

**MINUTES**  
**NC STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**Morrisville, North Carolina**  
**July 12, 2024**

**I. CALL TO ORDER & ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

**Dr. Watkins**

A. Call to Order

Dr. Catherine Watkins, President of the Board, called the business meeting to order at 8:33 a.m., Friday, July 12, 2024, at the Board's offices in Morrisville, North Carolina. Dr. Watkins read the following statement regarding conflicts of interest as a reminder to all Board members:

In accordance with General Statute 138A-15(e), it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict.

Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Board today?

If so, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict and refrain from any undue participation in the particular matter involved.

If, during the discussion, any Board member learns of a conflict or the appearance of a conflict, he or she should notify the Chair and take appropriate action to recuse himself or herself.

B. Roll Call

All members of the Board were present at the meeting. The members present at the Board office included Dr. Stan Hardesty, Dr. William Litaker, Dr. Mark Johnson, Dr. Karen Lanier, Dr. Catherine Watkins, Dr. Edward Clemons, Lori Hendrick, RDH, PhD and Mr. Dominic Totman, Esq. Mr. Bobby D. White, Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Casie Goode, Deputy Operations Officer, Betty Sines, Assistant Director of Investigations, Jamie Rivera, Investigator/Paralegal, Rick Hetzel, Investigator, Tyler Henderson, Investigator, Kevin Snead, Investigator and Mr. Douglas Brocker, Legal Counsel for the Board were also present.

C. Declaration of Quorum

With all eight members of the Board present, Dr. Watkins declared a quorum for the purposes of conducting a disciplinary hearing and the business of the Board.

**II. APPROVAL & ORDER OF AGENDA**

**Dr. Watkins**

Dr. Hardesty moved, which was seconded by Dr. Litaker, to accept the agenda with permission for the President to take items out of order to facilitate business. The motion passed by general consent.

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At 8:35 a.m. the Board remained in open session to conduct a formal hearing involving Dr. Robert Kreashko. Dr. Catherine Watkins presided over the hearing and all members of the Board were present. Mr. Douglas Brocker and Ms. Crystal Carlisle served as legal counsel for the Investigative Panel and Mr. Fred Morelock served as legal counsel for the Hearing Panel. Dr. Kreashko was not in attendance and was not represented by counsel. A court reporter was present to transcribe the proceedings. The public hearing recessed for deliberations at 12:02 p.m. Routine Board business resumed at 1:00 p.m.

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### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of June 6-7, 2024

[Item #1] Dr. Watkins

Following a review of the June 6-7, 2024, Minutes, Dr. Hardesty moved to approve the Minutes with a minor adjustment adding RDH to Dr. Hendrick's credentials to make it clear that she is not a dentist, but rather has a PhD and serves as the Board's dental hygiene member. Dr. Litaker seconded the motion which passed by general consent.

### IV. REPORT FROM PRESIDENT

Dr. Watkins took a moment to thank both Board members and staff for their support during her time as president.

### V. REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mr. White

A. Financial Report (July)

[Item #2]

Following a review of the July 2024 Financial Report, Dr. Litaker moved to accept the report for informational purposes. Dr. Clemons seconded the motion which passed by general consent.

B. Personnel Matters

Mr. White announced that Madison Greene has joined the staff as a summer intern.

C. Miscellaneous

❖ Old North State Dental Society Meeting

Dr. Hardesty made a motion that the Board reimburse Dr. Clemons for the expenses he incurred while representing the Board at the Old North State Dental Society Meeting. Dr. Johnson seconded. Motion carried.

❖ Mr. White discussed a growing concern regarding the current Board rule which requires a dentist to provide 30 days of emergency care when dismissing a patient. The concern is how to manage this requirement, when the patient has been violent or threatening to the dentist or his/her staff. Dental Board staff currently advise dentists that they do not have to offer emergency care if it would put a member of the dental team in jeopardy. Mr. Brocker will draft rules to address this issue during the annual rules review.

❖ Mr. White acknowledged that Dr. Clemons and Mr. Totman's terms as Board Members were ending at the end of July and he thanked them for their service.

**VI. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. Executive Committee

a. Election of Officers

The Executive Committee nominated Dr. Mark Johnson as Board president and Dr. William Litaker as secretary/treasurer for the 2024-2025 term. Dr. Lanier moved to accept the slate of officers as nominated. Dr. Clemons seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B. Finance Committee  
[None]

C. Sedation/General Anesthesia Committee  
[None]

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

[None]

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. October 2024 Meeting Dates

**Dr. Watkins**

Following a discussion, the Board decided to leave the October meeting date the same, therefore, the Board will meet October 18-19, 2024, at the Board office in Morrisville. The meeting will be held virtually for those Board members who cannot attend in-person.

B. Approve Rotation Sites – AB-Tech

**[Item #3] Ms. Goode**

ABTech requested Board approval of the Recovered Smiles Program at Miller Family Dentistry in Candler, North Carolina, the NC Baptist Men’s Medical/Dental Bus Ministry and NC MOM Clinics as rotation sites for dental hygiene students currently enrolled in the dental hygiene program at ABTech. Upon review of the documentation, Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve the proposed rotation sites. Dr. Litaker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**IX. LICENSURE MATTERS**

A. Approval of Licenses/Permits/Reinstatements

**[Item #4] Ms. Goode**

Dr. Clemons moved to approve all provisional licenses, licenses issued by credentials, intern permits, sedation permits, CE waivers and reinstatements issued since the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Johnson and passed by general consent.

B. Examinations

Dr. Litaker reminded Board members that Fall examination assignments have been published by CDCA-WREB-CITA.

**X. REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL**

**Mr. Brocker/Mr. White**

A. Teledentistry Interpretive Statement

**[Item #5] Mr. Brocker**

Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve the Interpretive Statement Regarding Teledentistry Statute and Supervision of Dental Hygienists as drafted. Dr. Litaker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Student Rotation Sites

**[Item #6] Mr. White**

The Board received an inquiry from High Point University (HPU), in which three (3) scenarios were presented and the Board's opinion was requested regarding what clinics/locations are permissible for dental student rotation sites under the current Dental Practice Act. The scenarios are as follows:

1. Is it allowable for students enrolled in the program to rotate through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)? Following a discussion, the Board determined that FQHCs do meet the criteria as rotation sites.
2. Is it allowable for students enrolled in the program to rotate through private practices that are not owned or operated by the University? Following a discussion, the Board determined that private practices do NOT meet the criteria as rotation sites.
3. If students complete out-of-state rotation sites with private practice, can those experiences be used towards program requirements to award the student a degree? Following a discussion, the Board determined that the requirements for awarding dental degrees are established by CODA and HPU should contact CODA directly regarding this inquiry.

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Dr. Todd Watkins requested an audience with the Board to discuss pending educational changes that are occurring nationally involving entrustable professional activities (EPAs) and graduation requirements. Dr. Watkins addressed the Board from approximately 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., after which the Board resumed its business meeting.

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C. Public Health Hygiene

**[Item #7] Mr. Brocker**

The Board received an inquiry related to the permissibility of a public health hygienist (PHH) performing hygiene services while a dentist is not present in the facility. The Board determined that it is permissible under the Dental Hygiene Act provided the PHH is properly employed, providing services in approved shortage areas or health departments, working under a standing order of a dentist properly employed, and the services are completed within 270 days of the dentist's written standing order or the dentist's in-person evaluation of the patient.

D. Monitoring Sedation Patients

**[Item #8] Mr. Brocker**

Dr. Hardesty made a motion to adopt the Interpretive Statement Regarding Monitoring Patients During Sedation Procedures as drafted. Dr. Clemons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. 16Q – Technical Changes

**[Item #9] Mr. Brocker**

Mr. Brocker informed the Board that technical changes have been submitted to the rules review commission, to correct rule references in 16Q. The Board accepted this report for information purposes.

- F. Inspections of General Anesthesia Offices **Mr. White/Mr. Brocker**  
In July 2019, the Board voted to allow general anesthesia permit holders who are members of AAOMS to submit copies of their AAOMS inspections in lieu of undergoing an additional Board inspection. This was allowed to prioritize inspections for offices that had not had any type of inspection, aside from when they were initially permitted, and while getting the Board's inspection program initiated. With the Board's inspection process now well underway, the Board determined that all permit holders, including general anesthesia permit holders, should undergo a Board inspection at least once every five (5) years. Board staff will send notice to all general anesthesia permit holders notifying them of this decision.
- G. Abandoned Patient Records **Mr. Brocker**  
Dr. Hardesty made a motion for staff to draft rules addressing patient records that get abandoned in scenarios including, but not limited to, the sale of a practice, the revocation/suspension of a dental license, retirement, death, etc. Dr. Lanier seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- H. Delegable Functions **[Item #10] Mr. Brocker**  
Dr. Hardesty, Dr. Lanier and Ms. Hendrick will serve on a committee to discuss supragingival scaling as a delegable function of a dental assistant. They will report back to the Board at a future meeting.
- I. Proposed Changes to DPA **[Item #11] Mr. White**  
Mr. White informed the Board that proposed language has been drafted by the North Carolina Oral Health Collaborative to align existing language in the Dental Practice Act with respect to public health hygienists and limited supervision hygienists. The Board accepted this report for information purposes.

## XI. INVESTIGATIVE MATTERS

- A. Investigative Statistics (June) **[Item #12] Dr. Johnson**  
The Board reviewed investigative statistics for the month of June, as well as the year to date. The statistics were accepted for informational purposes.
- B. Hearing Panel Decisions  
During open session, and without conducting other business, Dr. Hardesty made a motion to move into closed session, pursuant to NCGS §143-318.18(6) and §90-41(g), in order to rule on Hearing Panel Decisions and other investigative matters. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lanier and passed by general consent.
- a. Log #23-023 **[Item #13] Dr. Litaker**
- b. Log #24-100 **[Item #14] Dr. Johnson**
- C. Settlement Conferences  
[None]

**XII. NEXT MEETING**

The Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will begin on Friday, August 9, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. and will be held at the Board's offices in Morrisville, North Carolina to conduct disciplinary hearings and for the consideration of routine business.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Dr. Clemons made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion, which passed by general consent. The meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Reported by: Casie S. Goode  
Casie S. Goode  
Deputy Operations Officer

Date of Approval: August 9, 2024

**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

*Dr. Catherine Watkins, President*

*Dr. Mark Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer*

*Dr. Karen Lanier, Immediate Past President*

*Dr. William Litaker*

*Dr. Edward Clemons, Jr*

*Dr. W. Stan Hardesty*

*Ms. Lori Hendrick, R.D.H., Dental Hygiene Member*

*Mr. Dominic Totman, Esq., Consumer Member*