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BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF ALABAMA

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BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

November 5, 2020

The Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama met Thursday, November 5, 2020, via videoconference. All members were in attendance, as were selected staff members.

The meeting came to order at 6:01 P.M. The Board then took the following actions:

- Allowed public comment on proposed amendments to Ala. Admin. Code r. 270-X-3-.04, as noticed pursuant to Administrative Procedure Act requirements (there were no comments);
- Issued the following statement:

The Board approves as continuing education for dentists and dental hygienists those materials linked from the Alabama Department of Mental Health page, “Understanding the Opioid Crisis,” available at <https://mh.alabama.gov/understanding-the-opioid-crisis/>, that are ADA/CERP or AGD/PACE approved, or that are presented as health professional continuing education by a federal or state agency.

- Approved for dentists and dental hygienists several Continuing Education courses provided by Auburn University’s Harrison School of Pharmacy (course providers will be notified);
- Issued the following opinion on infection control Continuing Education:

It is the opinion of the Board that any Continuing Education provider who wishes to have a course in infection control approved by the Board must cover all of the following topics in the course:

1. Review of Science Related to Dental Infection control
2. Preventing Transmission of Bloodborne and Airborne Pathogens
3. Hand Hygiene
4. Personal Protective Equipment
5. Sterilization and Disinfection of Patient Care Items
6. Environmental Infection Control
7. Dental Unit Waterlines, Biofilms, and Water Quality
8. Dental Handpieces and Other Devices Attached to Air and Waterlines
9. Dental Radiology

10. Single Use of Disposable Devices
11. Preprocedural Mouth Rinse
12. Handling of Extracted Teeth
13. Dental Laboratory
14. Program Evaluation

- Approved new application forms for dental and dental hygiene license applicants, and a new background check vendor, both actions being necessitated by the impending dissolution of their existing vendor;

- Issued the following opinion on the scope of dentistry:

It is the opinion of the Board that PDO thread lifts are not within the scope of dentistry.

- Issued the following opinion on animals in dental clinics:

Board Rule, Ala. Admin. Code. r. 270-X-2-.15, requires dental personnel to observe CDC guidelines for infection control in dental clinics. It is the opinion of the board that those guidelines clearly require that animals other than service animals not be allowed into dental patient care areas.

- Approved applications for various dental and dental hygiene licenses and permits;

- Made decisions on various pending disciplinary actions; and

- Heard reports from board members, consultants, staff, and Board contractors on a variety of topics.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.