



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

WASHINGTON DENTAL COMMISSION

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 17, 2025

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
Carolin Spice, Public Member
McKinley Rainey, Public Member
Miryam Nossa, EFDA
Evelyn Harry, EFDA
Rama Oskouian, DMD
Tiffany Bass, DDS
Erich Jurges, DDS
Samantha Kofler, DDS
Seung Yu, DDS
Ji Choi, DDS

STAFF PRESENT

Trina Crawford, Executive Director
Bruce Bronoske Jr., Dental Program
Administrator
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Kitty Einert, Program Manager
Cassandra Gerard, Administrative
Assistant
Lady Bah, Assistant Program Manager
Catharine Roner-Reiter, Supervising Staff
Attorney
Heather Carter, AAG
Mikala Lord, Policy Analyst

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION – 10:02 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.

- Dr. Yu and Dr. Choi introduce themselves to the Commission.

1.2. Public Comment.

- Dr. Swanson opens the floor for public comment.
- Dr. Victor Barry shares his approval of the Commission's unofficial name change and hopes to see it codified in statute soon.
- Dr. Barry encourages the Commission to consider passing a rule that would protect patients by requiring protective eyewear to be worn while patients are in the dental chair, including during exams.
- Dr. Barry shares the importance of having the new Healthcare Enforcement and Licensing Management System (HELMS), currently being implemented by the Department of Health, notify dental professionals immediately if their license has expired.

1.3. Approval of agenda.

- There is a motion to approve the agenda.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

1.4. Approval of December 6, 2024, business meeting minutes.

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

2. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** – The Commission will receive an update regarding the 2025 legislative session.

- Ms. Gardner shares that the 2025 legislative session began on Monday, January 13, 2025, and Dr. Yoon and Dr. Rama are the 2025 legislative liaisons.
- Ms. Gardner shares that program is currently following two bills.
- Senate Bill 5236 – Emission of greenhouse gases used for anesthetic purposes.
- Senate bill 5254 – Strengthening patient's rights regarding their healthcare information by promoting access to information and providing enforcement protections for the appropriate use of the information.
- Ms. Gardner shares that program will monitor these bills and bring any updates to the next business meeting.

3. **RULES UPDATE**

3.1. WAC 246-817-905 Exclusions

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-103 has been completed and is currently in the internal review process.
- Once completed and filed with the Code Reviser, the rule will take effect 31 days after it is filed.
- The adopted amendments will expand the types of patients who are exempt from opioid prescribing rules.

- 3.2. 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.
 - The Continuing Competency Committee met on December 11, 2024, to hold a rules workshop, and will continue working on draft rule language at the next committee meeting on March 5, 2025.
- 3.3. WAC 246-817-190 Dental assistant registration
 - Ms. Gardner shares that the CR -102 rule package is currently in the internal review process.
 - Once completed and published with the Code Reviser, a rules hearing will be held; it is tentatively scheduled for April 25, 2025.
- 3.4. WAC 246-817-773 Continuing education for dentists administering sedation
 - Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-21-038 on October 8, 2024.
 - A notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on October 18, 2024.
 - The Dental Anesthesia Committee will continue to work on draft rule language at the February 5, 2025, committee meeting.
- 3.5. WAC 246-814 Access to dental care for children
 - Ms. Einert shares that a CR-101 rule package is currently in the internal review process for WAC 246-814-020.
 - Once the CR-101 is completed and filed with the Code Reviser, the Dental Collaboration Committee will begin working on rule language.
- 3.6. Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact
 - Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-21-097 on October 17, 2024.
 - A notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on October 22, 2024.
 - This has already been assigned to the Dental Collaboration Committee.
- 3.7. WAC 246-817-195 Licensure requirements for Expanded Function Dental Auxiliaries (EFDAs)
 - Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 25-03-075 on January 14, 2025.
 - A notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on January 16, 2025.
 - This has already been assigned to the EFDA Committee.

4. DENTAL THERAPY COMMITTEE – Committee meeting held on January 15, 2025 – Dr. Bryan Swanson, Chair

- Dr. Swanson shares that the Commission’s role is to approve dental therapy examinations, establish licensure requirements, and provide consultative support to the Secretary of Health, who has rule making authority over dental therapy rules.

- Dr. Swanson shares that the Dental Therapy Committee is unanimous in concluding that there should be a component of local anesthetic included in the dental therapy examination, but the committee is split regarding the clinical component.
- Dr. Swanson shares that interested parties provided comments to the committee regarding the local anesthetic examination components.
- Dr. Swanson opens discussion with the Commission regarding the local anesthetic components of the dental therapy examination.
- The Commission discusses the written and clinical components of the local anesthetic portion of the dental therapy examination.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. provides the Commission with an overview of the dental and dental hygiene examinations; dental examinations do not have a local anesthetic component and dental hygiene examinations have the written and clinical component.
- Dr. Mark Edwards with Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) provides the Commission with local anesthetic examination pass rate statistics and discusses patient-based versus simulated examinations.
- Dr. Cheyanne Warren, Dental Therapy Program Director, Skagit Valley College, explains the local anesthetic dental therapy program requirements and answers questions about the dental therapy program curriculum.
- Dr. Rachel Hogan, Dental Director, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, explains the competency-based local anesthetic education at Skagit Valley College and shares her concerns with using live patients for examinations, and answers questions from the Commission.
- Dr. Barry shares that he is in opposition to using live patients for competency-based examinations.
- Heather Anderson, Dental Hygiene Faculty, Eastern Washington University, shares her experiences teaching local anesthetic to dental hygiene students and is in opposition to using live patients for the clinical local anesthetic examination, but strongly supports a written local anesthetic examination.

4.1. The Commission may vote to approve written and clinical dental therapy examinations.

- There is a motion to approve the CRDTS and CDCA-WREB-CITA dental therapy examinations with the previously reviewed four components and only the written local anesthesia component.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A rollcall vote is taken and passes with 15 commissioners in favor. One commissioner does not vote.

5. CONTINUING COMPETENCY COMMITTEE – Committee meeting held on December 11, 2024 – Dr. Cheon Joo Yoon, Chair

- Dr. Yoon shares that the Continuing Competency Committee is currently working on draft rule language for WAC 246-817-135 and 246-817-160.
- Dr. Yoon encourages any interested commissioners to join the committee.

6. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Committee meeting held on December 16, 2024 – Marlyne Fulton, Public Member, Chair

- Ms. Fulton shares that the Educational Outreach Committee reviewed and approved an article for the next Washington State Dental Association Magazine and reviewed articles for the next Dental Newsletter.
- Ms. Fulton extends an invitation to the new commissioners to consider joining the Educational Outreach Committee.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the next committee meeting will be held on February 20, 2025.

7. DENTAL ANESTHESIA COMMITTEE – Committee meeting held on December 18, 2024 – Dr. Bryan Swanson, Chair

- Dr. Swanson shares that the Dental Anesthesia Committee is working on clarifying sedation continuing education requirements.

8. WASHINGTON STATE DENTAL ASSOCIATION (WSDA)

8.1. Correspondence from WSDA.

- Ms. Gardner shares that WSDA sent the Commission a request on December 30, 2024, asking to extend the Pediatric Sedation Endorsement effective date by one month.
- Ms. Gardner shares that there will not be an online version of the application prior to HELMS being fully implemented.
- Ms. Carter shares the history and timeline of the Pediatric Sedation Endorsement rule and explains how the Policy Statement could address this request, and suggests extending the effective date to February 28, 2025, to accommodate the HELMS credentialing freeze that will occur mid-February.

8.2. The Commission may vote to respond to WSDA request.

- There is a motion to adopt the Policy Statement, extending the effective date of the Pediatric Sedation Endorsement to February 28, 2025.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.
- Dr. Swanson shares that the vote is the Commission's response to WSDA's correspondence.
- Trish Flaig with WSDA thanks the Commission for the extension.

9. SEATTLE-KING COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY & FOUNDATION (SKCDS)

9.1. Correspondence from Tarah Hedman, Executive Director, SKCDS.

- Ms. Gardner shares that Ms. Hedman contacted the Commission to inquire about having the Commission present to SKCDS.
- Ms. Hedman discusses this opportunity with the Commission and offers various dates for the presentation.

9.2. The Commission may vote to approve commissioner(s) to present at SKCDS.

- Dr. Yu, Dr. Swanson, and Dr. Pal volunteer to present to SKCDS.

- There is a motion to approve Dr. Yu, Dr. Swanson, and Dr. Pal to present to SKCDS and coordinate a date with Ms. Hedman.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

10. PROGRAM REPORT

10.1. Aesthetics Interagency Taskforce update.

- Ms. Gardner shares that the Aesthetics Interagency Taskforce met on January 17, 2025, to discuss an infection control checklist and interdisciplinary medical spa matrix.
- Ms. Gardner shares that Dr. Carsten was present at the meeting and will update the Commission at the March 7, 2025, business meeting.

10.2. April 2025 retreat and business meeting update.

- The Commission may vote to approve a new retreat and business meeting location.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the Governor implemented a travel freeze and staff cannot travel, so the April 2025 retreat will not be able to be held in Spokane.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the retreat will need to be fully virtual since it is not considered essential business.
- Dr. Swanson asks for stakeholder feedback. No feedback is received.
- The Commission discusses delaying the retreat.
- The Commission discusses various options for the 2025 March and April business meetings.
- There is a motion to hold the 2025 March and April business meetings in-person in Olympia.
- The motion is not seconded.
- There is a motion to hold the 2025 April business meeting in-person in Olympia instead of Spokane.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.
- There is a motion to cancel the 2025 April retreat.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and passes with 16 commissioners in favor.

10.3. 2025 Inland Northwest Dental Conference presentation update.

- Ms. Gardner shares that due to the Governor's travel freeze directive, she contacted Lacy McCormick with the Spokane Dental Society to cancel the Commission's presentation at the INDC conference.

10.4. Active committee list.

- Ms. Gardner shares the updated active committee list and encourages committee participation from commissioners.

10.5. Jurisprudence examination.

- Ms. Bah shares that the jurisprudence examinations will need to be updated to accommodate the HELMS system.
- 10.6. The Commission may vote to approve FAQs.
- Ms. Gardner asks the Commission to approve FAQs pertaining to dental assistant vocation and educational programs and on-site inspections.
 - There is a motion to approve the FAQs as presented.
 - The motion is moved and seconded.
 - A vote is taken and unanimously passes.
- 10.7. The Commission may vote to approve PowerPoint presentation.
- Ms. Gardner asks the Commission to approve the updated PowerPoint presentation.
 - If the Commission approves all sections as presented, any commissioner who participates in outreach opportunities can use any of the sections in their presentations.
 - There is a motion to approve the PowerPoint presentation as presented.
 - The motion is moved and seconded.
 - A vote is taken and unanimously passes.
- 10.8. Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)/Providence St. Peter Hospital General Practice Residency update.
- Ms. Gardner announces that the Commission received notification from CODA that the Providence St. Peter Hospital General Practice Residency will close following the graduation of its last class on June 30, 2025.
 - CODA will monitor the program and affirm the planned voluntary discontinuance of the program's accreditation at its August 2025 meeting.
- 10.9. 2025 CODA site visit update.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the 2025 Swedish Medical Center – Dental Department CODA site visit will take place in September 2025.
 - Dr. McDaniel and Dr. Sharoff were submitted as the Commission's representatives.

11. FUTURE BUSINESS

- No future business is discussed.

12. ADJOURN

- The meeting is adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Submitted by:

Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Washington Dental Commission

on file

Signature

Date

Approved by:

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Washington Dental Commission

on file

Signature

Date