



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Friday, July 26, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Sonia Pal, DMD, Vice-Chair
Tiffany Bass, DDS
Rama Oskouian, DMD
Sarah Khan, DMD
Samantha Kofler, DDS
Nisha Sharoff, DDS
Marlynne Fulton, Public Member
Carolin Spice, Public Member
McKinley Rainey, Public Member
Miryam Nossa, EFDA
Evelyn Harry, EFDA
David Carsten, DDS, Pro Tem
Member

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce Bronoske Jr., Dental Program
Administrator
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Sherri Stratton, Assistant Program
Manager
Kitty Einert, Program Manager
Catharine Roner-Reiter, Supervising Staff
Attorney
Heather Carter, AAG
Jane Zepp, Credentialing Supervisor
Sarah Miczynski, Credentialing Lead

MEMBERS ABSENT

Cheon Joo Yoon, DDS
Joy McDaniel, DMD

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION – 10:04 a.m.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
 - 1.1. Introduction of commission members and staff
 - Ms. Gardner introduces commission members and staff.
 - 1.2. Public Comment
 - Dr. Swanson opens the floor for public comment.

- Dr. Carsten thanks the Commission for inviting him to participate as a pro tem.
- 1.3. Approval of agenda

- Dr. Swanson requests amendments that include the addition of: Item 11.3 – Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact.
- There is a motion to approve the agenda with the requested amendment.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

1.4. Approval of the June 14, 2024, business meeting minutes

- There is a motion to approve the June 14, 2024, business meeting minutes.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and unanimously passes.

2. WASHINGTON PHYSICIANS HEALTH PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT – Dr. Chris Bundy, Executive Medical Director, will present to the Commission

- Dr. Bundy introduces himself and his team members: Nadine Rosetti, Administrative Director, and Vanessa Boy, Communications Manager.
- Dr. Bundy shares the new mission and vision of the Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP) and that the purpose of WPHPs therapeutic alternative to discipline program is to advance the health and well-being of the medical community, including dental professionals.
- Dr. Bundy presents a clinical case to the Commission to provide an interactive case management experience, and further discusses WPHPs case management model.
- Dr. Bundy shares data relating to WPHP participants and program effectiveness.

3. RULES UPDATE

3.1. WAC 246-817-187 Temporary practice permit – Military spouse eligibility and issuance to align with language in Second Substitute House Bill (SSHB) 1009 – Military spouses – professional licensing and employment

- Ms. Gardner shares that the purpose of this proposal is to update language changes made by Second Substitute House Bill (2SHB) 1009 (chapter 165, Laws of 2023). The proposed changes will align the rules with statutory changes regarding licensure of military spouses who hold a license in another state.
- A CR-105 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-15-006 on July 3. A notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on July 11. The deadline for public comments is Monday, September 23. If there are no objections to this rule, a CR-103 will be filed, and the rule will take effect 31 days after filing.

3.2. WAC 246-817-135 Dental licensure without examination – Eligibility and application requirements; WAC 246-817-160 Graduates of nonaccredited schools

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 was filed with the Code Reviser as WSR 24-15-022 on July 9. A notification was sent out on GovDelivery to interested parties on July 19. The next step will be having the Continuing Competency Committee work on rule writing.

3.3. WAC 246-817-190 Dental assistant registration

- Ms. Gardner shares that a CR-101 has been completed and is currently in the internal review process. Once completed and published with the Code Reviser, rule language work will begin and will be brought to the Commission at the appropriate business meeting.

3.4. WAC 246-817-905 Exclusions

- Ms. Gardner shares that the Commission is proposing amendments to expand the types of patients who are exempt from opioid prescribing rules.
- The proposed rule language aligns with the Washington Medical Commission's adopted rules to ensure consistency and alignment with best practices.
- A CR-102 has been completed and is currently in the internal review process. If the review stages are completed with enough time for public notification, a rules hearing may be scheduled as early as the December 6, 2024, business meeting.

3.5. WAC 246-817-773 Continuing education for dentists administering sedation

- Ms. Gardner shares that some of the language from the previous sedation CE rules may not have been clearly transferred to the updated sedation continuing education requirements.
- Ms. Gardner asks the Commission to consider opening a CR-101 to review the sedation CE requirements for accuracy.
- Dr. Swanson opens the discussion for public comment.
- Dr. Carsten states that this rule could use some minor revisions for clarity.
- There is a motion to open a CR-101 for WAC 246-817-773 and assign it to the Anesthesia Committee.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and passes unanimously.

3.6. WAC 246-814 Access to dental care for children

- Ms. Gardner shares that the Commission received a request from Dr. Katie Rossitch with Washington Dental Service, to update this chapter to allow dental assistants and dental hygienists to use silver diamine fluoride in school settings.
- This rule is under the Secretary's authority in consultation with the Dental Commission and Dental Hygiene Examining Committee and was presented to the Dental Hygiene Examining Committee at the July 19, 2024, committee meeting.
- Ms. Gardner asks the Commission to consider a vote that assigns this petition to the Dental Collaboration Committee to assist the Secretary in rule writing.
- Dr. Oskouian, Dr. Carsten, and Ms. Carter discuss the nuances to the Secretary's authority over this rule, and Ms. Carter explains that statute requires the

Secretary to collaborate with both the Dental Commission and Dental Hygiene Examining Committee.

- Ms. Carter recommends that the Commission responds to the petitioner stating the Commission is interested in collaborating with the Secretary for rule writing.
- There is a motion to respond to the rule petition.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and passes unanimously.

4. CONTINUING COMPETENCY COMMITTEE – Committee meeting held on June 17, 2024
– Cheon Joo Yoon, Chair

- Dr. Pal fills in for Dr. Yoon and shares items of discussion from the most recent committee meeting including the topic of continuing competency and WAC 246-817-135 Dental licensure without examination – Eligibility and application requirements, and WAC 246-817-160 Graduates of nonaccredited schools.

4.1. Continuing Competency Proposal

4.2. Correspondence from the Washington State Dental Association Regulatory Affairs Committee

4.3. Correspondence from stakeholders

4.4. Commission may vote to approve opening a CR-101

- Dr. Pal shares highlights from the committee meeting discussion surrounding how to gauge competency in the dental profession to ensure the protection of Washington residents.
- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Carter if the Commission is currently meeting the statutory obligation.
- Ms. Carter confirms that the Commission is meeting the statutory obligations via continuing education (CE). She adds that the Commission does have authority over continuing competency, so it is a policy decision whether the Commission thinks current CE rules are sufficient.
- Dr. Pal shares that if the Commission is meeting the statutory obligations, then her opinion would be to keep the current system in place.
- Dr. Carsten shares that competency is not well related to CE and suggests looking at peer-to-peer opportunities to address continuing competency.
- Dr. Kofler shares that she believes Washington State has a robust system with the disciplinary process and complaint intake system and feels like Washington has similar requirements compared to other states. She is against opening a CR-101 to address continuing competency.
- Dr. Khan agrees with Dr. Kofler and does not support opening a CR-101.
- Dr. Rama discusses Washington State's CE requirements compared to other states.
- Ms. Spice asks for clarification surrounding CE versus competency.
- Ms. Gardner reads a statement from attendee, Dr. Bryan Fletcher, who opposes opening a CR-101.

- Dr. Bass acknowledges that the current system may not always identify incompetence, but she feels that if a new continuing competency rule was adopted, most dentists, who are competent, would be penalized due to the select few who are not competent.
- Dr. Bryan Edgar states that he feels like the current complaint process is strong and effectively identifies incompetent dentists.
- Bracken Killpack, Washington State Dental Association (WSDA), shares his concerns regarding opening a CR-101 for continuing competency and feels like the current system should be left alone.
- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Carter to clarify if opening a CR-101 to address continuing competency would require a new section to be written.
- Ms. Carter explains that anything that pertains to CE would be under the current CE rule, and anything that evaluates competency would be a new section. She suggests sending the proposal back to the Continuing Competency Committee to clarify what they are proposing.
- Dr. Swanson discusses potential options for voting; (1) If someone is in favor of opening a CR-101, they can make a motion, (2) the motion would need to be seconded, (3) a vote would need to take place.
- Ms. Carter clarifies that there needs to be a motion to open the rule, and any motion would need to be specific. If no motion is made, the Commission could choose to send it back to the Committee or the Commission could choose to do nothing.
- Dr. Carsten suggests sending it back to the Committee or discontinuing the discussion.
- Ms. Gardner reads two more comments from attendees in opposition to the rule.
- Ms. Spice clarifies the intent of the proposal, which was to prompt conversations surrounding the topic of continuing competency.
- Dr. Swanson asks if anyone would like to open the rule.
- Mr. Killpack voices his concerns over how the Continuing Competency Proposal was presented and feels like there was miscommunication.
- Dr. Carsten reiterates that this should be sent back to the Committee or dropped.
- Dr. Swanson asks again if anyone would like to open the rule.
- There is no motion made, so a vote is not needed.
- A motion is made to drop the issue of continuing competency.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and passes unanimously.

5. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Committee meeting held on July 11, 2024 – Marlynne Fulton, Chair

- Ms. Fulton shares that the Educational Outreach Committee recently approved articles for the next Newsletter, and they plan to discuss the October retreat at their next meeting.
- Ms. Fulton encourages commission members to submit retreat topic ideas.

6. AESTHETICS INTERAGENCY TASKFORCE – Meeting held on July 15, 2024 – Dr. David Carsten, Pro Tem

- Dr. Carsten provides a summary of the last taskforce meeting.
- Topics covered looked at how different departments and professions can cooperate on regulating and what scope of practice is regarding aesthetic medicines such as Botox, dermal fillers, and hydration by IV therapy.
- Dr. Carsten shares that he and dental program staff are participating in an environment of care/infection prevention subcommittee.
- Dental has provided insight to infection control rules in outpatient settings and insight on infection control inspections.
- Mr. Killpack asks if the taskforce could make any determination that would have an impact on dental statutes or rules.
- Dr. Carsten said he does not know at this point; the taskforce is currently having conversations regarding collaboration between the professions, and they are currently trying to define the problems/concerns.
- Mr. Killpack expresses his concerns regarding the dental community not being consulted if rulemaking occurs and asks for transparency from the Commission concerning the taskforce.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. advises Mr. Killpack that if any decisions are made at the taskforce meetings, they will need to be brought before the full Commission for review.
- Ms. Gardner reads a comment from attendee, Lisa Hannah, that offers to provide the taskforce with observations from the Department of Health's (DOH) Infection Prevention team during their Infection Control Assessment and Response visits in dental and ambulatory settings.
- Dr. Carsten reiterates that the taskforce is trying to address inconsistencies and a whole range of problems surrounding aesthetic medicine. It's largely a conversation amongst many health professions, he feels like it is a healthy discussion, and he does not know what the outcome will be.
- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Carter if she would be willing to present information on what a taskforce does and what their role is at DOH at the next business meeting.
- Ms. Carter agrees to provide information regarding the taskforce at the next business meeting.

7. UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

7.1. Correspondence from Dr. Jacqueline Wong

- Dr. Wong explains to the Commission that she proposed, in the interest of educational outreach, that the Commission send a representative to the University of Washington on an annual or biannual basis to speak to different levels of dental students and other stakeholders.
- Dr. Wong requests that the Commission send Dr. Carsten as the inaugural speaker due to his experience as past Chair of the Commission and as current pro tem, his work with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and his involvement with improving access to rural healthcare.
- Dr. Carsten asks Dr. Wong to clarify how many presentations she is requesting each year.
- Dr. Wong states that two presentations would be ideal: one for first-year dental students taking an early clinical immersion course, and the second one for third- and fourth-year dental students taking an ethics and professionalism course.
- Dr. Swanson states that this opportunity aligns with the Commission's business plan goals and advises the Commission that a motion and vote will be needed if they would like to accept the proposal.
- Ms. Gardner asks for clarification on which Commission members will be going to the University of Washington (UW) and asks Ms. Carter or Mr. Bronoske Jr. for clarification on updating Dr. Carsten's pro tem appointment letter.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. states the Dr. Carsten's pro tem letter can be amended to include the inaugural presentation and reminds the Commission that it may be ideal for current dentist member commissioners to fill this role moving forward.
- Ms. Carter confirms that Dr. Carsten's pro tem appointment letter can be revised for the inaugural presentation, and notes that the Commission used to participate in outreach opportunities like this prior to Covid.
- Ms. Gardner reads a comment from attendee, Dr. Robin Reinke, who shares that during her time as a commissioner, the Commission sent a commission member each year to UW to present to dental students. She supports the outreach opportunity and feels like a current commission member should provide the presentation.
- Dr. Swanson states that the Pacific Northwest University (PNWU) School of Dental Medicine should be included in this outreach opportunity.
- Dr. Kofler offers to present at PNWU, and Dr. Khan offers to present at UW.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. suggests having the motion state that Dr. Carsten will provide the inaugural presentation at UW, and his pro tem appointment letter will be

amended to include this. Any other presentations can be discussed at a future business meeting.

- The motion is made to amend Dr. Carsten's pro tem letter so he can present on August 22, 2024, at UW.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and passed unanimously.
- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Carter if the subsequent presentations can be discussed and voted on at a later meeting. Ms. Carter confirms.

8. 2023 – 2025 BUSINESS PLAN REVIEW

8.1. Commission will review 2023 – 2025 business plan and make any necessary updates.

- Ms. Gardner shares that one of the objectives in the 2023 – 2025 business plan is to hold one commission meeting annually in an area other than Tumwater and informs the Commission that Mr. Bronoske Jr. will share cost data in item 11.2.
- Ms. Gardner shares that the rest of the business plan is currently being implemented as written.

9. DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION BYLAWS

9.1. Commission may vote to approve proposed updates to bylaws.

- Dr. Swanson asks Ms. Carter if it is possible to change the name of the Dental Quality Assurance Commission in the bylaws before the name change is official.
- Ms. Carter shares that the Medical Commission did something similar where they started unofficially using their new name prior to the official name change.
- Ms. Carter shares that the Commission will be required to use the official name in contracts, official documents, and discipline, but it is reasonable to begin rebranding by using the name Dental Commission in unofficial correspondence.
- Dr. Carsten states that the Commission has been trying to change its name to the Washington State Dental Commission for quite some time.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. states that this change was considered for department sponsored legislation in 2024. The department decided not to pursue legislation at that time, but it is on the list for consideration in 2025.
- Dr. Swanson suggests that the Commission consider changing the name in the bylaws, which can be voted on at the next business meeting.
- Ms. Carter offers to assist Ms. Gardner with the bylaw updates.

10. PROGRAM REPORT

10.1. Interim operating budget report.

- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares the budget report with the Commission and notes that a recent HELMS assessment decreased the balance, but the budget is healthy overall.

11. OTHER

11.1. Exception Decision Making Criteria Matrix.

- Dr. Swanson shares that the Exception Decision Making Criteria Matrix was discussed at the June 14, 2024, meeting, and asks the Commission if they reviewed it and have any questions or comments. None were shared.
- There is a motion to approve the Exception Decision Making Criteria Matrix as presented for future use.
- The motion is approved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and passes unanimously.

11.2. Business meeting locations for 2025.

- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that the Commission voted to increase the number of hybrid meetings from two per year to four per year during the June 14, 2024, business meeting.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares data pertaining to the cost of in-person meetings.
- Dr. Carsten shares that the concern with fewer in-person meetings is reduced stakeholder contact with the Commission. He asks WSDA to articulate their preferences.
- Trish Flaig, Manager of Regulatory and Compliance Services for WSDA, shares that she would like to bring this topic to the upcoming WSDA Regulatory Affairs Committee meeting to get their feedback and have further discussion.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that this topic can be a continued conversation at future meetings.
- Dr. Swanson suggests having Ms. Flaig report back to the Commission after the Regulatory Affairs Committee meeting.

11.3. Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact

- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that the Department of Health had a meeting with WSDA, Washington Dental Hygiene Association (WDHA), Dr. Pal, Charlene Maher, Dental Hygiene Examining Committee Vice-Chair, Trina Crawford, Executive Director, and Shawna Fox, Office Director for the Office of Health Professions.
- The meeting was to discuss who Washington will send as the representative; every compact member state can only send one person.

- Washington is unique with dental and dental hygiene being a separate commission/committee.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. discusses the various candidates who were considered and informs the Commission that none of the proposed candidates were agreed upon in the meeting.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that he asked Ms. Roner-Reiter if she would be willing to be Washington's representative, and she agreed.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. asks the Commission if Mr. Roner-Reiter would be an acceptable compromise.
- Dr. Carsten speaks in support of Ms. Roner-Reiter.
- Dr. Pal asks Mr. Killpack for his response. Mr. Killpack states that WSDA will be comfortable with a candidate who is a subject matter expert on the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact. WSDA is not familiar with Ms. Roner-Reiter and will defer to the Department's judgment.
- Dr. Bass shares that she has worked closely with Ms. Roner-Reiter and highly recommends her.
- Ms. Roner-Reiter shares that her track record demonstrates her careful consideration of all parties, and she would feel comfortable acting as the representative from Washington State.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. shares that the compact commission meetings will be open to the public.
- Mr. Killpack thanks Ms. Roner-Reiter for introducing herself and encourages her to reach out to all the boards and professional associations to develop a relationship and seek input, if selected.
- Melissa Johnson with WDHA, shares that having Ms. Roner-Reiter as Washington's representative is an elegant solution to the challenge, and she will bring the information back to her organization.
- A motion is made to put forward Mr. Roner-Reiter as the Commission's choice to be the compact representative.
- The motion is moved and seconded.
- A vote is taken and passes unanimously.

12. FUTURE BUSINESS

- No items were addressed by the Commission.

13. ADJOURN

- The meeting is adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Submitted by:

Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

on file

Signature

Date

Approved by:

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

on file

Signature

Date