

VIRGINIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 29, 2020

*APPROVED*

**TIME & PLACE:** This emergency virtual meeting of the Virginia Board of Dentistry was called to order at 3:01 PM, on May 29, 2020 at the Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

**PRESIDING:** Augustus A. Petticolas, Jr., D.D.S., President

**CALL TO ORDER:** Augustus A. Petticolas, Jr., D.D.S., President  
Dr. Petticolas called this emergency meeting to order. He explained the purpose of this meeting is the reconsideration of the Board of Dentistry's May 8, 2020 decision on the 2020 Dental Hygiene Clinical Examination Requirement.

**MEMBER PRESENT AT THE PERIMETER CENTER:** Augustus A. Petticolas, Jr., D.D.S

**MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELEPHONE:** Sandra Catchings, D.D.S., Vice President  
Nathaniel C. Bryant, D.D.S., Secretary  
Patricia B. Bonwell, R.D.H., PhD  
Jamiah Dawson, D.D.S.  
Perry E. Jones, D.D.S.  
Mike Nguyen, D.D.S.  
Tammy C. Ridout, R.D.H.  
James D. Watkins, D.D.S.

**STAFF PRESENT AT THE PERIMETER CENTER:** Jamie C. Sacksteder, Deputy Executive Director  
Kathryn E. Brooks, Executive Assistant  
Donna Lee, Discipline Case Manager

**DHP LEADERS PRESENT AT THE PERIMETER CENTER:** Barbara Allison-Bryan, MD, DHP Chief Deputy Director

**DHP LEADERS PRESENT BY TELEPHONE:** David E. Brown, DC, DHP Executive Director  
Elaine J. Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

**COUNSEL PRESENT AT THE PERIMETER CENTER:** James E. Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:** With all members of the Board participating, a quorum was established.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dr. Petticolas explained the parameters for public comment then opened the public comment period by calling on the registered commenters as follows:

**Marina D. McGraw (Program Director, Dental Hygiene at NVCC)** addressed the Board to express support for waiving the live patient portion of the clinical exam, noting that the manikin was not a viable option at this time.

**Jan O'Brien (Associate Professor, Dental Hygiene at NVCC)** addressed the Board to express support for reconsidering the previous decision; advised that students in her program had a combined total of 700 hours treating live patients and that the closest SRTA exam was in Tennessee.

**Michelle McGregor (Director, Dental Hygiene Program at VCU)** addressed the Board to express support for reconsidering the previous decision and to accept the ADEX Computer Simulated Clinical Exam (CSCE) as a substitute for the live-patient exam.

**Richard D. Archer DDS (VCU School of Dentistry)** addressed the Board to express support for reconsidering the previous decision, noting that VCU does not administer the SRTA exam. He then asked the Board to consider the CSCE exam as a substitute for the live-patient exam.

**Elizabeth J. Di Silvio (Dental Hygiene Faculty, NVCC)** addressed the Board to express support for waiving the required clinical boards for 2020.

**Martha H. Sullivan (Dean of Health Professions, VWCC)** addressed the Board to express her support and agreement with the previous commenters, noting that she trusts the competency of her students.

**Meghan Webber (Student President, ADHA at ODU)** addressed the Board to express support for waiving the clinical exam, citing that there is no reason to postpone licensure.

**Tracey C. Martin, RDH, BSDH (VDHA President)** addressed the Board to express support for reconsidering the previous decision and urged the acceptance of the Computer Simulated Clinical Examination (CSCE).

**Beth Shaw (NVCC 2020 Graduate)** addressed the Board to express support for reversing the Board decision, adding that a live patient exam at this time is impractical.

**Courtney Brice (NVCC 2020 Graduate)** addressed the Board to express support for reversing the Board decision, advising of financial hardships placed on her peers, that other states have waived or canceled this requirement, and that the Board has already waived this requirement for dental students.

**Oxana Konopleva (NVCC 2020 Graduate)** addressed the Board to express support for waiving the live patient portion of the clinical exam, noting the difficulty in finding live patients for the exam and that manikin exams aren't available until late July at the earliest.

**Karina Jimenez (NVCC Class President)** addressed the Board to express support for waiving the live patient portion of the clinical exam, highlighting the 700 live clinical hours in the program and the difficulty in securing PPE.

**Tammy Swecker M.Ed, BSDH (VCU Dental Hygiene Clinical Coordinator)** addressed the Board to express support for reversing the Board decision, noting that the SRTA exam is not accepted in North Carolina, Maryland, D.C., therefore portability is not as feasible.

**Pamela Boyer (Student President, LFCC)** addressed the Board to express support for waiving the clinical exam as the CODA program attests to competency and should suffice to obtain a license.

Ms. Sacksteder read for the Board four written comments provided by individuals who wanted their sentiments shared but were not available to attend the meeting as follows: Elizabeth C. Reynolds, DDS, President, VDA; David C. Sarrett, D.M.D., M.S. Dean, VCU School of Dentistry; Anna Culpepper, ODU 2020 Graduate; Laura Montemurro, Virginia Western Dental Hygiene Class of 2020.

Dr. Petticolas acknowledged all of the written comments received and then closed the public comment period and called to order the Full Board Meeting.

- BOARD DISCUSSION/ ACTION:** Dr. Petticolas advised the Board that this meeting has only one agenda item: the reconsideration of the Board's May 8<sup>th</sup> decision to require a simulated typodont or manikin scaling examination for dental hygiene licensure in 2020. Dr. Petticolas clarified additional information available to the Board since the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting:
- ADEX has confirmed that the hygiene exam is in the early stages of development, that the manikin manufacturer has not yet begun production of the new simulator, and that the new hygiene typodonts will not be ready for actual use until mid to late summer 2020 at the earliest.
  - The Department of Health Professions has multiple waivers in place to expedite licensure during the current COVID crisis to ensure adequate health care professionals to meet the expanding needs of the public.

Dr. Petticolas opened the floor for discussion on reconsidering the May 8<sup>th</sup> decision. Ms. Yeatts advised the Board of the original request from schools to accept the Computer Simulated Clinical Exam (CSCE) as administered by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA). Dr. Watkins expressed concerns over the examination, adding that there was not enough information provided on this exam to allow it as a substitute, to which Dr. Catchings reminded the Board that as other states have done away with clinical exams all together, this waiver is for 2020 only, due to the pandemic. Dr. Bonwell added that she is in support of requiring the manikin exam, but can agree to a one-time only waiver because of the current circumstances. Ms. Ridout also supported the idea to waive the live patient clinical exam for this year only, to which Dr. Bryant also agreed, as the manikin is not yet available.

Dr. Petticolas asked for a motion to rescind the motion, which was adopted by the Board on May 8, 2020, which states: the Board accepts, for 2020 dental hygiene candidates, passage of the written National Board Dental Hygiene Examination and passage of a manikin-based scaling exercise given by a testing agency accepted by the Board, this motion was made by Dr. Dawson and seconded by Dr. Nguyen. After a comprehensive discussion, a roll call vote was taken, and the motion to rescind passed with a vote of 8:1.

Dr. Petticolas - Yes  
Dr. Catchings - Yes  
Dr. Bryant - Yes  
Dr. Bonwell - Yes  
Dr. Dawson - Yes  
Dr. Jones - Yes  
Dr. Nguyen - Yes

Ms. Ridout - Yes  
Dr. Watkins - No

Dr. Petticolas asked if there was a motion that the Board accept for 2020 passage of the written National Board Dental Hygiene Examination and the Computer Simulated Clinical Examination for dental hygiene as administered by the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies and equivalent clinical examinations given by the testing agencies accepted by the Board. Dr. Dawson made the motion and it was seconded by Dr. Catchings. Each board member spoke to the motion. Following discussion of the motion, a roll call vote was taken. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Dr. Petticolas - Yes  
Dr. Catchings - Yes  
Dr. Bryant - Yes  
Dr. Bonwell - Yes  
Dr. Dawson - Yes  
Dr. Jones - Yes  
Dr. Nguyen - Yes  
Ms. Ridout - Yes  
Dr. Watkins - Yes

**ADJOURNMENT:** With all business concluded, Dr. Petticolas adjourned the meeting at 4:55 PM.

Augustus A. Petticolas Jr., D.D.S.  
Augustus A. Petticolas Jr., D.D.S., President

Sept. 11, 2020  
Date

Sandra K. Reen  
Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director

September 11, 2020  
Date