



DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
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**JOINT MEETING OF THE DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
AND THE DENTAL ASSISTING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

AUGUST 10, 2017

Crowne Plaza
1177 Airport Boulevard
Burlingame, CA 94010

Members Present:

Dental Board of California Members:

Bruce L. Witcher, DDS, President
Thomas Stewart, DDS, Vice President
Yvette Chappell-Ingram, Public Member,
Secretary
Fran Burton, MSW, Public Member
Steven Chan, DDS
Judith Forsythe, RDA
Kathleen King, Public Member
Ross Lai, DDS
Huong Le, DDS, MA
Abigail Medina, Public Member
Steven Morrow, DDS, MS

Dental Assisting Council Members:

Anne Contreras, RDA, Vice Chair
Pamela Davis-Washington, RDA
Jennifer Rodriguez, RDAEF
Judith Forsythe, RDA
Ross Lai, DDS

Staff Present:

Karen M. Fischer, MPA, Executive Officer
Sarah Wallace, Assistant Executive Officer
Carlos Alvarez, Enforcement Chief
Ryan Blonien, Supervising Investigator I
Bernal Vaba, Staff Services Manager I
Jocelyn Campos, Associate Governmental Program Analyst
Zachary Raske, Associate Governmental Program Analyst
Allison Viramontes, Associate Governmental Program Analyst
Jeri Westerfeld, Executive Assistant

Members Absent:

Dental Board of California Members:

Meredith McKenzie, Public Member

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum

A joint meeting of the Dental Board of California (Board) and the Dental Assisting Council (Council) was called to order by Dr. Bruce Witcher at 10:28 am on Thursday, August 10, 2017. Yvette Chappell-Ingram called the Board member roll and a quorum was established. Anne Contreras called the Council member roll and a quorum was established.

Agenda Item 2: Approval of the May 11, 2017 Joint Meeting of the Dental Board of California and the Dental Assisting Council Meeting Minutes

M/S (Forsythe/Contreras) to approve the May 11, 2016 minutes.

Board/Council Member:	Aye:	Nay:	Abstain:	Absent:	Recusal:
Chappell-Ingram	X				
Burton	X				
Chan	X				
Forsythe					
King	X				
Lai					
Le	X				
Medina	X				
McKenzie				X	
Morrow	X				
Stewart	X				
Witcher	X				
Contreras	X				
Davis-Washington	X				
Rodriguez	X				
Forsythe	X				
Lai	X				

The motion passed and the minutes were accepted unanimously.

Agenda Item 3: Update on Dental Assisting Program and Course Applications

Ms. Wallace provided program and course evaluation statistics and reported that staff have received and approved eleven (11) program and course applications and conducted one (1) full site evaluation. She reported that the Orthodontic Assistant and Extended Functions program applications seem to be gaining momentum.

Ms. Wallace reported that she is working with staff on a plan to ramp up the Board's evaluation program and add more subject matter expert's (SME) to the current pool. Also, that staff would be conducting training in the next few months, on program and course curriculum review and site evaluations.

Ms. Forsythe expressed concern that the number of applications being submitted seemed light and requested that staff do a year to year comparison of number of applications received in order to see if there is a trend.

Agenda Item 4: Update on Dental Assisting Examination Statistics

Ms. Wallace provided Dental Assisting Examination Statistics for the past year.

Dr. Morrow expressed concern regarding the results of the written examination pass rate and that schools with less than fifty percent pass rate are not providing a quality education, in his opinion. He suggested that we look at this examination as a possible barrier to the dental assisting profession.

Dr. Le wanted to know where the PSI testing facilities were located and Ms. Wallace stated that she would provide a list of the PSI testing locations to the Board.

Dr. Stewart asked if staff has met with the educational community to try and find a solution to increase the pass rate. Ms. Fischer suggested that this item be agendaized for discussion at a future meeting. Ms. Forsythe and Dr. Stewart agreed.

Ms. Wallace reported that staff will look into whether or not schools are required to post their examination statistics on their websites and that we are hoping to build a better relationship with the Bureau of Private Post-Secondary Education in the future, so that we can work closer together on these types of matters.

Ms. Wallace reported that staff is developing regulations to strengthen the enforcement aspect of the program and course process.

Ms. Fischer suggested that the Board may want to focus on how much authority the Board may have in order to work with schools that do not have a high pass rate.

Dr. Morrow asked what criteria the Board is using to re-evaluate the programs when they come up for re-approval every seven years and whether it includes an outcomes assessment. Dr. Whitcher suggested that we come back to that topic at a later time.

Agenda Item 5: Update on Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics

Ms. Wallace provided the Dental Assistant Licensing Statistics and pointed out that staff is continuing to work with the Breeze team to work out the error in the varying reports.

Ms. Contreras wanted information on the delinquency trend with dental assistants and suggested that the doctors should check the status of their dental assistant's licenses regularly to see if this will help decrease the number of delinquent licenses.

Ms. Forsythe suggested that the Board try to make a better attempt to clarify the difference between Active and Inactive license status in an effort to reduce the number of licenses that are delinquent.

Ms. Wallace explained that the hope is to eventually have the ability to pull a report in Breeze that shows an aging of license status (i.e. 0-30 day's delinquent, etc.).

Ms. Medina requested that we bring the issue of dental assistants and registered dental assistants performing duties out of their scope of practice to a future meeting.

Agenda Item 6: Discussion and Possible Action regarding Assembly Bill 1707 (Low) Registered Dental Assistant Practical Examination

Ms. Viramontes gave an overview of the information provided. Ms. Wallace gave an overview of the impact this bill has had on board staff and the plan moving forward.

Agenda Item 7: Discussion and Possible Action regarding alternative method to measure Registered Dental Assistant competency for licensure as presented by Office of Professional Examination Services

Dr. Heidi Lincer, Chief of OPES and Dr. Tracy Montez, Chief of the Division on Policy Review for DCA, provided a PowerPoint presentation on their report regarding an alternative method to measure Registered Dental Assistant competency for licensure.

M/S (Burton/Le) to accept the OPES recommendation to eliminate the practical examination and develop a subcommittee to pursue an alternative process to measure competency for Registered Dental Assistants. s/Dr. Le.

Board/Council Member:	Aye:	Nay:	Abstain:	Absent:	Recusal:
Chappell-Ingram	X				
Burton	X				
Chan	X				
Forsythe					
King	X				
Lai					
Le	X				
Medina		X			
McKenzie				X	
Morrow	X				
Stewart		X			
Whitcher	X				
Contreras	X				
Davis-Washington	X				
Rodriguez	X				
Forsythe	X				
Lai		X			

The motion passed 11-3.

Agenda Item 8: Update regarding the Combining of the Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) Law and Ethics and General Written Examinations

Ms. Wallace gave an overview of the information provided.

Agenda Item 9: Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

None.

Agenda Item 10: Future Agenda Items
None.

Agenda Item 11: Board and Council Member Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
None.

Agenda Item 12: Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.