



Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

2229 Rocky Ridge Road, Birmingham, AL 35216
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www.dentalboard.org

MINUTES PUBLIC MEETING/BOARD MEETING July 06, 2023

The President called the board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance: Dr. Marshall A. Williams, President; Dr. Bruce E. Cunningham, Vice President; Dr. Melodie A. Jones; Dr. Kevin M. Sims; Dr. Mark R. McIlwain; and Sandra Kay Alexander, RDH. Also in attendance were W. Blake Strickland, Executive Director; Dr. Donna L. Dixon, Esq., Prosecuting Counsel/Red Tape Reduction Coordinator; Aaron Dettling, Esq., General Counsel; Kevin Lane, Compliance Director; Gina Latham, ADHP Coordinator; Dr. Mary Beth Finn, Financial Services Manager; and Steve Hancock, Licensing Specialist/Public Records Coordinator.

Guests included: Dr. Nico Geurs, Interim Dean, UAB-School of Dentistry; Michele Huebner, Executive Director, Alabama Dental Association.

The President determined a quorum was present, and the Executive Director confirmed.

The meeting was advertised on the Board's website, www.dentalboard.org, and on the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov, in compliance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Public Meeting regarding Proposed Board Rule

Dr. Williams opened the Public Meeting regarding the second reading of the proposed Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-4-.11 (Military Portability of License). Director Strickland advised that he has not received any public comments by email. Dr. Williams confirmed that there was no member of the public present for comment. Dr. Sims made a motion to advertise the proposed board rule, as required. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Board Meeting

The President asked for a review of the June 2, 2023 board minutes. Dr. Jones moved to approve the minutes as presented. Kay Alexander seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Dr. Pischek presented the Financial Report for June 2023. Dr. Sims made a motion to accept the report as presented. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent. Director Strickland reported that our State Privilege License Funds for this year was \$14,271.91.

Director Strickland introduced Dr. Nico Geurs. Dr. Geurs introduced himself as the new Interim Dean at the UAB-School of Dentistry. He spoke of continuing the well-established relationship between the dental school and the Board.

Mr. Aaron Dettling presented the legislative update:

- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-2-.07; 270-X-4-.04; 270-X-4-.12 (Retired/Disabled License; CE) – First Reading
Mr. Dettling explained that the proposed board rule will delete old/outdated language and will allow for instituting the recently enacted statute regarding this type of licensure status. Dr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the proposed board rule. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-2-.17; 270-X-2-.24 (Anesthesia Inspection Teams) – First Reading
Mr. Dettling explained that the proposed board rule will update language and allow for instituting the recently enacted statute regarding inspection teams for these types of permits. Dr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the proposed board rule. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
- Board Rule 270-X-5-.13 (Electronic Signatures) – First Reading
Mr. Dettling explained the state already has a model rule for agencies to utilize/accept electronic signatures. With this proposed board rule, we can accept electronic signatures for anything except for initial application for licensure, which requires a notary. Dr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the proposed board rule. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Director Strickland discussed the recent Board Survey results. The survey had a response rate of 20% or 521 licensed dentists. He noted that a large percentage of the respondents took the additional time to write comments. The survey has been shared with Director Huebner (ALDA).

Director Strickland discussed the proposed agenda for the board meeting scheduled at the Gulf Coast Dental Conference. Director Strickland advised the meeting will be advertised to all licensees. Dr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the proposed agenda for the GCDC meeting. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Director Strickland discussed the use of the “Special Purpose License” as staff have recently received several inquiries from out of state dentists. Currently, the Board has 2 active special purpose licenses. He asked the Board to review this type of license to determine whether any changes need to be made to the statute or board rule.

Director Strickland announced the first 2023-2024 ADHP Instructor course to be held Friday, October 6, 2023 (9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.) at the Marriott-Prattville Hotel & Conference Center at Capitol Hill. Due to having to rent the room for a half day, Director Strickland asked if the Board wanted to hold one of their previously discussed town hall meetings at that location. Board members agreed that it would be a good use of the facilities and time. The Board was reminded that up to 3 board members can be present at the town hall meeting. The town hall meeting will be scheduled from 12:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. Additional town hall meetings were discussed to be held in other parts of the state.

Dr. Williams announced a break at 7:00 p.m. The meeting resumed at 7:15 p.m.

Director Strickland discussed a question submitted from the PDMP staff. Currently, the PDMP protocols allow a physician to have up to 2 delegates on their PDMP account. The PDMP staff asked if the Board wanted dentists to have the same privilege. Director Strickland added that delegates do not have to be licensed but must work under a licensed individual. The Board discussed the importance of patient privacy and determining what dental staff would be trusted as a delegate for the dentist. The Board asked Director Strickland to go back to the PDMP and let them know the Board is interested and will get more information.

Director Strickland advised that Dr. Jones's term with the SRTA Dental Exam Committee will expire at the end of July 2023. Dr. Sims made a motion that Dr. Jones remain in that position for another term. The motion was seconded by Dr. McIlwain. The motion was approved by unanimous consent. Director Strickland provided the Board with SRTA proxy voting forms and asked that they complete and submit them prior to July 28, 2023.

Dr. Williams discussed the letter from the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine (AADSS). It was noted that physicians are fitting patients for appliances for sleep apnea rather than dentists.

Director Strickland discussed the Board's protocols for wellness-related cases. Specifically, the difference between a deferral and a public case. Dr. Garver, Dr. Dixon, Mr. Dettling, Mr. Lane, and Director Strickland are working on updating the protocols and possible alternatives for license restrictions while a licensee is receiving treatment.

Director Strickland discussed the Final Phase of our building renovation. He provided the most current architectural renderings of the building's exterior.

Director Strickland presented the proposed 2024 Board Meeting Schedule. Dr. Pischek made a motion to approve the schedule as presented. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Dr. Jones presented her report from the State Committee of Public Health meeting held in Montgomery, Alabama.

Dr. Jones presented her report on the Oral Health Coalition of Alabama Second Quarter Meeting.

Dr. Jones presented her report on the Joint Commission on National Dental Exams.

Dr. Jones presented her report on the CDCA/WREB/CITA Dental Hygiene Examination.

Dr. Williams announced a break at 8:17 p.m. The meeting resumed at 8:28 p.m.

Director Strickland presented an update to the current staff policies and procedures manual. If the Board approves, the new policies and procedures will go into effect immediately. Dr. Sims made a motion to approve the Board Personnel Policies and Procedures. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Director Strickland requested the Board adopt a vision plan to include on the staff's current insurance plan. He explained that the costs would be under \$500 per month for all of the staff combined. Dr. Cunningham made a motion to approve adding a vision plan to employee benefits package with a review of the plan by the Board in 12 months. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Director Strickland asked the Board to approve his travel to the Gulf Coast Dental Conference to facilitate the scheduled board meeting. Dr. Sims made a motion to approve Director Strickland's travel to the conference. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Director Strickland asked the Board to approve board members traveling to the CRDTS conference in Kansas City, MO on August 26, 2023. Dr. Jones made a motion to approve travel for board members. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Director Strickland asked the Board to approve travel to the AADB Conference in California on October 19-21, 2023. Board member(s) and Director Strickland will be attending. Dr. Cunningham made a motion for the Board to attend this meeting except Dr. McIlwain and Dr. Cunningham. Dr. Pischek seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Director Strickland asked the Board for approval to travel to the CVSA Conference in Orlando, FL in January 2024.

Dr. Jones made a motion to approve this travel. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- **Dental License Applications**

- **By Regional Exam**

- Payam Azizkhani, DMD; University of Louisville (2023)
- Brooke Parker Bell, DMD; Dental College of GA. Augusta (2023)
- Jessica Brewer, DMD; University of Mississippi (2023)
- Matthew Brewer, DDS; Virginia Commonwealth (2023)
- Sydnie Costello, DMD; UAB (2023)
- Kevin Hahn, DDS; Univ. of CA San Francisco (2022)
- Kendra Hammock, DMD; LECOM (2023)
- Brennan Hansen, DDS; Creighton (2023)
- Andrew Harris, DMD; LECOM (2023)
- Miles Johnson, DDS; Meharry (2023)
- Rochelle Kongquee, DDS; LSU (2023)
- Jeanju Lee, DMD; University of Louisville (2023)
- Dylan Love, DDS; University of Missouri – KC (2020)
- Ethan Madison, DDS; University of the Pacific (2023)
- Victoria Nguyen, DMD; LECOM (2023)
- Nada Souccar, DMD; UAB (2023)
- Haoting Tiedemann, DMD; University of Florida (2023)
- Archie Whelan, DDS; LSU (2023)

Dr. Jones recommended approval of Dental Licensure by Regional Exam, based on successful completion of the jurisprudence exam for the above applicants. Dr. Sims made a motion to approve the applications. Dr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- **By Credentials**

- Damon Barbieri, DDS; Temple University (2006)
- Stephen Davis, DMD; University of Louisville (2018)
- W. Mark Donald, DMD; University of Mississippi (1988)
- Ravi Lingineni, DDS; Southern California (2017)
- Marco Padilla, DMD; University of Pittsburgh (1992)

Dr. Jones recommended approval of Dental Licensure by Credentials, based on successful completion of the jurisprudence exam for the above applicants. Dr. Pischek made a motion to approve the applications. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- **Dental Hygiene License Applications**

- **By Regional Exams**

- Simone Bracy, RDH; Pensacola St. College (2023)
- Alexia Cullom, RDH; Wallace St. CC (2023)
- Cameron Flowers, RDH; Northeast Mississippi CC (2021)
- Aracely Gonzalez, RDH; Calhoun CC (2023)
- Skyler Hawkins, RDH; Columbus Tech. College (2023)
- Zaria Henderson, RDH; Fortis (2023)
- Kaitlin Herron, RDH; Fortis (2023)
- McKenzie Jones, RDH; Wallace St. CC (2023)
- Kallie Lewis, RDH; Pensacola St. College (2022)
- Kaitlin McCombs, RDH; Wallace St. CC (2023)
- Madison McKinley, RDH; Wallace St. CC (2022)
- Cassie Nguyen, RDH; Meridian Community College (2023)
- LaJoyce Smithers, RDH; Wallace St. CC (2023)
- Deztanee Valfre, RDH; Columbus Tech College (2023)

Ms. Alexander recommended approval of Dental Hygiene Licensure by Regional Exam, based on successful completion of the jurisprudence exam for the above applicants. Dr. Jones made a motion to approve the applications. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- **By Credentials**

- Andrea Brewer, RDH; Virginia Commonwealth (2017)
- Tammy Lovins, RDH; Columbus College (1991)
- Ashley McGehee, RDH; University of TN (2017)

Ms. Alexander recommended approval of Dental Hygiene Licensure by Credentials, based on successful completion of the jurisprudence exam for the above applicants. Dr. Sims made a motion to approve the applications. Dr. Pischek seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

The following ADHP graduates are presented for Dental Hygiene Licensure by Regional Exam and requesting approval from the Board:

Hannah Andrews	Kelsi Aultman	Gabriela Barragan
Brittany Batchelor	Casey Blackmon	Addie Bradley
Hayden Brawner	Kaylie Burdett	Vanessa Caldwell
Miranda Caldwell	Emery Cameron	Alyssa Carter
Marlena Champion	Rikki Clark	Kelsey Cox
Madison Davis	Abi Diego-Jose	Elizabeth Easterbrook

Sydney Eller	Chealsea Fearn	Jordan Figurin
Kathryn Folds	Anslee Freeman	Noreli Gonzalez
Makenzie Hall	Patlyn Hammonds	Anna Hancock
Helen Harvey	Sarah Hastings	Melanie Head
Adrianna Headley	Alejandra Hernandez	Laura Holt
Estrella Jimenez	Shelley Jordan	Kimalea Kelley
Ashlyn Kelly	Danielle Wise	Virginia Little
Shannon Lowery	Bethany Macon	Abby Mattox
Emily McCord	Sydney McDougal	Jennifer Melton
Brandi Merritte	Kayla Myers	Jamie Nichols
Rachel Nix	Juliet Odhiambo	Laura Oliver
Alison Baker	Marianna Pratt	Carrie Prince
Ashlee Puckett	Anna-Marie Ramey	Jacinta Reed
Presley Reed	Esmeralda Sanchez	Emily Scott
Kayla Screws	Caitlin Senn	Elizabeth Shelley
Amber Sledge	Savanna Sloan	Erin Smith
Elizabeth Smitherman	Sara Southern	Haley Spivey
Courtney Spruill	Grace Stuart	Leah Townsend
Lindsey Tucker	Danielle Vann	Carlyann Wages
Natalie Weaver	Melissa Wells	Kristin Wethington
Ashley Wilson	Shannon Wilson	Krysta Young

Dr. Jones recommended approval of Dental Hygiene Licensure by Regional Exam for the above ADHP graduates, based on successful completion of the jurisprudence exam for the above applicants. Dr. Sims made a motion to approve the applications. Dr. Pischek seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Ms. Latham presented the ADHP Report. She provided the most current licensure information – 138 applicants have taken the exam. 118 applicants have taken the OSCI – 15 have failed. Of those 15, 9 have re-taken the exam and passed. Regarding the 2023-2024 ADHP, there are 209 registered and will start July 19, 2023. Ms. Latham advised that 3 faculty positions with the ADHP have opened and applicants are currently being sought. Dr. Sims suggested publishing the percentages of the ADHP graduates who have successfully passed their exams.

Investigator Youngblood presented the Inspection Report. There were two inspections this past month in Huntsville and Lanette.

Director Strickland presented the Wellness Report on behalf of Dr. Garver.

Case Reviews

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2023-66 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Jones made a motion that case #2022-140 be noticed for a hearing. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Cunningham made a motion that case #2023-75 will have a non-disciplinary fine imposed. Dr. Pischek seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Cunningham made a motion that case #2023-76 will have a non-disciplinary fine imposed. Dr. Pischek seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2022-137 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2022-138 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Jones made a motion that case #2023-63 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Jones made a motion that case #2023-58 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Pischek seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Director Strickland presented the Executive Director's report:

- We have approved five groups as CE providers. These providers include study groups, dental hygiene groups and CE instructor providers. One approval is the University of South Alabama-Medical School.
- We currently have 4,345 licensees registered with CE Broker.
- Building renovation – water problem in the rear of the building has been repaired.
- Ongoing meetings with the state architect/designer for the last phase of renovation.
- Updates to the lobby should be completed by August 2023 board meeting.
- Next furniture delivery from the Alabama Correctional Industries is scheduled for next week.
- Updates to the boardroom will include A/V equipment to facilitate WebEx meetings.
- The current contract with UAB-School of Dentistry for ADHP Practical Exercise is set at \$100/per student. We will ask about reducing the costs but will need to complete the contract as quickly as practical.
- 2024 Budget for Board review will be presented in the August 2023 meeting.
- Dr. Holt Gray and Dr. Baker Chambliss are the 2 candidates running for the board seat being vacated by Dr. Cunningham.

Dr. Williams ordered the meeting into recess at 9:42 pm. and will resume Friday, July 7, 2023, at 8:30 am.

MINUTES
BOARD MEETING (Continuation)
July 07, 2023

The President called the board meeting to order at 8:30 am with the following members in attendance: Dr. Marshall A. Williams, President; Dr. Bruce E. Cunningham, Vice President; Dr. Melodie A. Jones; Dr. Kevin M. Sims; Dr. Mark R. McIlwain; and Sandra Kay Alexander, RDH. Also in attendance were W. Blake Strickland, Executive Director; Dr. Donna L. Dixon, Esq., Prosecuting Counsel/Red Tape Reduction Coordinator; Aaron Dettling, Esq., General Counsel; Kevin Lane, Compliance Director; Gina Latham, ADHP Coordinator; Dr. Mary Beth Finn, Financial Services Manager; and Steve Hancock, Licensing Specialist/Public Records Coordinator.

Guests included: Joseph Barlow, Alexander Shunnarah; Michael Edwards; Cherry Jackson; Michael Nicholls, ATS (A/V technician); Danielle Bowman, Birmingham Court Reporting; Steven Russell, Lauderdale County DA's Office; Will Gieske, Lauderdale County DA's Office; Investigator Kevin Jackson, Florence Police Department; Janet Arledge; Michael McGatferty.

The President determined a quorum was present, and the Executive Director confirmed.

The meeting was advertised on the Board's website, www.dentalboard.org, and on the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov, in compliance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Dr. Williams asked if there was any pending, old, or new business before the Board. With no business before the Board, Dr. Williams advised the Board that the public Disciplinary Hearing regarding Dr. Klyne Fawcett (D.0006664-C1) will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Williams called for a break at 8:40 a.m. Dr. Williams called the meeting back into session at 9:00 a.m. and proceeded with the hearing.

At 2:05 p.m., Dr. Williams made a motion for the Board to move into executive session "to deliberate and discuss evidence or testimony presented during a public or contested case hearing and vote upon the outcome of the proceeding or hearing," as permitted by Ala. Code § 36-25A-7(a)(9), with the Board not returning to a public meeting. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called: Dr. Williams, yes; Dr. Cunningham, yes; Dr. Pischek, yes; Dr. Jones, yes; Dr. McIlwain, yes; Dr. Sims, yes; Ms. Alexander, yes.

The Board adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dr. Roberto V. Pischek, Secretary/Treasurer

Approved: _____

Submitted by: Steve Hancock