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**STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS,  
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL LICENSING  
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

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**MINUTES OF MEETING  
July 30, 2018**

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These minutes were prepared by the staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing. They have been reviewed and approved by the Board.

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By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.36.040 and in compliance with the provisions of Article 6 of AS 44.62, a meeting of the Board of Dental Examiners was held July 30, 2018, by teleconference.

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Dr. Silveira, the board Chair, was unavailable for the meeting and the acting Vice Chair, Dr. David Nielson, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

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**Roll Call**

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Those present, constituting a quorum of the board, were:

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Dr. David Nielson, Vice President – Anchorage  
Dr. Dominic Wenzell – Girdwood  
Ms. Robin Wahto - Anchorage  
Dr. Thomas Kovaleski – Chugiak  
Ms. Paula Ross - Anchorage

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In attendance from the Division of Corporations, Business & Professional Licensing, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development were:

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Ms. Amber Treston, Licensing Examiner – Juneau  
Ms. Sher Zinn, Regulation Specialist II - Juneau

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**Agenda Item 1 – Review of Agenda**

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Discussed the main points that needed to be accomplished at today's meeting. New sedation regulations changes to clarifying continuing education requirements for pediatric patients to be sent out for public comment. The changes that were put out for public comment recently such as licensure by examination and the opioid continuing education requirements along with temporary license regulations.

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The board questions why the exam equivalent to WREB for dental hygienist is placed on the agenda. Treston explains that the new regulations going into effect currently

47 state that a dentist can take a WREB or an equivalent exam and hygienists have been  
48 calling in asking if this new regulation will apply to them as well. Nielson recommends  
49 leaving it on the agenda for today.

50  
51 Dr. Kovaleski brings up another point for discussion today. He wants to know why when  
52 the examiner is out of the office who can help process applications. He explains that he  
53 has been getting phone calls about applicants waiting for their license to be processed.  
54 With new graduates and a high volume of applications coming in he wants to have  
55 someone to help process applications in the examiners absence. Zinn explains that the  
56 division has several vacancies at the moment and there is not anyone currently trained  
57 to step in for the dental board. Typically a supervisor would take on the work load and  
58 process applications while the examiner is out of the office. However, there is a new  
59 supervisor who has a large workload of training new employees along with recruiting for  
60 a new examiner to take over her previous position. The goal of the division is to have a  
61 full staff and to cross train so examiners can be absent and not return to the office with  
62 a high volume of applications, voicemails and emails. However, currently that is not the  
63 case and they are working hard to fill positions and train new staff. Zinn also explains  
64 that there is a high turnover and it has been difficult to keep examiners in these  
65 positions. Although there have been a few applicants who have not been licensed as  
66 quick as they had hoped she explains that with Treston back in the office she believes  
67 Treston can get applications processed quickly and Zinn is sure things will get caught  
68 up in a few days.

69  
70 Dr. Nielson agrees that Treston is quick with processing applications and questions if  
71 the window for voting has to be 10 days for board members as this adds more time to  
72 processing. Zinn explains that the office policy is to allow the board 10 business days to  
73 review and vote on an application. If there is a quorum or majority of votes prior to the  
74 10 days they still need to allow the full 10 days before closing the voting period in the  
75 event that a board members elects to table or deny an application at which point that  
76 applicant would have to wait until a board meeting to be discussed with the board  
77 members. Zinn encourages that all board members be diligent at reviewing applications  
78 and not put them off until the last day.

79  
80 **Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment**

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82 Dr. Nielson asks if anyone will be calling in for public comment. Treston explained that  
83 one professional was going to be calling about the moderate sedation permit as she had  
84 given him the call in number and access code.

85  
86 No public comment was made.

87  
88 **Agenda Item 3 – Regulation Review**

89  
90 Dr. Nielson starts the discussing in relation to the moderate sedation permit holders for  
91 patients younger than 13 years of age for continuing education at the time of renewal.  
92 The draft was worked on with AAG Weigand, Dr. Wenzell and Dr. Nielson. There is an

93 addition that was proposed for 12 AAC 28.015 (j) which would address the problem with  
94 the previous draft that was allowing parenteral sedation holders to sedate pediatric  
95 patients without any additional training. This proposed regulation would be more specific  
96 and require moderate sedation holders to take additional training to receive a pediatric  
97 endorsement on their moderate sedation permit.  
98

99 The intent of the board is to require an initial moderate sedation applicant who intends  
100 to sedate only patients over the age of 13 to complete 60 hours of continuing education  
101 in adult sedations along with 20 individually managed sedation cases on patients over  
102 the age of 13. An initial moderate sedation applicant who intends to sedate only  
103 pediatric patients under the age of 13 will be required to complete 60 hours of  
104 continuing education in pediatric sedation along with 20 individually managed pediatric  
105 sedation cases under the age of 13. If the applicant for a moderate sedation permit  
106 intends to sedate patients of all ages the applicant will be required to complete 60 hours  
107 of continuing education in adult sedations and an additional 30 hours of continuing  
108 education in pediatric sedations along with 20 individually managed adult sedation  
109 cases and 20 individually managed pediatric sedation cases under the age of 13. If any  
110 current moderate sedation holders want to receive a pediatric endorsement they will  
111 have to take an additional 30 hours of continuing education in pediatric sedation along  
112 with the 20 individually managed pediatric sedation cases starting at the 2/28/19  
113 renewal period.  
114

115 Discussion of having pediatric patients monitored with all the vital sign monitors was  
116 initially put into regulation for deep and general sedation permit holders. The intent is for  
117 deep and general sedation to be hooked up to all monitors throughout the procedure  
118 regardless of a patient's age. Patients receiving moderate sedation under the age of 13  
119 would be required to be fully monitored unless their behavior prevents it.  
120

121 Zinn asks if the board can wait for this portion to be placed on the August 24<sup>th</sup> board  
122 meeting to be sent out for public comment. The board requests that this be sent out for  
123 public comment for all sedation permit holders sooner rather than later.  
124

#### 125 **Agenda Item 4 – Temporary License**

126

127 Dr. Nielson asks when the temporary license regulation needs to be completed and  
128 Zinn states the deadline is January 1, 2019. The board has not reviewed this regulation  
129 at this time and will plan to have Dr. Nielson and Dr. Wenzell review this regulation and  
130 develop the wording for the new regulation and vote on it at the August 24, 2018 board  
131 meeting. Wahto asks if the temporary license is going to be considered for hygienists as  
132 well. The board determines it is primarily for specialist or remote areas where there are  
133 no other options of treatment and it would not apply to hygienists.  
134

#### 135 **Agenda Item 5 – Currently Proposed Regulations**

136

137 Discussed the drafted regulations that were sent out for public comment regarding the  
138 initial licensure changes and opioid continuing education changes. Dr. Nielson asks if

139 there were any written comments regarding these regulations. There was one written  
140 comment regarding the radiologic equipment inspections. Dr. Nielson states that AAG  
141 Weigand suggested at a previous work group that the board could define what they  
142 would accept as an inspection but do not have the authority to determine what the  
143 qualifications for an inspector are. Will plan to discuss a strategy to catch up with the  
144 radiologic equipment registration and develop a work around for this regulation.

145  
146 Discussed the public comment that was sent in regarding the opioid continuing  
147 education requirements and Zinn had responded to the comments and helped answer  
148 those questions for the board.

149  
150 No public comments were made regarding new licensure requirements by examination.

151  
152 Zinn makes a suggestion to the board to consider changing the wording from 'has' to  
153 'holds' in 12 AAC 28.953 to be consistent with the current regulations. No objections  
154 were made.

155  
156 Kovaleski brings up the exam criteria and asks if the board feels that having the  
157 amalgam in the regulations will limit dentists from coming to Alaska. The board does not  
158 feel that will prevent dentists from coming up to practice in Alaska. The board requests  
159 to place this on the agenda for the August 24, 2018 board meeting to discuss further.

160  
161 **On a motion made by Dr. Nielson, seconded by Ross, and approved by roll call**  
162 **vote, it was**

163  
164 **RESOLVED to adopt the regulation project that was sent out for public**  
165 **comment regarding continuing education requirements for opioid**  
166 **prescriptions and for initial licensure exam requirements with the**  
167 **exception of changing the word 'has' to 'holds' in 12 AAC 28.953.**

168  
169 **Nielson – yea, Kovaleski – yea, Wahto – yea, Wenzell – yea, Ross - yea**  
170 **5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.**

171  
172 **Agenda Item 6 – Hygienist allowed to take WREB equivalent exams**

173  
174 Dr. Nielson starts the discussion on the WREB exams to qualify for a dental hygiene  
175 license and believes they could adopt similar language for the hygienist to apply by a  
176 WREB exam or equivalent. Ross explains that she was viewing the WREB website and  
177 recommends rewording 12 AAC 28.935 to include a list of subject areas that would be  
178 required to be taken if the applicant takes a similar examination to WREB. Ross and  
179 Walden will work on this regulation and anticipate having it ready for the August 24,  
180 2018 board meeting.

181  
182 Kovaleski asks about the new jurisprudence exam that was developed. Treston looked  
183 at the board ballot and determined that there was a majority and the new jurisprudence  
184 examination will now be sent to all new applicants.

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Zinn brings up the FAQ page that needs to be filled out at board meeting regarding new regulation projects and the purpose of this form will be to assist in developing an FAQ page that goes out for public comment so that the public understands what is entailed in that regulation project. Zinn explains that a few years ago the legislature had changed the law that allowed for public comment along with the public to ask questions. The FAQ page will be referred to by the division to fully understand what the intent of the board is for the proposed regulation. Once a regulation goes out for public comment the division is unable to ask the board to answer the questions they receive. The intent of the form is to assist the division when answering questions coming in during the 30 day public comment period. This form will then be placed on the dental board website to help answer questions before they call in about the regulations currently out for public comment. Dr. Nielson volunteers to complete this FAQ form for today's meeting.

**Agenda Item 7 – Adjourn**

Tasks for the board staff to complete for the August 24, 2018 board meeting:

- 1.) Dental hygiene examination by WREB or an equivalent by Ross and Walden
- 2.) Amalgam testing in the examination for a dentist discussion
- 3.) Temporary license regulation to be worked on by Dr. Nielson and Dr. Wenzell

Ross thanks Treston for all her hard work and the rate that she is processing applications.

The board adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Amber Treston  
Occupational Licensing Examiner

Approved:



David Nielson, DDS, Vice President

Date: Sept. 13, 2018