meeting per year, preferably in Eastern Washington.

- Dr. McDaniel supports the idea of hosting a business meeting in Eastern Washington.
- Dr. Swanson asks if the Eastern Washington location should be in Spokane, or if the location should move around to various Eastern Washington locations.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. suggests having the Eastern Washington meeting in June since April and October correlate with the retreat dates.
- Dr. McDaniel suggests the April date due to warm weather and summer vacation schedules.
- Dr. Yoon shares that it is usually not too hot in June, but smoke from wildfires is usually present in the later summer months.
- Dr. Carsten shares that he likes the idea of rotating locations, such as Spokane, Tri-Cities, and Walla Walla.
- Ms. Gardner reminds the Commission that April and October will extend the travel dates due to the retreat schedule.
- Ms. Fulton asks if Spokane will also work for the retreat.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. confirms that the Commission is asking program to schedule the April retreat and business meeting in Spokane, and other two hybrid/in-person meetings will be held in the Tumwater area for June and October.
- There is a motion to host the 2025 April retreat and business meeting in Spokane.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- The vote is taken and unanimously passes.

11.2. Active committee member list

- Ms. Gardner encourages commission members to participate in subcommittees.
- Ms. Gardner shares that some of the committees have been having challenges meeting quorum and two committees do not currently have chairs.
- Dr. Pal volunteers to chair the Jurisprudence Examination Committee.
- Ms. Spice offers to join any committees that need more members, such as the Educational Outreach Committee or the Jurisprudence Examination Committee.
- Dr. Khan offers to join the Dental Anesthesia Committee.
- Ms. Nossa shares that she would like to be removed from some committees but would like to join other committees and will send Ms. Gardner an email with her request.
- Dr. Sharoff offers to join the Dental Anesthesia Committee.
- Dr. Yoon offers to join the Infection Control Committee.
- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Gardner if chairs need to be determined, or if the individual committees can designate a chair when they meet.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the Infection Control Committee is the only remaining committee without a chair, and she is unsure of when that committee will need to meet.

- Ms. Gardner suggests letting the Infection Control Committee designate the chair at their next meeting.

11.3. Correspondence from Trish Flaig, WSDA

- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Gardner if the Commission should discuss Ms. Flaig's correspondence or if the Commission should draft a letter in response.
- Ms. Gardner suggests discussing the matter directly with Ms. Flaig.
- Ms. Flaig shares that WSDA is seeking clarity on some of the administration of anesthetic agents for dental procedures rules.
- Dr. Swanson addresses the first question regarding WAC 246-817-775 (1).
- Ms. Flaig asks if the annual self-inspection requirement applies to all licensed dentists regardless of whether the provider administers anesthesia.
- Dr. Swanson feels like since the rule states that "[a] licensed dentist shall conduct a self-assessment of their office preparedness for emergencies, proper emergency equipment, and emergency drugs annually. The annual self-assessment attestation must be maintained for five years," this applies to all licensed dentists.
- Ms. Flaig asks for confirmation that all licensed dentists must perform the annual assessment, whether they administer anesthesia or not.
- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Carter for input.
- Ms. Carter would like to take a closer look at the rule and will bring her insights back to the next business meeting.
- Dr. McDaniel asks if the self-inspection applies directly to dental hygienists.
- Ms. Carter shares that the Commission's rule writing authority focuses on what dentists can delegate, and the practice of dental hygiene is regulated by the Secretary of Health and Dental Hygiene Examining Committee.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that this rule involves office preparedness protocols, which should include the entire staff.
- Dr. Swanson addresses Ms. Flaig's next question regarding whether private organizations who perform on-site inspections need to use the Commission's approved form, or if they can use their own form.
- Ms. Carter states that private organizations that perform on-site inspections can use their own forms, but self-inspections must use the Commission's form.
- Ms. Flaig reiterates that self-inspections that pertain to office preparedness do not need to use an official form and can just complete a self-attestation form, but self-inspections that pertain to moderate sedation with parenteral agents or general anesthesia permit holders require the Commission's approved form.
- Dr. Swanson confirms that this is correct.
- Dr. Swanson asks Dr. Carsten about the intent of the rule.
- Dr. Carsten shares that the rule pertaining to self-assessments of office preparedness protocols was intended for dentists to check to see if their drugs are up to date, ensure they have the appropriate drugs, know where their

equipment is and that it is not expired, and to be familiar with the office emergency protocols.

12. FUTURE BUSINESS

- Dr. Swanson reiterates that Ms. Carter will respond to Ms. Flaig's question at the next business meeting.
- Dr. Swanson shares that representatives from testing agencies will be invited to a future business meeting to discuss dental therapy licensure requirements.

13. ADJOURN

- The meeting is adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Submitted by:

Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Washington Dental Commission

on file

Signature

Date

Approved by:

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Washington Dental Commission

on file

Signature

Date