

Minutes of the Meeting
November 21, 2003

On the 21st of November 2003, Dr. Joseph Deatherage, President, called the meeting of the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners to order. The following members were present:

Joseph Deatherage, D.M.D., M.D.
W. Gene Jines, D.D.S.
E. Wayne Looney, D.D.S.
David E. Walker, D.D.S.
John W. Ross, D.D.S.
Thomas M. Isbell, D.D.S.
Jan K. Blancett, R.D.H.
Ruby Faulconer
Barbara Fletcher

Donna Cobb, Investigator, and William H. Trice, Board Attorney, were also present.

Dr. Deatherage requested a motion for approval of the Minutes from September 26, 2003 and October 3, 2003. With one correction, a motion was made and seconded to accept the drafts of the minutes with the change. The motion passed.

Next on the agenda was a credentials interview for a dental hygiene license submitted by Mary Ann McDowell. After a few questions from the Board and with all paperwork in, a motion was made and seconded to accept Ms. McDowell's application. The motion passed.

Kathleen Reed also appeared before the Board to interview for a dental hygiene license by credentials. With all paperwork in, a motion was made and seconded to accept her application for licensure. The motion passed.

The application for a dental license by credentials for Martin E. Donaldson, D.D.S., was the next item on the agenda. A closed session was called and as a result of the closed session, Dr. Donaldson's application will be tabled.

Thelma Patricia Morales, D.D.S. appeared before the Board to discuss her provisional dental license application. At that last meeting, the Board instructed Dr. Morales to bring the dentist with whom she'll be working to the next meeting. Dr. Morales brought Dr. Daniel A. Leis. After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to grant Dr. Morales a dental license.

Next were conferences with Drs. Keith M. McClung, William J. Stewart, and William B. Perkins. Each appeared before the Board to give an update on their progress. Drs. McClung, Stewart, and Perkins reported that they were doing fine and will reappear before the Board in six months.

The next item on the agenda was a conference with Barbara Pirpich, R.D.H. The purpose of this conference was to discuss fraudulent license verification letters that were sent to Drs. David Phillips, J.C. Clemons, and Ward Clemmons by Ms. Pirpich. Also, the Board office received information that Dr. John Wheeler and Dr. Carl Friddle's dental office employed Ms. Pirpich at one time and was given CPR classes later to find out that she was not qualified to give them. Ms. Pirpich admitted that she wrote and sent the fraudulent letters to the dentists because she was trying to obtain a dental hygiene in Oklahoma. She also admitted that she gave CPR classes when she was not qualified to do so. After some questioning by the Board, Mr. Trice informed Ms. Pirpich that her actions could lead to disciplinary charges and the possible imposition of sanctions by the Board. Ms. Pirpich agreed to enter into a Consent Order with the following stipulations:

- Ms. Pirpich will enter into a contract for alcohol and scheduled medication monitoring with the Arkansas Medical Foundation for random drug screens for a period of one year. She will sign a release form for the Arkansas Medical Foundation to provide the result of said tests to the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners.
- Ms. Pirpich will notify her employing and supervising dentist of the Consent Order and request that he or she provide the Board quarterly reports over the next year as to his or her evaluation of the dental hygiene skills of Ms. Pirpich.
- Ms. Pirpich will attend each meeting of the Board for the next year pending further Orders of the Board.
- Ms. Pirpich will agree to reimburse Dr. John Wheeler and the dental office personnel of Dr. Carl Friddle \$40.00 each for six individuals that she wrongfully taught CPR to. Said payments will be made within sixty days from the date of the Consent Order.

Next was a conference with Guarionex DeCastro, II, DMD. At the June 27, 2003 meeting of the Board, Dr. DeCastro was granted a license to practice dentistry in the state of Arkansas with the provision of reporting to the Board with five patient treatment records for review. The Board reviewed Dr. DeCastro's records with no discussion.

The Board discussed a letter from Ronald Padgett, D.D.S., who was requesting that his suspension be lifted and that he be allowed to transfer his drug testing from P&L to the Medical Foundation. With little discussion, a motion was made and seconded to lift Dr. Padgett's suspension and grant his request.

William R. Garrison, D.D.S. appeared before the Board to request that his suspension be lifted. After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to lift Dr. Garrison's suspension. The Board also asked Dr. Garrison to voluntarily remove nitrous oxide from his office and to attend all meetings of the Board.

A letter from Dr. Jeffrey Rockacy was the next item of discussion. In his letter, Dr. Rockacy requested an exemption from taking the SRTA examination in order to be licensed in the state of

Arkansas. The Board denied Dr. Rockacy's request and asked Ms. Cobb to send him a letter stating that he can be licensed if he takes the SRTA examination.

The next item on the agenda was a letter from Dr. Curtis J. Bowman. In his letter, Dr. Bowman requested an exemption from taking the SRTA examination in order to be licensed in the state of Arkansas. The Board denied Dr. Bowman's request and asked Ms. Cobb to send him a letter stating that he can either take the SRTA examination or wait two years and apply for dental licensure by credentials.

A working draft of proposed Article XI was the next item of discussion. With lots of discussion by the Board and some members of the audience, a motion was made and seconded to proceed with conducting a Public Meeting at the next Board meeting. The motion died. Mr. Trice will present a new draft of the Article to the Board at its next meeting.

In her Board Office Update, Ms. Cobb briefly discussed the financial reports that were in the Board members' packets. She also informed the Board of the number of dental and dental hygiene renewals that have been received thus far. Ms. Cobb reported that the newly designed website for the Board (www.asbde.org) will be up and running in a couple of weeks. She also asked the Board for permission to employ a shredding service that will shred documents on-site and recycle them. The Board granted her request.

Dr. Looney gave the Complaint Committee Report. The Committee met the previous evening and reviewed twenty-four complaints. Fourteen of those complaints were found to have no apparent violation or were closed. Seven complaints were continued for further investigation. The Committee recommended that charges be brought against Toby Jeu, R.D.A., for using illegally using nitrous oxide after office hours. Also, the Committee recommended that charges be brought against Carol Martin, R.D.A., for forging prescriptions. Motions were moved and seconded to issue Ms. Jeu and Ms. Martin Emergency Orders of Suspension. The motions passed. A motion was also made and seconded to issue John Hargett, D.D.S. an Emergency Order of Suspension. The motion passed.

Next, Sam Hill, D.D.S., appeared before the Board in response to an Emergency Order of Suspension and Notice of Hearing charging Dr. Hill with professional incompetency and prescribing scheduled medication for non-dental reasons. After hearing testimonies from Mr. Jim Bona and Dr. Hill, a motion was made and seconded to grant a continuance so that Dr. Terry Fiddler could review Dr. Hill's patient records. The motion passed and the Hearing was suspended.

In his SRTA report, Dr. Looney reminded the Board members of their SRTA assignments and that calibration for the SRTA examination will be held Saturday, February 21, 2004. Dr. Looney gave each Board member a detailed SRTA report prior to the Board meeting.

Dr. Isbell gave a report on the Statewide Oral Health Coalition meetings that were held October 15, 2003 and November 13, 2003. Detailed reports were given to each Board member prior to the Board meeting.

The following request for approval of a fictitious name was approved:

"Ashcraft and Morgan Dental Clinic" (Douglas W. Ashcraft, D.D.S., and Richard L. Morgan, D.D.S.)

The following request for approval of a fictitious name was denied:

"Hot Spring Center for Laser Dentistry" (Gregory A. Alford, D.M.D.)

The Board requested that Mr. Trice send a letter to Dr. Alford stating that he may write a letter or appear at the next Board meeting to clarify his fictitious name.

The Board then discussed a letter from Michelle Thomas, R.D.H. In her letter, Ms. Thomas requested that the Board approve the courses "Introduction to Biochemistry" and "Ruminant Nutrition" for continuing education credit. The Board denied Ms. Thomas' request.

The Board reviewed an application for dental license reinstatement submitted by Larry C. Eddy. With all paperwork in, a motion was made and seconded to reinstate Dr. Eddy's dental license. The motion passed.

The Board members then went into an Executive Session. As a result of the closed meeting, the Board decided to make Ms. Donna Cobb the Interim Executive Director. There were no other administrative changes to the Board office.

The next meeting of the Board will be held January 9, 2004 at 8:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Wayne Looney, D.D.S.
Secretary/Treasurer