



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

**DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION
DENTAL THERAPY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 2, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Mac Rainey, Public Member
David Carsten, DDS
Sarah Khan, DDS

STAFF PRESENT

Trina Crawford, Executive Director
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Bruce Bronoske Jr., Program Manager
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General
Sherri Stratton, Assistant Program Manager
Cassandra Gerard, Administrative Assistant

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tiffany Bass, DDS
Miryam Nossa, EFDA
Samantha Kofler, DDS

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION - 12:03 p.m.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Dr. Bryan Swanson, DDS – Chair
 - 1.1. Introduction of committee members and staff
 - Mr. Bronoske, Jr. introduces committee members and staff.
 - 1.2. Approval of agenda.
 - There is a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
 - The motion is moved and seconded.
 - 1.3. Approval of March 5, 2024, meeting minutes
 - Ms. Gaylord requests an amendment to revise item 2.1.5. from dental hygienists to dental therapists and item 2.1.8 from hygienist to dentist.
 - There is a motion to approve the amended March 5, 2024 meeting minutes.
 - The motion is moved and seconded.
 - 1.4. Approval of April 8, 2024, meeting minutes.

- There is a motion to approve the April 8, 2024 meeting minutes.
- The motion is moved and seconded.

2. DENTAL THERAPY WORKSHOP – The committee and department work on draft rules for dental therapy.

- Mr. Bronoske, Jr. shares the updated draft rules that incorporate the suggestions from the last meeting.
- Ms. Gaylord suggests the active practice definition should be worded the same as the dental hygiene definition of active practice.
- The committee decides that defining supervising dentist is unnecessary.
- Ms. Johnson representing WSDA suggests including a definition of supervising dentist within the definition of the practice plan contract.
- Ms. Johnson encourages the committee to consider how the practice plans for dental therapists will be regulated for their first year of practice since it isn't a requirement at licensure.
- Dr. Carsten suggests a practice plan should be submitted within 30 days of the start of their practice.
- The committee decides to include proof of completion of written jurisprudence exam in the licensure requirements.
- Ms. Gaylord comments the licensing requirement to list all professional education and experience may be onerous.
- Ms. Johnson confirms a similar requirement is included in Dental Quality Assurance Commission legislation WAC 246-817-110 for initial eligibility and application requirements.
- Ms. Bailey representing Washington Association for Community Health asks if proof of liability insurance is obtainable without a license.
- Mr. Kaasa representing Washington Association for Community Health comments malpractice coverage becomes effective upon start of employment.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. states insurance requirements are listed in the statute.
- Ms. Johnson suggests stating liability insurance must be obtained prior to beginning practice.
- Under Licensure Requirements, Mr. Bronoske Jr. revises (10) Any other information for each license type as determined by the Secretary of Health rather than the Commission.
- Ms. Johnson notes the statute does not include the term territory in reference to Dental Therapy Licensure without Exam – Licensed in Another State.
- The committee discusses and decides to include the requirement of proof that the applicant is currently engaged in the active practice of dental therapy.
- Ms. Davis asks if the language may be adjusted to include recently engaged in the active practice of dental therapy for applicants that may have taken a break from practice for personal reasons.
- Ms. Carter refers to the statute that says currently engaged in active practice.

- The committee discusses if the authorization for background inquiries to other sources is necessary.
- Dr. Warren comments that when their education program was first established with the accrediting body it didn't include the entire current scope. She asks if currently enrolled students will have to apply for a limited license after graduation. She adds the additional scope cannot be incorporated into the curriculum until it is defined.
- Ms. Johnson suggests health equity continuing education requirements should be aligned with licensure renewal every three years.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- No correspondence received at this time.

4. FUTURE BUSINESS

- Mr. Bronoske, Jr. will share examples of practice plan agreements from the medical commission at a future meeting.

5. ADJOURN

- The meeting is adjourned at 1:00PM.

Submitted by:

Bruce Bronoske Jr., Program Manager
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

Approved by:

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chairperson
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

Signature

Signature

Date

Date