

GEORGIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY
Rules Committee Meeting
2 Peachtree St., N.W., 5th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303
November 2, 2018
9:30 a.m.

The following Committee members were present:

Dr. Tom Godfrey, Chair
Dr. Greg Goggans
Dr. Tracy Gay

The following Board members were present:

Dr. Richard Bennett
Ms. Becky Bynum
Dr. Parag Soni
Dr. Brent Stiehl
Dr. Antwan Treadway
Dr. Bert Yeargan

Staff present:

Tanja Battle, Executive Director
Eric Lacefield, Deputy Executive Director
Kirsten Daughdril, Sen Asst Attorney General
Bryon Thernes, Assistant Attorney General
Max Changus, Assistant Attorney General
Ryan McNeal, Chief Investigator
Kimberly Emm, Attorney
Brandi Howell, Business Support Analyst I

Special Assistant Attorney General:

Michael Caplan, Caplan & Cobb
James Cobb, Caplan & Cobb

Visitors:

Mark Middleton
Lauren Pollow
Emily Yona, GDA
William Bachand, Dental College of Georgia
Pam Wilkes, Help A Child Smile
Kim Turner, FCBOH
Rhonda Cox
Misty Mattingly, GDHA
Bekah Adamson, GDHA

Dr. Godfrey established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:56 a.m.

Dr. Tracy Gay made a motion and Dr. Parag Soni seconded and the Board voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §50-14-2 to deliberate and receive the Special Assistant Attorney General's report. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Dr. Richard Bennett, Ms. Becky Bynum, Dr. Tracy Gay, Dr. Tom Godfrey, Dr. Greg Goggans, Dr. Parag Soni, Dr. Brent Stiehl, Dr. Antwan Treadway and Dr. Bert Yeargan.

Executive Session

- Pending litigation

No votes were taken in Executive Session. Dr. Godfrey declared the meeting back in Open Session.

The Board authorized Mr. Michael Caplan, Caplan & Cobb, Special Assistant Attorney General, to negotiate with Plaintiff's counsel.

Introduction of Visitors

Dr. Godfrey welcomed the visitors.

Discussion Topics

Rule 150-9-.02 Expanded Duties of Dental Assistants: Dr. Godfrey explained that today's meeting is a continuation of the Rules Committee meeting held last month. He stated there has been discussion concerning different options on how to handle existing rules. Dr. Godfrey stated in regards to digital impressions specifically, the Board has had a lot of time to consider information received. He asked Dr. Treadway to share his opinion regarding such with the Board. Dr. Treadway explained that the Board has deliberated quite a bit regarding the best course of action to protect the citizens and do what is necessary to protect the public. He stated that it is his opinion that the digital impression is an impression and is the same as a physical. He emphasized it is a component of the diagnosis. Dr. Treadway discussed Merriam Webster's definition of diagnosis. He stated the impression is a component of the diagnosis and used to create the diagnosis and the fabrication of an appliance. He further commented the scan, pictures, or impression is a vital component of the diagnosis. He added that he feels the Board should move forward with the goal in mind of what it is taking the impression for.

Dr. Godfrey stated that the Committee had some different ideas regarding this rule. He stated that those ideas were to repeal the rule amendment, keep the existing rule as is, or move the responsibility of taking digital impressions to general duties, but still require supervision of the dentist on hand. He stated that the Committee even considered the possibility of the dental hygienist being the supervising individual. Dr. Godfrey asked if there were any questions or if there were suggestions for the Committee. Dr. Gay commented that within the Board's individual rules there have been several concerns addressing impressions. He suggested the Committee evaluate all rules that touch on fabrication and appliances as well as review the terminology. Dr. Yeargan stated that he felt Dr. Treadway summed it up well by saying it is part of the process. He stated it is his opinion that the rule should be left as it is currently written. Dr. Godfrey stated that there is a recommendation to leave the rule as it is, and look at the framework of any rules that address definitions. Dr. Yeargan responded by stating that the Committee should look at definitions and clear up any discrepancies in the terminology, but as far as what is currently written in the rule, it is specific. Dr. Godfrey asked if there were any further comments. Dr. Soni commented that reviewing the definitions would be important to evaluating this matter. Dr. Treadway stated that the Board needs to review all components to make sure it is doing the best for the patients. Ms. Bynum made a motion to recommend the Board take a broader view of definitions related to impressions. Dr. Gay seconded and the Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Dentists Ability to Prescribe to Self and Family Members: Dr. Godfrey stated the Board had previously discussed this topic and referred this item to the Committee. He requested a copy of the Medical Board's rule be provided to the Committee.

Hurricane Impact: Dr. Godfrey stated the Committee was given the directive from the Board to consider a request he presented concerning reduced application fees for those impacted licensees applying for licensure by credentials. He asked if there were a vote regarding such, would there be consideration by the Committee for this. Dr. Yeargan stated no. Dr. Soni, Ms. Bynum and Dr. Treadway stated yes. Without there being a majority of votes received, Dr. Godfrey stated the Committee will not pursue this issue.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Godfrey made a motion to approve the September 14, 2018 minutes with the changes noted. Dr. Goggans seconded and the Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Georgia Board of Dentistry will be held on Friday, December 7, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Community Health's office located at 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 5th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303.

Minutes recorded by Brandi Howell, Business Support Analyst I
Minutes edited by Tanja D. Battle, Executive Director