



# **Board of Dental Examiners**

## **Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State**

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### **Approved Meeting Minutes**

#### **\*Remote Meeting\***

**Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 9:00a.m.**

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 A.M., by Dr. Ruhl.

**Members Present:** Robert Ruhl, William Koch, Elizabeth Merrill, David Baasch, Lucille Kelly, Cheryl Ullman and Linda Greaves.

**Members Absent:** Randall Miller and Mimi Kevan.

**OPR Personnel Present:** Gabriel Gilman, General Counsel; Corey Young, Licensing Administrator I; Traci Leibowitz, Prosecuting Attorney; Ellen Leff, Case Manager; Michael Kupersmith, Administrative Law Officer; Elizabeth Kneen, Docket Clerk; Elizabeth St. James Chief Prosecutor; and Benjamin Novogroski, Prosecuting Attorney.

**Guests:** Diane Dumas, Patrick Gallivan, Matthew Glans, Ellen Grimes and Debora Teixeira.

#### **2. Approval of previous minutes:**

Dr. Baasch moved to accept the minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Board meeting as presented. Dr. Ullman seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

#### **3. Discipline:**

- a. 9:15 am – Stipulation & Consent Order, *In re: Howard Novak* – Docket # 2020-97
  - The matter was taken up early, at 9:07, upon confirmation that those wishing to participate were present. Dr. Koch moved to accept the stipulation and consent order as presented. Dr. Ullman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. 9:30 am – Contested Request for Reinstatement, *In re: Tammy Larocque* – Docket # 2019-154
  - The matter was taken up at 9:44. With assent of the parties, Dr. Koch moved to adjourn the hearing to the regular meeting of May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, with the purpose of allowing Ms. Larocque time to obtain a required letter. Ms. Kelly seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. If Ms. Larocque obtains the letter sought, she should present it to the case manager and State, and this may obviate a hearing in May.

#### **4. Other Business:**

- a. Ms. Greaves spoke to the board on Vermont Department of Health updates, including COVID-19 response and an effort to expand the availability of public health hygienists in schools.
- b. It was generally agreed, though without formal motion, that prophylactic use of SDF, consistent with ADA guidelines, may be included in a supervision agreement between a dentist and a public health hygienist.

- c. Ms. Grimes informed the board on Vermont Technical College's progress on their dental therapist course.
- d. Ms. Grimes inquired about the minimum age of eligibility to be a traditional dental assistant. Mr. Gilman observed that, though most other Board credentials are available only to a person who has reached the age of majority, no provision in law or rule prevents issuance of a TDA credential to a person under 18. Employers should be mindful of applicable labor laws.

**5. Adjournment:**

After inviting public comment, Dr. Ruhl adjourned the meeting for lack of further business at 9:52am.

Next Scheduled Meeting – Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Please check the [OPR Meeting Calendar](#) for updates