

VIRGINIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 8, 2020

*APPROVED*

- TIME & PLACE:** This emergency telephonic meeting of the Virginia Board of Dentistry was called to order at 2:04 pM, on May 8, 2020 at the Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia 23233.
- PRESIDING:** Augustus A. Petticolas, Jr., D.D.S., President
- CALL TO ORDER:** Augustus A. Petticolas, Jr., D.D.S., President  
Dr. Petticolas called the emergency meeting to order. He explained this is an unusual manner to meet and asked for patience if a snag develops.
- MEMBER PRESENT AT THE PERIMETER CENTER:** Augustus A. Petticolas, Jr., D.D.S
- MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELEPHONE:** Sandra Catchings, D.D.S., Vice President  
Nathaniel C. Bryant, D.D.S., Secretary  
Patricia B. Bonwell, R.D.H., PhD  
Jamiah Dawson, D.D.S.  
Perry E. Jones, D.D.S.  
Mike Nguyen, D.D.S.  
Tammy C. Ridout, R.D.H.  
James D. Watkins, D.D.S.
- STAFF PRESENT AT THE PERIMETER CENTER:** Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director  
Jamie C. Sacksteder, Deputy Executive Director  
Kathryn E. Brooks, Executive Assistant
- DHP LEADERS PRESENT AT THE PERIMETER CENTER:** David E. Brown, DC  
Barbara Allison-Bryan, MD, DHP Chief Deputy Director  
Elaine J. Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst
- COUNSEL PRESENT BY TELEPHONE :** James E. Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General
- ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:** With all members of the Board participating, a quorum was established.
- PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dr. Petticolas explained the parameters for public comment then opened the public comment period by calling on the three registered commenters.

**David C. Sarrett, D.M.D., M.S. (Dean of the VCU School of Dentistry)**

explained that the school is working to resume minimal patient care by faculty when Executive Order 55 expires in June. He explained that dental and dental hygiene students won't be able to resume their education programs until late Summer or early Fall. He said an exception was made for graduating students to complete their coursework during the pandemic. He went on to explain that, CITA, the agency that administers the clinical examinations at VCU, does have a manikin based clinical examination option for dental students but it does not have a manikin based option for scaling for dental or dental hygiene students. He explained that the experience at VCU is that in past years 100% of dental students passed the scaling portion of the exam so Dr. Sarrett urged approval of the manikin-based examination component for dental students and urged waiving the scaling requirement for dental and dental hygiene candidates.

**Richard D. Archer D.D.S., M.S. (Associate Dean of the VCU School of Dentistry)**

explained that the proposed manikin exam for dental students may be superior to the patient based exam because in the patient based exams the candidates choose patients with small caries while the manikin exam presents the tooth to be treated similar to what would happen in dental office. He spoke in favor of a manikin substitute for the live-patient portion of the dental exam and in favor of waiving the scaling portion of the dental exam. He also added his support for waiving the patient-based portion of the dental hygiene exam.

**Mark Christensen, D.D.S., M.B.A.**

spoke on behalf of the WREB testing agency and its work to offer an alternative to the live patient components of its dental examination in the current environment. He said the simulated exam WREB is offering this year has been field tested with social distancing. He added that the simulated exam is not intended to replace the live-patient portion of the exam, but it is available as a provisional solution for this year.

Dr. Petticolas acknowledged the eight written comments included in the agenda package then closed the public comment period.

**BOARD DISCUSSION/  
ACTION:**

Dr. Petticolas read the three questions before the Board on the agenda relating to issues stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. The first question asks if the Board will modify its dental clinical examination requirements for 2020 dental graduates. The second question is whether the Board will modify its

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dental hygiene clinical examination requirement for 2020 dental hygiene graduates. The third question is whether COVID-19 screening by a dentist prior to treating dental patients is within the scope of the practice of dentistry.

Dr. Petticolas called on Dr. Brown, who stated his appreciation of the work the Board did to organize the electronic meeting so quickly.

Dr. Petticolas then called on Dr. Allison-Bryan, who complimented the Board's leadership in addressing these matters.

Dr. Petticolas asked Ms. Yeatts to address the Board. She complimented Board staff for their planning for the meeting. She said that one of the options for action addressed in public comment is not authorized in the Code of Virginia. She stated that the Board is not authorized to issue temporary licenses pending passage of a live-patient exams. She added that statutory provisions, §54.1-2709 and §54.1-2722, prevent waiving the clinical exams in their entirety.

Dr. Petticolas congratulated staff on their work in preparing for the meeting and then addressed the serious nature of the three questions before the Board and the need for a specific answer for each of the questions. He also addressed the process to be followed to facilitate discussion.

Dr. Petticolas asked for a motion to accept for 2020 dental graduates clinical examinations with a simulated manikin exercise in restorative dentistry and to waive the scaling exercise with live patients in examinations taken in 2020 given by a testing agency accepted by the Board. Dr. Catchings so moved and the motion was seconded. Board members were called upon by roll call to speak to the motion. All Board members spoke in favor of accepting the manikin exercise this year. Dr. Bryant suggested amendment of the motion to use the term "candidates" instead of "graduates". Dr. Bonwell, Ms. Ridout and Dr. Watkins spoke in favor of requiring the scaling exercise.

Dr. Petticolas asked Mr. Rutkowski to address use of the term "graduates" or "candidates". Mr. Rutkowski responded that the statute does not specify that an individual must have graduated prior to taking the exam. Ms. Yeatts said deleting the term all together would address anyone taking the exam in 2020. Dr. Catchings moved to adopt the substitute motion as advised by Ms. Yeatts which is to accept for 2020 dental clinical examinations with a simulated manikin exercise in restorative dentistry and to waive the scaling exercise

with live patients in examinations taken in 2020 given by a testing agency accepted by the Board. The motion was seconded. Each board member spoke to the motion. Dr. Petticolas noted that the comments in favor of requiring the scaling exercise did not garner a consensus and asked Ms. Reen to call on each board member and record the votes. The substitute motion passed unanimously and the original motion died.

Dr. Petticolas - Yes  
Dr. Catchings - Yes  
Dr. Bryant - Yes  
Dr. Bonwell - Yes  
Dr. Dawson - Yes  
Dr. Jones - Yes  
Dr. Nguyen - Yes  
Ms. Ridout - Yes  
Dr. Watkins - Yes

Dr. Petticolas asked for a motion to accept for 2020 the Computer Simulated Clinical Exam (CSCE) as administered by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA) and equivalent clinical examinations given by a testing agency accepted by the Board in 2020 in addition to the written National Board Dental Hygiene Exam (NBDHE). Dr. Catchings so moved and the motion was seconded. Board members were called upon by roll call to speak to the motion. The majority of the members deferred to the two hygienists serving on the Board. When the hygienists disagreed, Dr. Petticolas restated the motion and asked that the members be polled again. Following the discussion, the question was called and the motion failed by roll call vote. Extensive discussion followed on several proposed motions then Dr. Watkins moved for the Board to accept, for 2020 dental hygiene candidates, passage of the written National Board Dental Hygiene Examination and passage of a manikin based scaling exercise given by a testing agency accepted by the Board. The motion was seconded. Following discussion of requiring a scaling exercise on a manikin, the availability of such an exam and not requiring the computer simulated section, Dr. Petticolas called on each member to address the motion again and then called the question. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Dr. Petticolas - No  
Dr. Catchings - Yes  
Dr. Bryant - Yes  
Dr. Bonwell - Yes  
Dr. Dawson - Yes  
Dr. Jones - No  
Dr. Nguyen - Yes

Ms. Ridout - No  
Dr. Watkins - Yes

Dr. Petticolas asked if there is a motion to include COVID-19 screening within the scope of the practice of dentistry. Dr. Catchings so moved and the motion was seconded. Board members were called on by roll call to speak to the motion. In response to a questions about the terms “screening” and “testing”, Dr. Allison-Bryan clarified that the definition of “screening” includes testing. Ms. Ridout requested to include dental hygienists in the motion since it would not be a diagnostic test. Board counsel recommended including language to be clear that hygienists are included in the intent of the motion. Dr. Catchings made a substitute motion to include COVID-19 screening within the scope of the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene. The substitute motion was seconded. Following discussion of the substitute motion, a roll call vote was taken. The substitute motion passed and the original motion died.

Dr. Petticolas - Yes  
Dr. Catchings - Yes  
Dr. Bryant - Yes  
Dr. Bonwell - Yes  
Dr. Dawson - Yes  
Dr. Jones - Yes  
Dr. Nguyen - no longer on the call  
Ms. Ridout - Yes  
Dr. Watkins - Yes

ADJOURNMENT: With all business concluded, Dr. Petticolas adjourned the meeting at 4:35 PM.

  
Augustus A. Petticolas Jr., D.D.S., President

Sept. 11, 2020  
Date

  
Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director

September 11, 2020  
Date