

Minutes of the Meeting  
January 9, 2004

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2004, 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 November 21, 2003. A motion was made and seconded to accept the draft of the minutes. The motion passed.

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

Next were conferences with Drs. William Garrison and Ronald Padgett. Each appeared before the Board to give an update on their progress. Drs. Garrison and Padgett reported that they were both doing fine and glad to be practicing again.

Barbara Pirpich and Vicki Smith-Holmes also appeared before the Board to give an update on their progress. Ms. Pirpich informed the Board that she has not contacted the Arkansas Medical Foundation to set up her contract. Mr. Trice stressed to Ms. Pirpich the importance of the contract. Ms. Pirpich also stated that she would be reimbursing Dr. John Wheeler and Dr. Carl Friddle's staff by the end of January. Ms. Smith-Holmes informed the Board that she was doing fine.

A letter from Dr. Jeffrey Rockacy was the next item of discussion. At the last meeting of the Board, Dr. Rockacy submitted a letter, requesting 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. Dr. Rockacy submitted another letter, inquiring when the Board would

"apply the ADA resolution to their licensure process". Again, the Board instructed Ms. Cobb to send Dr. Rockacy another letter stating that he is still ineligible for dental licensure by credentials and that he must take the SRTA examination.

The next item on the agenda was a letter from Debbie Jines, R.D.H. In her letter, Mrs. Jines requested an exemption from the CPR requirement in order to renew her dental hygiene license due to being diagnosed with fibromyalgia. After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to grant her the exemption with the understanding that she audit a Healthcare Provider CPR course. The motion passed.

A working draft of proposed Article XI was the next item of discussion. With some changes, a motion was made and seconded to approve the draft and to set the Public Hearing for April 9, 2004. The motion passed.

The next item of discussion was a letter from the American Dental Association inquiring if the Board was granting waivers of the continuing education requirement for dentists who have been deployed with the United States military. Although the Board has not received any requests for exemptions, the Board would be willing to grant waivers and will deal with the issue on a case-by-case basis.

A letter from Cora Lapuz, supervisor of the Department of Testing Services of the American Dental Association, was the next item on the agenda. In her letter, Ms. Lapuz requested that a member of the Board assist with the administration of examinations at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. A motion was made and seconded that Ms. Jan Blancett would assist. The motion passed.

Dr. Looney gave the Complaint Committee Report. The Committee met the previous evening and reviewed thirteen complaints. Nine of those complaints were found to have no apparent violation or were closed. Two complaints will receive letters. Two complaints were continued for further investigation. The next meeting of the Complaint Committee is scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 2004.

Ms. Jan Blancett gave the report on the Rules and Regulations Committee. The Committee met on Thursday, January 8, 2004. Items of discussion were Article XV (Infection Control) and Article XI (Dental Hygienist Functions). The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 2004.

In his SRTA report, Dr. Looney reminded the Board members that SRTA calibration will be held Saturday, February 21, 2004 in the Board office. Because there are many changes to the exam, training may take longer than it has in the past. Dr. Looney also reminded the Board of the following dates:

- The Southern Conference of Dental Deans and Examiners will meet January 16-18, 2004 in Biloxi, Mississippi

- The mid-year meeting of the AADE will be held March 28-29, 2004 in Chicago, Illinois
- The National Dental Examiners Advisory Forum will meet Tuesday, March 30, 2004 in Chicago, Illinois.

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 meeting that was held January 6, 2004. Detailed reports were given to each Board member prior to the Board meeting.

Next on the agenda was a letter from Dr. Emmanuel Osorio. In his letter, Dr. Osorio requested that the Board grant him permission to apply for an Arkansas dental license under the Pilot Program established by Act 661 of 2003. Upon review of the request, the Board determined Dr. Osorio did not qualify since he graduated from a dental school in Colombia and not a North American school.

The next item of discussion was the approval of Dr. Gregg Alford's fictitious name ("Hot Springs Center for Laser Dentistry"). Mr. Trice sent Dr. Alford a letter about concerns that the Board had with this fictitious name. Dr. Alford failed to appear before the Board for discussion. A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Alford's request for a fictitious name.

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 dentists and dental hygienists who have renewed for 2004-2005. Ms. Cobb asked the Board how they would like to handle CE audits as well as the dentists and hygienists who have not renewed as of January 31, 2004. The Board instructed her to call and/or send letters to those who haven't renewed and to randomly audit dentists and hygienists.

The next meeting of the Board will be held February 20, 2004 at 8:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,



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