



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

### WASHINGTON DENTAL COMMISSION

#### BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Friday, October 11, 2024

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair  
Sonia Pal, DMD, Vice-Chair  
Sarah Khan, DMD  
Cheon Joo Yoon, DDS  
Joy McDaniel, DMD  
Nisha Sharoff, DDS  
Marlynnne Fulton, Public Member  
Carolyn Spice, Public Member  
McKinley Rainey, Public Member  
Miryam Nossa, EFDA  
Rama Oskouian, DMD  
Evelyn Harry, EFDA  
David Carsten, DDS, Pro Tem  
Member

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Trina Crawford, Executive Director  
Bruce Bronoske Jr., Dental Program  
Administrator  
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager  
Adriana Barcena, Program Manager  
Kitty Einert, Program Manager  
Cassandra Gerard, Administrative  
Assistant  
Catharine Roner-Reiter, Supervising Staff  
Attorney  
Heather Carter, AAG  
Sierra McWilliams, AAG

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tiffany Bass, DDS  
Samantha Kofler, DDS

#### **OPEN SESSION**

#### **OPEN SESSION – 10:04 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 3.1 – Skagit Valley College; Item 5.2 - Commission may vote to approve draft rule language for WAC 246-817-190, Dental assistant registration; Item 5.3 - Commission may vote to approve opening a CR-101 for WAC 246-817-195, Licensure requirements for expanded function dental auxiliaries (EFDAs); Item 14.0 – Washington Dental Commission.
- 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 September 6, 2024, business meeting minutes.

- There is a motion to approve the September 6, 2024, business meeting minutes.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

### **2. HEALTHCARE AND ENFORCEMENT LICENSING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (HELMS) –**

Elizabeth Geisler will present to the Commission.

- Ms. Geisler introduces herself as the HELMS Business Deputy Project Director and provides the Commission with an update on the HELMS project release dates.
- The next release date is February 2025 and includes all professional and facility credentials.
- Ms. Geisler notes that there will be a period in February when the credentialing system will need to be frozen so the technical team can migrate data to the new system.

### **3. DENTAL THERAPY COMMITTEE –** Committee meetings held on September 17, 2024, and October 3, 2024 – Dr. Bryan Swanson, Chair

- Dr. Pal shares that during the September 17, 2024, meeting, the committee discussed the education verification form for dental therapists.
- Dr. Pal shares that the committee approved a modified version of the dental hygiene education verification form for dental therapists.
- Dr. Pal shares that during the October 3, 2024, meeting, the committee discussed the practice plan contract and continued to work on rule writing.

#### 3.1. Skagit Valley College – Dr. Joy McDaniel will report out on the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) site visit.

- Dr. McDaniel shares her observations from the CODA site visit at Skagit Valley College that took place on October 8-10, 2024.
- Dr. McDaniel notes that there are only five dental therapy programs in the United States and discusses the rigors of the CODA accreditation process.

**4. CONTINUING COMPETENCY COMMITTEE** – Committee meeting held on September 11, 2024 – Dr. Cheon Joo Yoon, Chair

- Dr. Yoon shares that the quorum was not met at the September 11, 2024, committee meeting, and only informal discussions took place.

**5. EXPANDED FUNCTION DENTAL AUXILIARY COMMITTEE** – Committee meeting held on October 1, 2024 – Dr. Sonia Pal, Chair

5.1. Commission may vote to confirm Seattle Central College (SCC) EFDA program approval.

- Dr. Pal shares that SCC demonstrated that their program is compliant at the August site visit, so the Commission does not need to take a vote.

5.2. Commission may vote to approve draft rule language for WAC 246-817-190, Dental assistant registration.

- Dr. Pal shares that the EFDA committee discussed a minimum age requirement for WAC 246-817-190, which would align with the Department of Labor and Industries (LNI) rule that pertains to minors working in environments where there is a risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens; WAC 296-125-030, Prohibited and hazardous employment—All minors.
- Dr. Pal asks the Commission to approve the proposed rule language that was discussed during the October 1, 2024, EFDA committee meeting.
- Dr. McDaniel asks for clarification about minors in dental assisting training programs.
- Dr. Pal explains that minors can participate in bona fide healthcare career training or vocational education programs, but anyone applying for dental assistant registration will need to be eighteen years of age.
- Dr. Carsten suggests creating an FAQ to clarify what types of training programs are allowed for minors.
- Ms. McWilliams clarifies that minors are allowed to participate in training programs, but they cannot apply for registration until they are eighteen.
- Ms. Gardner shares that RCW 18.260.110, Limitation of chapter, lists what types of programs are acceptable for minors.
- Ms. McWilliams shares that this statute pertains to exemptions from registration or certification requirements.
- There is a motion to approve the proposed draft rule language for WAC 246-817-190.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

5.3. Commission may vote to approve opening a CR-101 for WAC 246-817-195, Licensure requirements for expanded function dental auxiliaries (EFDAs).

- Dr. Pal shares that the EFDA programs in Washington State are having difficulties finding clinical patients to place amalgam restorations due to a reduction of amalgam procedures in the community.

- Dr. Pal shares that the EFDA committee would like to ask the Commission to consider amending the rule language in WAC 246-817-195(4)(a)(ii) from typodont *and* on clinical patients to typodont *and/or* on clinical patients.
- There is a motion to approve opening a CR-101 for WAC 246-817-195 to amend the proposed rule language pertaining to amalgam clinical requirements.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

**6. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE** – Committee meeting held on August 21, 2024, and September 12, 2024 – Marlynnne Fulton, Public Member, Chair

- Ms. Fulton shares that the committee discussed the Washington State Dental Association (WSDA) magazine article and asks for dentist member volunteers.
- Trish Flaig, Manager of Regulatory and Compliance Services with WSDA, discusses previous magazine articles provided by the Commission.
- Dr. Oskouian and Dr. Carsten agree to write an article about the Pediatric Sedation Endorsement for the WSDA magazine.
- Ms. Crawford thanks Dr. Carsten for offering to write the Washington Dental Commission Newsletter article pertaining to the Commission’s rebranding endeavors and asks a current commission member if they would like to collaborate on the article.
- Dr. Oskouian offers to collaborate on both articles with Dr. Carsten.

**7. RULES UPDATE**

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

- Ms. Gardner shares that the deadline for public comment was September 23, 2024, and no comments or objections were received from interested parties.
- A CR-103 has been completed and is currently in the internal review process.
- Ms. Gardner shares that once completed and published with the Code Reviser, this rule will take effect 31 days after filing.

7.2. 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, and a notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on July 19, 2024.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the Continuing Competency Committee met on September 11, 2024, and had a preliminary rule language discussion.

7.3. WAC 246-817-190 Dental assistant registration

- Ms. Gardner shares that she will begin drafting the CR-102 rule package since the Commission approved the proposed rule language.
- Once the review stages are completed and interested parties are notified, a rules hearing will be scheduled.

#### 7.4. WAC 246-817-905 Exclusions

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-102 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-20-025 on September 20, 2024, and a notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on October 2, 2024.
- A rules hearing is scheduled for December 6, 2024.
- Ms. Gardner shares that this rule will add Residential Habilitation Centers to the list of exclusions for the opioid prescribing rules.

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

- Ms. Gardner 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 work will begin.

#### 7.6. WAC 246-814 Access to dental care for children

- Ms. Einert shares that the Secretary of Health, in consultation with the Washington Dental Commission and the Dental Hygiene Examining Committee, is in the CR-101 drafting stage to amend two sections of WAC 246-814 in response to a rule petition request.
- Ms. Einert shares that the first requested change is to Section 020, Practices authorized for dental hygienists and dental assistants.
- The rule petition requests adding language which includes allowing silver diamine fluoride (SDF) in school-based and school-linked program settings by dental hygienists and dental assistants.
- Ms. Einert shares that the second requested change is to Section 030, Application process and documentation of training required for endorsement.
- This proposed change removes the requirement for dental assistants and their supervising dentists, and dental hygienists, to coordinate with established local oral health coalitions by participating in oral health coalition meetings.
- Dr. Oskouian asks for clarification on the scope of practice for dental hygienists and dental assistants under general supervision in school-based settings and shares her concerns over the use of SDF in school-based settings without the close supervision of a dentist.
- Ms. Carter shares that these are special programs authorized for school-based settings under general supervision, and that this rule is under the Secretary's authority, but includes consultation from the Dental Commission and Dental Hygiene Examining Committee.

#### 7.7. 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 Reviser, rule language work will begin.

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

- Dr. Carsten shares that the Aesthetics Interagency Taskforce is working towards developing the definition of an aesthetic medicine spa and discussing potential guidelines.
- Dr. Carsten shares that the taskforce is looking at controlled substances, infection control, and cosmetology.
- Dr. Carsten asks the Commission to submit any de-identified bad outcome cases to the Aesthetics Interagency Taskforce.

## **9. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY**

9.1. Dr. Sarah Khan will update the Commission on the University of Washington (UW) presentation from August 21, 2024.

- Dr. Khan shares that she and Dr. Carsten presented to first-year dental students, residents and faculty from the oral medicine and oral radiology departments, and faculty members from different departments.
- Dr. Carsten encourages the ongoing relationship with schools of dentistry in Washington State.
- Dr. Jacqueline Wong shares the importance of exposing first year dental students to ethics and professionalism early in their careers.

9.2. Commission may vote to approve future presentations at Schools of Dentistry in Washington State.

- Ms. Crawford asks Ms. Carter if the Commission needs to have a vote for each presentation.
- Ms. Carter suggests having the Commission approve the presentation, which can then be used for future presentations.
- Dr. Wong suggests a biannual or annual presentation from the Commission.
- Ms. Crawford suggests tabling the vote until the Commission can approve the presentation at the next business meeting.

## **10. 2025 INLAND NORTHWEST DENTAL CONFERENCE (INDC) – April 24-26, 2025**

- Correspondence from Lacy McCormick, Executive Director, Spokane District Dental Society.
- Ms. Gardner shares that Ms. McCormick extended an invitation to the Dental Commission to present at the INDC in Spokane.
- Dr. Swanson, Dr. Yoon, and Dr. Pal offer to present.
- Dr. Swanson suggests tabling the vote until the December meeting and asks Ms. Gardner to coordinate the presentation times with Ms. McCormick.

## **11. REGIONAL/NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

11.1. CLEAR 2024 Annual Educational Conference held on September 16-19, 2024 – Bruce Bronoske Jr., Dental Program Administrator, will report on the CLEAR 2024 Annual Educational Conference.

- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares details about the presentations at the CLEAR conference, which included the innovative use of the virtual objective structured

clinical exam, implicit bias, diversity, equity, and inclusion, measuring effectiveness of regulation, and understanding the challenges and opportunities of artificial intelligence (AI).

11.2. AADA Annual Meeting held on September 25 & 26, 2024 – Debbie Gardner, Program Manager, will report on the AADA annual meeting.

- Ms. Gardner shares that she, Ms. Einert, Mr. Bronoske Jr., and Ms. Barcena attended presentations which included digital imaging, ethics and dental AI technologies, dental workforce issues pertaining to current and future trends, and participated in roundtable discussions that included licensure of foreign trained dentists, universal licensure issues, and unlicensed practice.

11.3. CDCA-WREB-CITA (CWC) Annual Meeting held on September 26 & 27, 2024 – Dr. Sonia Pal will report on the CWC Annual Meeting.

- Dr. Pal shares about the topics discussed at the CWC meeting, which included the financial status of the organization, implementation efficiencies, the ADEX examination, and roundtables from various state boards.
- Dr. Pal shares that 47 states utilize this testing agency.

11.4. AADB Annual Meeting held on September 27 & 28 – Mac Rainey, Public Member, will report on the AADB Annual Meeting.

- Mr. Rainey shares that he, Catharine Roner-Reiter, and Chrishendra Tucker-Scuggs attended the AADB Annual Meeting, which included a presentation from the Washington Physicians Health Program.
- Mr. Rainey shares that AADB will be changing its name to the Federation of State Dental Boards.
- Mr. Rainey shares that there will soon be an alternative organization that will be competing with the National Practitioner Data Bank.
- Mr. Rainey suggests sending an attorney to the next AADB meeting.
- Dr. McDaniel, Ms. Crawford, Ms. Roner-Reiter, and Ms. Carter discuss personal data questions for health profession applicants and the legality of the language.

## **12. PROGRAM REPORT**

12.1. Staffing update.

- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that the new assistant program manager will be starting on November 1, 2024.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the Pediatric Sedation Endorsement application should be available around December 1, 2024.
- Ms. Gardner shares that Dr. Julia Richman has been appointed to a pro tem position to help process the Pediatric Sedation Endorsement applications.

## **13. OTHER**

13.1. Update from Heather Carter, AAG, regarding WAC 246-817-775, On-site inspections.

- Ms. Carter advises that the annual self-assessment in subsection (1) is required by all dentists, not just dentists who hold sedation permits.

- Ms. Carter shares that the approved organizations listed in subsection (4) can use their own on-site inspection forms.
- Ms. Carter advises that if a dentist is not using one of the approved organizations to perform the on-site inspection, then the appropriate DQAC on-site inspection form must be used.
- Ms. Carter suggests writing an FAQ to address this.

**14. WASHINGTON DENTAL COMMISSION**

14.1. The Commission will discuss the structure and authority of the Washington Dental Commission.

- Dr. Pal makes a recommendation to host a panel consisting of representatives from the Washington Medical Commission, Washington State Board of Nursing, and Chiropractor Quality Assurance Commission to learn how independent boards/commissions operate.
- Ms. Crawford shares that license fees will need to increase to support the cost of an independent commission, and it will require legislative action.
- Ms. Crawford shares that the Dental Commission had the opportunity to pilot an independent commission in 2009 but chose not to at that time due to the fee increases.
- There is a motion to approve having a panel present at the next business meeting.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

**15. FUTURE BUSINESS**

- No future business is discussed.

**16. ADJOURN**

- The meeting is adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

**Submitted by:**

Debbie Gardner, Program Manager  
Washington Dental Commission

on file

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Signature

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Date

**Approved by:**

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair  
Washington Dental Commission

on file

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Signature

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Date