

GEORGIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY
2 MLK Jr. Drive, SE, 11th Floor, East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334
January 10, 2025 – Board Meeting Minutes

The following Board members were present:

Dr. Michael Knight, President
Dr. Greg Goggans
Dr. Lacey Green
Dr. Glenn Maron
Ms. Misty Mattingly
Dr. Larry Miles
Dr. Ami Patel
Dr. David Reznik
Ms. Lisa Selfe
Dr. Lisa Shilman
Dr. Brent Stiehl
Dr. JC Shirley
Dr. Debra Wilson
Dr. Nancy Young

Staff present:

J. Clinton Joiner, II, Executive Director
Tommy McNulty, Sr. Assistant Attorney General
Stacy Altman, Deputy Director – Investigations
Itovia Evans, Deputy Director – Licensing
Angela C. Johnson – Board Administrative Support
Kimberly Holland, Compliance and Investigations

Visitors:

Dr. Brad Hall
Dr. Michael Pruett
Dr. Tom McDonald
Tatiyana Matthews

Jerry Cooper, Promethean Dental Systems
Kellie Thimmes
Cynthia Hughes
Jon Hoin, GDA

In total, the number of members of the public present is estimated to be approximately 15 persons. No sign-in sheet was circulated at this meeting.

Open Session

Dr. Knight established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Introduction of Visitors

Dr. Knight welcomed the visitors and asked that they introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Maron made a motion to approve the Public and Executive Session minutes from the December 6, 2024, meeting. Ms. Mattingly seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Report of Licenses Issued

Dr. Maron made a motion to ratify the list of licenses issued. Dr. Wilson seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Petitions for Rule Waiver or Variance

No requests were reviewed.

Correspondence

Email from Michelle Walker with Lincoln Memorial University College of Dental Medicine:

The Board discussed this correspondence regarding Lincoln Memorial University College of Dental Medicine D4 students coming to work in Georgia to help address the shortage of dental care in rural areas and to benefit the student's education. The students would work under the direct supervision

of a Georgia licensed dentist. The program already has agreements with Kentucky, Alabama and Ohio and would like to extend to Georgia. Dr. Knight asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or concerns.

The Board had discussion on the liability of the proposal, possible Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) and accreditation issues. Dr. Maron expressed concern regarding what procedures the D4 students would be allowed to perform in private practices. Dr. Young advised that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would need to be established with parameters. The Board had further discussion and determined that additional information is needed.

Dr. Maron made a motion to table the discussion until more information can be provided on what a possible collaboration would involve. Dr. Shirley seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion to table this discussion and requested that the Board staff reach out to Ms. Walker or a representative of the Lincoln Memorial University College of Dental Medicine to appear to discuss the proposal further.

Correspondence from John Buchanan with Remote Area Medical Volunteer Corps:

The Board discussed this correspondence seeking guidance as to whether or not Dental Assistant Kaitlyn Thomas, who is licensed by the Florida State Board of Dentistry to perform radiography, would be allowed to perform radiology in Georgia while being under a Georgia licensed Dentist. Dr. Knight asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or concerns.

The Board discussed the appropriate training in Georgia and determined that since the dental assistant would be under the supervision of an individual who is authorized in the State of Georgia that someone who received the appropriate level of training would be allowed to take the x-rays even if the training occurred in another state. Since Georgia only requires a six (6) hour training course and Florida requires eight (8) hours of training that Ms. Thomas' training meets the requirements for Georgia.

Ms. Mattingly made a motion to approve the request. Dr. Schultz seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion.

General – Dr. Michael Knight

Dr. Knight had no report.

Internal Committee Reports

Infection Control Committee – Dr. David Reznik, Dr. JC Shirley, Dr. Nancy Young, Dr. Debra Wilson, Ms. Lisa Selfe, RDH

Dr. Reznik advised that the discussion on the new dental unit water quality rule had to be postponed this month due to the winter weather and will be discussed at a later date. He reported that he is getting a lot of support for this new rule.

External Committee Reports

Electronic Database Review Advisory Committee (PDMP) Report – Dr. Lisa Shilman

No Report.

CRDTS Steering Committee Report – Dr. Brent Stiehl

Dr. Stiehl reported that there is a meeting in Kansas City at end of month and he will be attending.

CRDTS Examination Committee Report - Dr. Ami Patel

No Report.

Dental College of Georgia Liaison Report – Dr. Michael Knight

Dr. Knight had nothing to report but wanted to thank Dr. Young and the Dental College for hosting last month's meeting and providing dinner and the opportunity for the students and the Board to connect.

CDCA-WREB-CITA Steering Committee Report – Dr. Ami Patel, Dr. JC Shirley, Ms. Misty Mattingly, RDH

Ms. Mattingly reported that she participated in an exam at Concorde College.

GDHEA Liaison Report – Dr. David Reznik, Ms. Lisa Selfe, RDH

Ms. Selfe mentioned that she was still getting questions regarding the dentist to student ratio for training on local anesthesia. She requested status on when a clarifying statement would be sent out from the Board to the schools. This issue was brought up in the October Board meeting and the Board advised that for local anesthesia education the schools must adhere to the local anesthesia rules applying the 1:5 ratio of direct supervision of a dentist licensed in this state and that the schools must follow the CODA guidelines. Director Joiner advised that he investigate the issue.

Attorney General's Report – Mr. Tommy McNulty

No Report.

Executive Director's Report – Director J. Clinton Joiner, II

No Report.

Legal Services – Director J. Clinton Joiner, II

No Report.

Miscellaneous

Request for Approval for Intravenous Moderate Sedation Course/ Molar Air Continuing Education – Dr. Michael Pruett & Dr. Brad Hall

The Board discussed this request for approval of an IV Sedation program offered by Dr. Pruett and Dr. Hall. Dr. Knight asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or concerns.

Dr. Shirley advised that since the last meeting he was able to review the letter from Dr. Pruett regarding the program and its CODA status. Dr. Shirley advised that he has looked into the conflicting information on this issue and thinks that the best way to approach this is to review this request for the sedation course without having the approval of CODA and have the Board provide feedback on the course while the course is pending CODA accreditation.

Dr. Hall commented that he, like Dr. Pruett and Dr. McDonald, wanted to discuss the concerns over the program not being accredited and wanted to explain and clarify where they are with the program and what they are asking the Board to approve. Dr. Hall explained that they were advised that CODA allows for two (2) possible paths for accrediting an advanced general dental program. One path involved getting accreditation prior to enrolling students, and the second path involved starting a program and then having it accredited. The faculty and advanced education office at Piedmont/ Athens Regional hospital were supportive of the proposed course and chose path two. He added that the program is underway with the process of getting CODA accreditation and that they hope to have the process completed soon. He advised that at no time was it ever suggested that this program was an accredited program yet. He and Dr. Pruett have been through the process of having courses accredited in the past. The intention is to build a solid program.

Dr. Knight asked Dr. Hall to give a brief outline of what they do. Dr. Hall discussed the need for clinical/hands-on training and training on how to make real-time responses to commonly occurring anesthetic and non-anesthetic office emergency scenarios. He explained that he, like many others, are seeing a decline in clinical excellence, leadership, engagement, and stewardship. The goal of the program is to promote the highest standards of care while safeguarding both the patient and practitioners.

Dr. Maron asked if the residents were employed by Piedmont and if they had hospital privileges. Dr. Hall confirmed that residents are house staff that have hospital privileges and advised that the residents do not go into the OR without an attending. Dr. Maron asked who bills for services rendered. Dr. Maron was asked to clarify if he was referring to venue or provider. Dr. Maron asked if the residents were licensed in the State of Georgia. It was confirmed that they are licensed in Georgia and that the billing goes through the attending. Dr. Maron raised concern about how the program is being billed. He was advised by Dr. Hall that the attending and the resident both participate in the case. He commented that there are no financial incentives and that the funds go back into the program. Dr. Hall stated that this is how Piedmont told them to handle the billing.

Dr. Knight recognized Dr. McDonald for comment. Dr. McDonald spoke briefly about his background in teaching and why he enjoys teaching. He stated that he wanted to comment on the negative things that have been said about the program that he, Dr. Pruett and Dr. Hall are assembling. He advised that he does not have to do this but wants to teach and give back to the profession. He stated that he does not teach for financial incentive but rather as a way to support the graduates. He commented that he sees great potential in the graduates and hopes that the professionalism of his colleagues, Dr. Hall and Dr. Pruett, rubs off on the graduates so that they become future leaders like Dr. Hall and Dr. Pruett. He added that Dr. Hall and Dr. Pruett were his former students and that he was proud of them.

Dr. Goggans stated that in the last twelve (12) years the quality of dentistry has gone down in the country. He is concerned about the hundreds of complaints that are being received. He commented that since it is the duty of the Board to protect the citizens of the state, that the Board should not be putting up barriers and should encourage programs such as this one. He stated that he believes that Dr. Hall, Dr. Pruett and Dr. McDonald are three (3) of the greatest practitioners in the state of Georgia. He feels that they are great teachers, and he commends them for their willingness to give their time and effort to bring up the younger graduates. He added that one of the students accepted into this program is a young lady, from Pearson Georgia, that was mentored by his wife. He advised that this student wants to go back to Pearson Georgia to practice because there is a need for a dentist in that area of South Georgia.

Dr. Pruett commented that he wanted to add that he and his colleagues are trying to do the right thing and help the profession by adding this program for the graduates. He stated that for him this is a labor of love and that he flies to Athens a couple of times and week that he is not getting any compensation.

Dr. Reznik asked Dr. Pruett about the CODA status of the program. Dr. Pruett advised the status with CODA is pending and that the initial application was submitted and that they have requested advice from CODA on how to proceed. Dr. Pruett explained that when they contacted CODA they were given the two paths on how they could proceed. Dr. Reznik thanked Dr. Pruett for the explanation and advised that his nephew was one of Dr. Pruett's former students.

Dr. Stiehl made a motion to approve the program. Dr. Goggans seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion to approve the certificate program.

Request for Approval of Georgia Denal Diode Laser Course – Ms. Suzanne Newkirk

The Board had discussion about Ms. Newkirk's proposed dental diode laser course. Dr. Knight asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or concerns.

Ms. Mattingly commented that she reviewed the proposed syllabus and that it was consistent with other programs and that she recommends approval. Dr. Wilson agreed with Ms. Mattingly in recommending approval.

Ms. Mattingly made a motion to approve the course syllabus. Dr. Wilson seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion to approve the course.

Discussion

Dr. Reznik advised that he was appointed to the Georgia Dental Advisory Subcommittee on Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation commission. He explained that the subcommittee is trying to identify the core problems that prevents some developmentally disabled individuals from obtaining dental care.

The subcommittee is looking at different ways to provide access to dental care. They are looking at North Carolina's Access Dental Care model and how they have a unique mobile delivery system that gets the needed equipment where it is needed. The subcommittee is also looking at possibilities for tele-dentistry limited to public health centers.

Dr. Stiehl made a motion and Dr. Reznik seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19(h), § 43-11-47(h), § 43-1-2(h) and § 50-14-3(b)(2). Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Dr. Michael Knight, Dr. Greg Goggans, Dr. Lacey Green, Dr. Glenn Maron, Ms. Misty Mattingly, Dr. Larry Miles, Dr. David Reznik, Ms. Lisa Selfe, Dr. Lisa Shilman, Dr. Brent Stiehl, Dr. Debra Wilson and Dr. Nancy Young.

Executive Session

Appearances: None

LOC Recommendations (Meeting Postponed)

Applications

J.C.	J.J.	W.S.	K.C.	M.A.
A.V.	L.D.	R.C.	D.O.	E.F.
N.W.	C.H.	A.N.	A.M.L.	C.H.
C.L.T.	M.T.	N.S.W.	T.G.A.	

Correspondence: None.

Investigative Committee's Referral Case List:

DENT200280	DENT250178	DENT250180	DENT250202
DENT250215	DENT250291	DENT240003	DENT240006
DENT240007	DENT240011	DENT250136	

Attorney General's Report – Mr. Tommy McNulty

- P.T. – OSAH Hearing December 16, 2024.

- K.G.P. OSAH Hearing continued until February 18, 2025
- P.B.K. (Revocation)
- S.S. (Suspension, failure to comply with Investigation)
- T.R. – Matters Asserted
- S.M. (Suspension, failure to comply with OMPE)
- M.P. (Revocation)
- A.G. (Revocation)
- D.J. (Private Consent Order)
- J.T. (Consent Order)

Executive Director Report – Mr. Clint Joiner

No Report.

Legal Services – Mr. Clint Joiner

No Report.

Open Session

Dr. Reznik made a motion to approve all recommendations based on deliberations made in Executive Session as follows:

Applications

J.C.	Parenteral Conscious Sedation	Schedule appearance with Sedation Committee
J.J.	Conscious Sedation Extension Request	Approved
W.S.	General Anesthesia – additional location application	Schedule appearance with Sedation Committee
K.C.	Conscious Sedation Evaluation	Approved
M.A.	General Anesthesia Evaluation	Approved
A.V.	Conscious Sedation Evaluation and Extension Request	Approved
L.D.	General Anesthesia Evaluation	Approved
R.C.	General Anesthesia Evaluation	Approved
D.O.	Enteral Conscious Sedation	Approved
E.F.	Conscious Sedation Extension Request	Approved
N.W.	General Anesthesia – additional location application	Schedule appearance with Sedation Committee
C.H.	General Anesthesia – Change of locations and additional locations	Schedule appearance with Sedation Committee
A.N.	General Anesthesia Application	Schedule appearance with Sedation Committee
A.M.L.	Dental Hygiene Reinstatement	Approved with Consent Order and \$500 fine
C.H.	Dental Reinstatement	Approved
C.L.T.	Dental Hygiene Reinstatement	Approved with Consent Order and \$500 Fine
M.T.	Dental Reinstatement	Approved
N.S.W.	Dental Hygiene Reinstatement	Approved
T.G.A.	Dental Hygiene Reinstatement	Approved

Investigative Committee's Referral Case List:

Case #	Description	Recommendation
DENT200280	Quality of care; Inmate complaint	Close no action
DENT250178	Insurance settlement	Close no action
DENT250180	Quality of Care/ Service and Unprofessional Conduct	No evidence closed
DENT250202	Unprofessional Conduct	Closed with Letter of Concern

DENT250215	Unprofessional Conduct: DH took patients from one practice	Closed No Evidence
DENT250291	Employed by NewLife Smiles. Canadian company operating online	Referred for interview
DENT240003	Quality of Care	Close no action
DENT240006	Quality of Care/ Service and Unprofessional Conduct	Close no action
DENT240007	Standard of Care	Private Consent Order with 8 hours CE in Endodontics, 8 hours CE in Risk Management Ethics and \$500 Fine
DENT240011	Unprofessional Conduct	Close no action
DENT250136	Quality of Care/ Service and Unprofessional Conduct	Close no action

Dr. Shilman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Georgia Board of Dentistry will be held on Friday, February 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Georgia Board of Dentistry, 2 MLK Jr. Drive SE, 11th Floor, East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334.

Minutes recorded by Angela C. Johnson, Board Administrative Secretary
Edited J. Clinton Joiner, II, Executive Director