

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
89 MAIN STREET, 3rd FLOOR
MONTPELIER, VT

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE
VERMONT BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS
APRIL 12, 2017 MEETING

Present: David Baasch, Gerald Theberge, Mimi Kevan, Elizabeth Merrill, Sally Buell, Randall Miller, Robert Ruhl, William Koch, and Jennie Kendall; Absent: Dixie Vallie and Katherine Silloway. Office of Professional Regulation Personnel: S. Lauren Hibbert, Diane Lafaille, and Carla Preston; Others present: Ellen Grimes, Vaughn Collins, Deborah Teixeira, JoAnne Conant, Falko Schilling, Linda Greaves and Joy Dubin Grossman.

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.
2. The Board welcomed Dr. William Koch to the Board.
3. The minutes of the March 8, 2017 meeting as written.
4. Case Manager's Report:

The Board has 45 pending cases. 1 is on appeal, 2 are on hold, 12 are ready for Investigative Team meetings, 4 have been recommended for closure, 18 are with the investigator and 8 are pending charges.

5. Correspondence:

- a. Debora Teixeira emailed the Board stating that the Vermont Department of Health is considering extending the opportunity for dental assistants to work as Tooth Tutors. She states that Tooth Tutors who work in schools do not provide any clinical services, that they perform oral health education and help connect children to a dental home (case management). But as part of the referral process, Tooth Tutors routinely screen children's teeth so their families (and the offices they are being referred to) are made aware if they have urgent dental needs. She goes on to say that this screening is non-invasive, the Tooth Tutor does not use any dental instruments, only a pen light and a disposable mirror. They are not diagnosing any conditions, rather they are searching for obvious indications that a child needs urgent care. She asks the board if they see any issue with dental assistants performing these duties.

The Board responded that screening must be under direct supervision. A dental assistant can provide the education/data collection if the dentist feels they are trained to do this.

- b. Dr. Larry Lanham submitted an application to have the conscious sedation endorsement added to his Vermont dental license. The Board reviewed the documentation he submitted. The Board wonders which section of the Rule he is applying under. The Board is not able to find that the Texas standards are substantially equivalent to those of Vermont. The Board requests that he show the Board how the standards are substantially equivalent. The Board would also like to know which program made him qualified for the Texas conscious sedation endorsement. The Board also requires that he have 3 reference letters submitted from dentists who can attest to his ability to administer conscious sedation. Once this information is received and reviewed by the Board, he is welcome to come to a Board meeting to discuss this further.

6. Other:

- a. At the last meeting Linda Greaves requested the Board review a revision drafted by the Office Oral Health team of general supervision for hygienist's in the public setting. Changes were made and a redraft was reviewed by the Board at today's meeting. Additional changes were made. It was determined that once these changes are completed, the General Supervision Agreement can be uploaded to the Dental webpage.
- b. Draft rules for dental therapists – to be further discussed at the Board's next meeting.

The Board will obtain the CODA guidelines for dental therapists and also the Minnesota rules for credentialing of schools for review at its next meeting.
- c. Review of a proposed amendment for statute changes for 26 V.S.A. Section 602 by adding (c) and (d). The Board will continue discussion on this at future meetings.
- d. The Board will be revising its rules. Attorney Hibbert asked that members of the Board review the current rules and note additions/corrections for future discussion.
- e. The Board reviewed the Jurisprudence Examinations for Dentists. These changes will be made and the Board will review an updated draft at its next meeting. The Dental Hygienist examination will be updated for Board review at its next meeting.
- f. Vaughn Collins notified the Board that VSDS will be offering an opioid training and will be offering continuing education credits. He will submit a proposal for the Board's review.
- g. The Board's next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2017.

7. Public Comment

8. The Board adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Diane Lafaille, Licensing Board Specialist