The following Board members were present: 
Dr. Richard Bennett, President
Dr. Greg Goggans, Vice-President
Ms. Becky Bynum
Dr. Tom Godfrey
Ms. Wendy Johnson
Dr. Logan Nalley
Dr. Parag Soni
Dr. Brent Stiehl
Dr. Antwan Treadway

Staff present:
Tanja Battle, Executive Director
Eric Lacefield, Deputy Executive Director
Kirsten Daughdril, Senior Assistant 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:
James Cobb, Caplan & Cobb

Visitors:
Brandon Moye, J.L. Morgan
John Watson, ADSO
Charles Craig, GDHA
Wendy Blond, GDHA
Candice K. Fleet
Misty Mattingly, GDHA
Emily Yona, GDA
Scott Lofranco, GDA
James L. Barron, GDS
Kevin Frazier, DCG
Kathryn Starr
Pam Wilkes, Help A Child Smile
Kim Turner, Fulton County Department of Health & Wellness
Dr. Isaac Hadley
Keith Kirshner, Ben Massell Dental Clinic
Carol Smith
Dixianne Parker
Debbie Graham, CHP
Dr. Gary Moore

Dr. Bennett established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Public Hearing

Dr. Bennett called the public hearing to order at 11:00 a.m.
Rule 150-5-.03 Supervision of Dental Hygienists

Public comments were received from Misty Mattingly, Georgia Dental Hygiene Association (GDHA). Ms. Mattingly stated that the intent of the bill was to provide more access to care. She explained that the law states in part, “Any licensed dental hygienist performing dental hygiene services under general supervision pursuant to this Code section shall have at least two years of experience in the practice of dental hygiene…” She continued by stating that the proposed rule amendment reads, “Experience” means a minimum of 1,000 hours for each twelve (12) month period, immediately preceding the request to work under general supervision, in the hands-on treatment of patients.” Ms. Mattingly stated that of the 7,000 licensed dental hygienists in Georgia, some are part-time and retired. She further stated that many hygienists volunteer in free clinics. Ms. Mattingly stated that if the Board adopts the proposed amendment, it would preclude the hygienists from working under general supervision. Ms. Mattingly stated that GDHA requests the Board to change the language to read, “‘Experience’ means a dental hygienist with a minimum of 2000 hours of clinical practice, after graduation from an accredited dental hygiene program”.

Public comments were received from Candice Kendall, Georgia Dental Hygiene Association (GDHA): Ms. Kendall stated that she is a 2003 graduate from Georgia, member of GDHA and has 16 years of experience in private practice. She explained that she is present to speak against the proposed amendment. Ms. Kendall stated she would like the language changed to read, “‘Experience’ means a dental hygienist with a minimum of 2000 hours of clinical practice, after graduation from an accredited dental hygiene program”. Ms. Kendall stated if the Board adopts the proposed amendment, it would eliminate most, if not all, part-time dental hygienists. She stated that the proposed language hurts dental hygienists and the dentists that employ them.

Public comments were received from Kathryn Starr: Ms. Starr thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak to its members. Ms. Starr stated she has practiced dental hygiene for 17 years. She retired from clinical practice in 2016. Ms. Starr explained for the 16 years she lived in Georgia, she worked part-time and averaged 16 hours per week, which amounts to 832 hours a year. She continued by stating that for the last three (3) years having been retired, she has not had any hands-on treatment of patients. Ms. Starr stated that if she were to volunteer with a local health center or nursing care facility, she would not be able to meet the requirements if the Board adopts the proposed rule the way it is written. Ms. Starr requested the Board change the language to read, “‘Experience’ means a dental hygienist with a minimum of 2000 hours of clinical practice, after graduation from an accredited dental hygiene program”.

Public comments were received from Wendy Blond, Georgia Dental Hygiene Association (GDHA): Ms. Blonde stated that she thinks this is a product of unintended consequence. She stated that the language proposed by GDHA was used elsewhere. Ms. Blond explained that they are just trying to clarify the word “experience” as there was confusion and students felt that they met that criteria having treated patients in school. She stated that she thinks the language helps clarify that the two (2) years be “post-graduation”. Ms. Blonde thanked the Board for its time.

Public comments were received from Keith Kirshner, Ben Massell Dental Clinic (BMDC): Mr. Kirshner stated that BMDC is very supportive of the intent to define this and supports the proposed revision of 2000 hours’ post-graduation.

Written responses were received from Suzanne Newkirk, Debbie Graham, Dr. Joseph M. Cox, Allison Bowers, Dr. Gregory E. Lang, Bekah Adamson, Cyrl Kitchens, Marianne Pruitt, Dr. Joanna Harris-Worelds, Carol C. Smith, and Kathryn Starr.

Rule 150-4-.01 Investigations

No comments or written responses were received.
Dr. Nalley made a motion to adopt Rule 150-4-.01 Investigations. Dr. Godfrey seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Dr. Godfrey made a motion to adopt Rule 150-5-.03 Supervision of Dental Hygienists. Discussion was held by Dr. Nalley. Dr. Nalley stated that the Board should reconsider the proposed rule and take the suggestions heard today into consideration. He stated he does not think 2000 hours would be enough. Dr. Goggans stated that the Board defines “full time” as 1000 hours per year. Dr. Godfrey responded by stating that the Board is trying to be consistent throughout its rules on how it defines “experience”. Dr. Nalley suggested dropping the word “preceding”. Dr. Godfrey stated that the skill set is perishable, if someone goes inactive the individual has to reach a bar to come back. He stated that the Board did this because it is now allowing general supervision and no dentist is onsite. Dr. Godfrey stated one can liken this to a pilot that leaves and then would need to take the flight assessment before being qualified to fly again. He further stated if the Board is managing the idea of putting dental hygienists in a setting without a dentist, the Board needs to ensure that the public is protected. Dr. Godfrey stated there is no vindictive or intended exclusionary process here.

Dr. Bennett responded by stating that he does agree with Dr. Godfrey’s assessment about perishable skills and the Board is charged with protecting the public. He added that he does have concerns as to whether or not 2000 hours ensures someone is experienced. Dr. Bennett stated that he does have an appreciation for the free clinics and part-time providers and their main volunteers. He stated there are several sides to this matter and from his perspective, he does not want it to be so restricted that the Board has done away with the legislative intent. He asked if 500 hours in a calendar year is enough or too much for aging providers? Dr. Bennett stated that he feels the Board should revisit this issue. With no further discussion, Dr. Bennett stated there was a motion on the table, and asked if there was second? Hearing none, the motion died. The Board will refer this rule back to the Rules Committee for additional input.

Introduction of Visitors
Dr. Bennett welcomed the visitors.

Approval of Minutes
Dr. Soni made a motion to approve the Public and Executive Session minutes for the February 8, 2019 Conference Call. Dr. Treadway seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Licenses to Ratify
Dr. Nalley made a motion to ratify the list of licenses issued. Dr. Treadway seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Petition for Rule Waiver from Dr. Jennette O’ Bryhim
Dr. Nalley made a motion to approve the rule waiver petition based on the Board’s finding that Dr. O’Bryhim has demonstrated evidence of a substantial hardship. Additionally, based on the special circumstances noted in her petition, the Board also finds that she has provided adequate justification for the waiver as she is a Board-Certified Periodontist. Dr. Goggans seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Correspondence from Bekah Adamson, GDHA
The Board considered this correspondence requesting it amend Rule 150-5-.05 Requirements for Continuing Education for Dental Hygienists to include language stating that dental hygienists who
volunteer their services alongside dentists participating in the GDA’s Donated Dental Services program may receive up to five (5) hours of continuing education credit per biennium. The Board recommended referring this matter to the Rules Committee.

**Correspondence from DANB**
The Board considered this correspondence regarding DANB State Publications Review. Dr. Goggans made a motion to approve with the changes noted. Dr. Treadway seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Correspondence from Candace Marshall**
The Board considered this correspondence asking for information on coronal polishing by Expanded Duties Dental Assistants (EDDA). Additionally, Ms. Marshall asks if an EDDA can provide coronal polishing in conjunction with a prophy scaling performed by a registered dental hygienist or dentist. Dr. Treadway made a motion to direct staff to respond by stating the Board would like to refer Ms. Marshall to the Board’s Policies located on its website. Dr. Goggans seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. In the same motion, the Board directed staff to respond to Ms. Marshall by stating she may follow with a prophy as long as the experience, education, age, and dentist/registered dental hygienist availability is met.

**Correspondence from Chris Sarzen**
The Board considered this correspondence that was tabled from the Board’s January 2019 meeting. Dr. Sarzen’s correspondence asks if it is the standard of care for dentists to measure probing depths to evaluate for periodontal disease during cleanings. Dr. Nalley made a motion to direct staff to respond by stating probing depths is one of the criteria used to determine the presence or absence of periodontal disease and would be appropriate. Dr. Goggans seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Correspondence from Dr. Paytie Howard**
The Board considered this correspondence regarding a “Polished Dental Spa”. Dr. Goggans made a motion to direct staff to invite Dr. Howard to an upcoming board meeting to further discuss this matter. Dr. Godfrey seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Correspondence from Dr. Garrison Gerald-Banks**
The Board considered this correspondence requesting clarification concerning dental hygienist supervision and providing temporary coverage for a FQHC for a dentist on maternity leave. Dr. Nalley stated it would be the temporary dentist’s responsibility. Dr. Bennett brought up a scenario in which a dentist bought a practice and the person there before allowed general supervision. He asked if that order for general supervision would still be in effect when another person comes in. The board members responded no. Dr. Bennett stated the response would be that ultimately the supervising dentist would accept the responsibility of authorizing general supervision. After further discussion was held, the Board recommended tabling this until later in the meeting.

Dr. Logan Nalley made a motion and Dr. Tom Godfrey seconded and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h)(2), §43-11-47(h) and §43-1-2(k) to deliberate and receive information on applications. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Dr. Richard Bennett, Ms. Becky Bynum, Dr. Tom Godfrey, Dr. Greg Goggans, Ms. Wendy Johnson, Dr. Logan Nalley, Dr. Parag Soni, Dr. Brent Stiehl and Dr. Antwan Treadway.
Appearance
• G.N.M.

Special Assistant Attorney General
• Pending litigation

Licensure Overview Committee Appointments/Discussion Cases
• R.R.P.
• S.J.S.
• J.G.S.
• T.G.L.
• K.R.M.
• V.D.

Applications
• K.V.P.
• R.P.W.
• A.H.G.
• D.L.
• F.L.M.

Investigative Committee Report – Dr. Bert Yeargan
Report Presented:

• DENT170324
• DENT180209
• DENT180212
• DENT180191
• DENT190313
• DENT180141
• DENT180142
• DENT180282
• DENT180040
• DENT180351
• DENT190038
• DENT170283
• DENT180045
• DENT180007
• DENT170301
• DENT170329
• DENT180192
• DENT150225
• DENT160165
• DENT170129
• DENT170280
• DENT170312
• DENT180009
Attorney General’s Report – Mr. Max Changus
Mr. Changus presented the following consent orders for acceptance:
- J.B.M.
- T.T.S.

Mr. Changus discussed the list of non-compliant dentists as it relates to the PDMP requirements.

Executive Director’s Report – Ms. Tanja Battle
- G.F.R.

Miscellaneous
- The Board requested specific time parameters regarding the negotiation of consent orders.
- Requested legal advice regarding current and proposed language regarding dental care to indigent populations.
- J.B.O.

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

Open Session

General – Dr. Richard Bennett
No report.
CE Audit Committee Report – Dr. Richard Bennett
No report.

General Anesthesia Committee Report – Dr. Antwan Treadway
No report.

Conscious Sedation Committee Report – Dr. Richard Bennett
No report.

Credentials Committee Report – Dr. Greg Goggans
No report.

Dental Hygiene Committee Report – Ms. Rebecca Bynum
No report.

Examination Committee Report – Dr. Bert Yeargan
Dr. Bennett reported the CRDTS examination will be held in two (2) weeks at the Dental College of Georgia.

Investigative Committee Report – Dr. Bert Yeargan
No report.

Legislative Committee Report – Dr. Greg Goggans
Dr. Goggans reported that House Bill 521 Professions and businesses; temporary licenses for dentists licensed in other states to provide dental care to indigent populations in this state; authorize, is being considered.

Licensure Overview Committee Report – Dr. Tracy Gay
No report.

Rules Committee Report – Dr. Tom Godfrey
Dr. Godfrey made a motion to repost Rule 150-7-.03 Volunteers. Dr. Soni seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

150-7-.03 Volunteers in Dentistry.
(1) The Board may issue volunteer licenses in its discretion when it has identified an area of this state in which there is an urgent, unfilled need for dental and/or dental hygiene services, and when it has located a competent dentist or dental hygienist to fulfill such need. In granting these volunteer licenses, the Board shall observe the following criteria:
(a) Need of the Community. A volunteer license shall be issued for the purpose of serving indigent patients in areas of this state in which there is inadequate personnel to supply dental or dental hygiene services. In determining what constitutes an inadequate supply of dental or dental hygiene personnel, the Board shall consider various factors, including the dentist-patient ratio or the dental hygienist-patient ratio in the area in question, the distance between patients and any existing dentist or dental hygienist, the maldistribution of particular types of specialty care, and any other factors which are indicative of an absence of adequate dental or dental hygiene services in or reasonably accessible to the area in question. Any group or groups of persons seeking to secure such a dentist or dental hygienist for a community shall supply the Board with all information necessary for it to make a determination as to the existence of all the foregoing factors.
(b) Qualifications of a Georgia Licensed Dentist.
1. The dentist or dental hygienist must submit an application for a volunteer license to the Board and must be retired from the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene and not currently engaged in such practice either full time or part time, and has prior to retirement maintained full licensure in good standing in dentistry or dental hygiene, or is currently licensed to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in the State of Georgia and whose license is unrestricted and in good standing. This license to practice dentistry or dental hygiene must have been held at least five years while engaged in clinical practice. Applicants must not have failed a clinical licensing exam within the past five years.

2. As a condition precedent to a volunteer license being issued, after five (5) years have passed without the applicant being engaged in the direct observation and treatment of patients, the Board, in its discretion, may require a refresher course or the passage of an examination administered by the board or a testing agency designated and approved by the board.

3. The applicant dentist or dental hygienist may be asked to submit a statement from a physician attesting to the applicant's physical and mental capacity;

4. The applicant must show proof of current CPR certification;

5. If the applicant is not in compliance with the continuing education requirements established by the Board at the time application is made for the volunteer license (which is forty (40) hours for dentists and twenty-two (22) hours for dental hygienists of continuing education within the last two (2) years including CPR at the basic life support level), the applicant may be issued a nonrenewable temporary license to practice for six months provided the applicant is otherwise qualified for such license.

6. There shall be no application or licensing fee for initial issuance of a volunteer license.

(b)(c) Qualifications of an Out-of-State Licensed Dentist.

1. The dentist or dental hygienist must submit an application for a volunteer license to the Board and must be retired from the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene and not currently engaged in such practice either full time or part time, and has prior to retirement maintained full licensure in good standing in dentistry or dental hygiene, or is currently licensed to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in any licensing jurisdiction in the U.S. and whose license is unrestricted and in good standing. This license to practice dentistry or dental hygiene must have been issued by a licensing authority following successful completion of a clinical licensing examination, approved by the board and must have been held at least five years while engaged in clinical practice. Applicants must not have failed a clinical licensing exam within the past five years.

2. As a condition precedent to a volunteer license being issued, after five (5) years have passed without the applicant being engaged in the direct observation and treatment of patients, the Board, in its discretion, may require a refresher course or the passage of an examination administered by the board or a testing agency designated and approved by the board.

3. The applicant dentist or dental hygienist may be asked to submit a statement from a physician attesting to the applicant's physical and mental capacity;

4. The applicant must show proof of current CPR certification;

5. If the applicant is not in compliance with the continuing education requirements established by the Board at the time application is made for the volunteer license (which is forty (40) hours for dentists and twenty-two (22) hours for dental hygienists of continuing education within the last two (2) years including CPR at the basic life support level), the applicant may be issued a nonrenewable temporary license to practice for six months provided the applicant is otherwise qualified for such license.

6. All applicants must show passage with a score of 75 or higher on a jurisprudence examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of dentistry/dental hygiene in the State of Georgia. Such examination shall be administered in the English language;

7. There shall be no application or licensing fee for initial issuance of a volunteer license.

(e)(d) Dental Hygienists are subject to all provisions of direct supervision per O.C.G.A. § 43-11-74 and Rule 150-5-.03.

(d)(e) Renewal of a volunteer license.

1. Volunteer licenses shall expire at the close of December 31 in all odd-numbered years, and shall be administratively revoked for failure to renew on July 1 of the following even-numbered year.
2. There shall be no renewal fee for licensees holding a volunteer in dentistry license.
3. Licenses which have been administratively lapsed for non-renewal shall be reinstated only at the discretion of the board;
4. Holders of a volunteer in dentistry license are subject to continuing education requirements as outlined in Board Rule 150-3-.10.
5. Holders of a volunteer in dental hygiene license are subject to continuing education requirements as outlined in Board Rule 150-3-.10.

(e)(f) Any other provisions of Chapter 11, Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated not inconsistent with the intent and purpose of the special license statute shall be fully applicable to all specially licensed dentists.

Ms. Battle stated that she would like the minutes to reflect that the Board considered the economic impact statement at the time of notice.

**Education Committee Report – Dr. Tom Godfrey**
No report.

**Long Range Planning Committee Report – Dr. Richard Bennett**
No report.

**CRDTS Steering Committee – Dr. Logan Nalley**
Dr. Nalley reported that the Steering Committee met in January. He added that CRDTS is committed to what they think is the correct standard and expressed his confidence in the examination.

**IP Committee Report – Dr. Richard Bennett**
No report.

**EDDA Review Committee – Dr. Greg Goggans**
No report.

**Executive Director’s Report – Ms. Tanja Battle**
Credentials Licensure: Ms. Battle reported that at the January 2019 meeting, the Board discussed O.C.G.A. § 43-11-41, which requires a licensee to establish active practice within two (2) years or the license shall be automatically revoked. The Board discussed how it would go about policing those licensees. At that meeting, the Board requested staff to figure out how to accomplish this task. Ms. Battle stated that, as a starting point, there are 397 dentists who obtained licensure by credentials that are active; 88 of those were recently licensed and have not yet reached the two (2) year mark. Ms. Battle stated that staff looked at the census to see where each dentist listed his/her practice and 60 listed an out-of-state practice address. She added that staff will have to cross reference which ones have been licensed longer than two (2) years. Ms. Battle further stated that Rule 150-7-.04(11) states that “Active Practice” shall mean a minimum of 500 hours for each twelve (12) month period of licensure in the hands-on treatment of patients. Ms. Battle stated that it does not say “shall maintain after”; it just says “within the first two years”. Dr. Godfrey directed staff to add this topic to the April agenda, along with a copy of the statute and rule, so the Board can review to see how it would like to proceed.

Consultation Fees: Ms. Battle reported that at the January 2019 meeting the Board requested advice regarding increasing the consultation fee for sedation evaluators to $750. She stated for the current fiscal year, 22 evaluations have been conducted and $1795 were invoiced. Ms. Battle stated that last year, around 30 evaluations were conducted. Ms. Battle stated that if the Board paid $750 for each evaluation, that would be a total of $16,500, which is a significant amount. She stated if the Board wants to move forward, it would require asking for additional funds in the future. Dr. Godfrey responded by stating the
Board had voted last month to increase the amount paid to evaluators to $750 per evaluation. Dr. Godfrey stated that we traditionally have a backlog of sedation candidates who are having trouble getting evaluators to agree to scheduling evaluations in a timely manner. He said when some oral surgeons are asked to serve the Board for $300 per evaluation, some stated they feel pressured to do so by the Board and its members. The Board members agreed it is unfair to oral surgeons, who are very highly trained and skilled, to be required to accept the old renumeration schedule of $300 as an evaluation can easily require a half day block of the surgeon’s time. Dr. Godfrey made the comparison that it would be similar to expecting other professionals such as attorneys to do work for Georgia’s boards at a fee rate reduction of 80%-90%. When the conversation was held last time, Dr. Godfrey asked if the Board could make it incumbent upon the applicant to pay the evaluation fee with the application. Dr. Goggans stated that the problem is no matter how much the Board charges, it will not necessarily get that money appropriated. Ms. Battle responded by stating there is legislation pending saying all fees will be going into the general fund. Dr. Bennett asked what the Board can do. She stated that while she does not have an objection to it, there is a concern that there will not be money to cover it the additional expense with the current budget. Dr. Treadway asked if there was a precedent set by other boards that compensate for evaluations. Ms. Battle responded that the Georgia Composite Medical Board pays up to $300 for each evaluation. After further discussion, the Board recommended referring this matter to the Rules Committee to review Rule 150-3-.09 Continuing Education for Dentists to include language stating hours may be obtained by assisting the Board with sedation evaluations. Additionally, the Board recommended the Rules Committee review Rule 150-13-.02 Renewal of Conscious Sedation and Deep Sedation/General Anesthesia Permits to include language stating that the hours obtained through conducting sedation evaluations can be used towards the four (4) hour CE requirement in this rule.

**Attorney General’s Report – Mr. Max Changus**

No report.

**Legal Services – Ms. Kimberly Emm**

No report.

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

**Appearance**
- G.N.M. Denied Credentials Applicant Upheld Denial

**Special Assistant Attorney General**
- Pending litigation Updated provided

**Licensure Overview Committee Appointments/Discussion Cases**
- R.R.P. Request to terminate probation Approved request
- S.J.S. Request to terminate probation Approved request
- J.G.S. Dental Licensee Table pending receipt of additional information
- T.G.L. Renewal Pending Approved for renewal
- K.R.M. Correspondence No action taken
- V.D. Dental Credentials Applicant Approved application

**Applications**
- K.V.P. Dental Exam Applicant Approved application
- R.P.W. Dental Exam Applicant Approved application
### Investigative Committee Report – Dr. Bert Yeargan

Report Presented:

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<th>Complaint Number</th>
<th>Allegations</th>
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<tr>
<td>DENT190073</td>
<td>Unprofessional Conduct</td>
<td>Close No Action</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mr. Changus presented the following consent orders for acceptance:

- J.B.M. Public Consent Order accepted
- T.T.S. Public Consent Order to be accepted and signed with express permission upon receipt of the original

Mr. Changus discussed the list of non-compliant dentists as it relates to the PDMP requirements. The Board recommended not allowing any exceptions.

**Executive Director’s Report – Ms. Tanja Battle**

- G.F.R. Voluntary Surrender to be accepted and signed with express permission upon receipt of the original

**Miscellaneous**

- The Board requested specific time parameters regarding the negotiation of consent orders.
- Requested and received legal advice regarding current and proposed language regarding dental care to indigent populations.
- J.B.O. Dental Credentials Applicant Approved application

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

The Board directed staff to schedule the April 12th Investigative Committee meeting for 7:30 a.m., Rules Committee meeting for 9:30 a.m., and the full Board meeting for 10:30 a.m.

With no further business, the Board meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Georgia Board of Dentistry will be held on Friday, April 12, 2019, at 10:30 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