

**BOARD OF DENTISTRY**

**899 NORTH CAPITOL ST. NE, 2<sup>nd</sup> FL.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

**Date: May 18, 2022**

**Time: 9:00 AM**

**OPEN SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**WEBEX Virtual Meeting**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all board meetings are held virtually during the declared public health emergency.

*Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:*

**This meeting is available by web:**

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m9f9126b61531ee2a059436115674d953>

Meeting number: 160 597 7295

Password: R6Mm8PPPmS3

**This meeting is available by phone:**

1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

Access code: 160 597 7295

**BOARD OF DENTISTRY**

**Open Session Meeting Minutes May 18, 2022**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS:</b>	
Dr. John R. Bailey, DDS – Interim Chairperson	Present
Ms. Yolanda Josey – Baker, RDH –Interim Vice-Chairperson	Present
Dr. Iris Jeffries-Morton, DDS- Board Member	Present
Dr. Judith Henry, DMD - Board Member	Present
Ms. Dianne Smith, ESQ - Consumer Member	Present
Dr. Michelle Latortue, DDS-Board Member	Present
<b>BOARD STAFF:</b>	
Ericka L. Walker, MSW – Executive Director	Present
Gregory Scurlock, Compliance Officer	Present
Rebecca Odrick, Board Investigator	Present
Kathleen Ibeh, Health Licensing Specialist	Present
<b>LEGAL STAFF:</b>	
Carla M. Williams, Senior Assistant General Counsel	Present

**BOARD OF DENTISTRY**

**Open Session Meeting Minutes May 18, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

OS-0518-01 **INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. as a quorum was maintained

- **Board Members**

Dr. John Bailey, DDS – Interim Chairperson (**Present**)  
Ms. Yolanda Josey-Baker, RDH – Interim Vice-Chairperson (**Present**)  
Dr. Judith Henry, DDS – Board Member (**Present**)  
Dr. Iris Jeffries-Morton, DDS – Board Member (**Present**)  
Ms. Dianne Smith, Esq. – Consumer Member (**Present**)  
Dr. Michelle Latortue, DDS – Board Member (**Present**)

- **Board Staff**

Ericka L. Walker, MSW – Executive Director (**Present**)  
Gregory Scurlock, Compliance Officer (**Present**)  
Rebecca Odrick, Investigator (**Present**)  
Kathleen Ibeh, Health Licensing Specialist (**Present**)

- **Legal Staff**

Carla Williams, Senior Assistant General Counsel (**Present**)

- **Public Attendance**

Mr. Kurt Gallagher, Executive Director – DC Dental Society (**Present**)  
Mr. Thomas Merritt – TEND (**Present**)  
Mr. Max Brown – Group360; TEND (**Present**)  
Ms. Shavonne Healy, RDH (**Present**)

OS-0518-02 **OPEN SESSION AGENDA:**

**Board Action:**

Acceptance of the **May 18, 2022**, meeting agenda.

**Motion:** The Board to accept the May 18, 2022, Meeting Agenda

**Moved by:** Ms. Dianne Smith, Esq., (Board Member)

**Seconded by:** Ms. Yolanda Josey-Baker, (Board Member)

**Motion passed unanimously**

OS-0518-03 **OPEN SESSION MINUTES:**

**Board Action:**

Consideration of the Open Session minutes from the **April 20, 2022**, meeting.

**Motion:** The Board to accept the April 20, 2022, meeting minutes.

**Moved by:** Ms. Yolanda Josey-Baker, (Board Member)

**Seconded by:** Dr. Michelle Latortue, (Board Member)

**Motion passed unanimously**

**STAFF REPORTS**

OS-0518-04	<p><b><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p>Mrs. Ericka Walker, Executive Director for the Board of Dentistry, welcomed all Board Members, Staff and Guests to the Open Session meeting. Mrs. Walker informed meeting attendees about upcoming Board meeting dates and current census reports which are located on the Open Session Agenda. Mrs. Walker also reminded attendees about <a href="https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine">https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine</a>, the District of Columbia's primary and up-to-date source for all information regarding COVID-19 and vaccinations within the District. This concluded Mrs. Walkers' report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b><u>BOD Calendar</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 18, 2022</li> <li>- June 15, 2022</li> <li>- July 20, 2022</li> <li>- August 2022 (Recess)</li> <li>- September 21, 2022</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b><u>BOD Census</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dentists (<b>1,123</b>)</li> <li>Dental Hygienists (<b>438</b>)</li> <li>Dental Hygienists with the authority to administer Local Anesthesia (<b>90</b>)</li> <li>Dental Hygienists with the authority to administer Local Anesthesia &amp; Nitrous Oxide (<b>49</b>)</li> <li>Dental Assistant Level 1 (<b>87</b>)</li> <li>Dental Assistant Level 2 (<b>441</b>)</li> <li>Teaching Licenses for Dentists (<b>2</b>)</li> <li>Teaching Licenses for Dental Hygienist (<b>0</b>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <b><u>District of Columbia COVID-19 Updates</u></b> <a href="https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine">https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine</a></li> </ol>	
OS-0518-05	<p><b><u>BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p>NONE</p>	
OS-0518-06	<p><b><u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>Dr. John Bailey, Interim Chairperson for the Board of Dentistry, shared that he attended the American Association of Dental Boards (AADB) Mid-Year Conference, which was held on April 8-9, 2022, virtually. The mission of the conference is to provide a forum for all Dental Boards and stakeholders across the United States to exchange information. Some topics covered during the conference included <i>Oral Health, Evidence &amp; Data Driven Approaches to Achieve Better Healthcare Equity, Trends in Dental Education and Telemedicine</i>. Also included during the conference was a panel</p>	

	discussion on the AADB's Remediation Program (referrals, disciplinary action, and fitness to practice.) The conference concluded with a caucus of members from different regions discussing what occurred within the previous year and how to better collaborate to improve services to the public overall. This concluded Dr. Bailey's report.	
<b>DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>		
OS-0518-07	<b><u>LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS- FYI Only</u></b>  <a href="http://dccouncil.us/events/list">http://dccouncil.us/events/list</a>	
OS-0518-08	<b><u>Board of Dentistry 2019 &amp; 2021 Audit</u></b>  <b>Motion: The Board to utilize the same sample pool for both the 2019 and 2021 Audit.</b> <b>Moved by:</b> Dr. Iris Jeffries -Morton (Board Member) <b>Seconded by:</b> Yolanda Josey-Baker, RDH (Board Member) <b>The motion passes unanimously.</b>	
OS-0518-09	<b><u>DENTAL BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES</u></b>  1. <b><u>Credentials &amp; Audits:</u></b> <b>Dr. Iris Jeffries-Morton/Dr. John Bailey/Ms. Yolanda Josey-Baker, RDH</b> Dr. Iris Jeffries-Morton, (Board Member) informed meeting attendees that in addition to reviewing and approving many applications (for new applicants and those applying for reinstatement of licensure), the subcommittee is still working on a Dental Assistant Externship Program. In review of approved programs already established in neighboring states, Maryland and Virginia, the externship is a vital part of the clinical experience for the students of which the adjunct professors and instructors will be in partnership with the Dentists and Dental Offices.  Shavonne Healy, RDH inquired if the interest in creating externships in the District was only for already existing Dental Assistant programs or was there also discussion for establishing more or new Dental Assisting Programs in the District.  Dr. Jeffries-Morton indicated that currently, there is one approved Dental Assistant School in the District, of which the proposed externship program will be incorporated there. Dental Assistant schools requesting for approval to open must go through the Board of Education in collaboration with the Board of Dentistry; however, at this time, several dentists have indicated their interest in having externships in their offices.  2. <b><u>Communications:</u></b> <b>Ms. Yolanda Josey-Baker, RDH</b> No report.	

	<p>3. <b><u>Regulatory Affairs:</u></b>  <b>Dr. Judith Henry/Ms. Dianne Smith, Esq./Ms. Yolanda Josey-Baker RDH</b>  Dr. Judith Henry informed meeting attendees that the updates to the Scope of Practice for Dental Assistants were ready to be shared and for their comments. Regarding the Dental Hygienist Scope of Practice, regulations from across the Nation were reviewed; in particular, functions and levels of supervision. Prompted by a letter from the DC Dental Hygienist Association to the Board, four functions were considered: <b>Limited Prescriptive Authority, Blood Glucose Testing, Local Anesthesia</b> (which is now permitted under direct supervision of a dentist) and <b>Dental Hygiene Diagnosis</b>. The Board is interested in adding Limited Prescriptive Authority (under direct supervision) to DC regulations. Blood Glucose Testing and Dental Hygiene Diagnosis will not be pursued at this time.</p> <p>Ms. Shavonne Healy, RDH inquired about the timeline of the Dental Hygienist Scope of Practice finalization. Ms. Dianne Smith, Esq (Board Member) responded that at this time, the Scope of Practice for all three license types are being updated all together. The Regulatory Subcommittee plans to have the Scope of Practice for the Dental Hygienist license type available by next month.</p> <p>Kurt Gallagher, Executive Director of the DC Dental Society, thanked the Board for their efforts in modernizing the Scope of Practice for the Dental Assistant license type. He requested for a summary of the updated Scope of Practice be shared with the meeting attendees and inquired if it included an expansion to allow the Dental Assistants to perform periodontal polishing. Ms. Healy supported the suggestion for Dental Assistants to perform coronal polishing adding that with appropriate training, she believes that it will help with current issues pertaining to workforce.</p> <p>Dr. Judith Henry (Board Member) indicated that it was not included, with Dr. John Bailey (Board Interim-Chairperson) adding that polishing involves using a high-speed instrument of which was not allowed at this time.</p> <p>Ms. Carla Williams (Board Attorney) presented the Scope of Practice for the Dental Assistant license type and reviewed the Subcommittee's recommendations and additions with meeting attendees.</p>
OS-0518-10	<p><b><u>COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kurt Gallagher</b> requested for more clarification regarding the temporary licenses via reciprocity and endorsement. Mrs. Ericka Walker, Executive Director of the Board of Dentistry, reiterated that for the DC Board of Dentistry, the pathway for temporary licensing is via endorsement, not reciprocity. Applicants seeking for the 90-day temporary licensure must meet the following conditions/requirements: submission of application for full licensure; submit an NPDB self-query report; provide screenshots of license lookup of licensure in other states from their websites; attest of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and a clean Criminal Background Check. Additionally, Mr. Gallagher referred to the July 2021 Open Session meeting discussion point, of which the Board was to authorize Mrs. Walker to review</li> </ul>

and approve clean (examination and endorsement) applications, license renewals, license reactivations & reinstatements. He shared that if Ms. Walker was to have that authority, it would most likely expedite the process. Mrs. Walker acknowledged that she does have the authority to review and approve applications; however, what often causes the delay in processing is that applications submitted are not always complete. When an application is reviewed, an email is sent to the applicant requesting for the missing items and staff moves on to review the next applicant.

- **Thomas Merritt** inquired about the value of the temporary license if it only adds more documents for review/to the process in comparison to the completed full application. Mr. Merritt commented that the current process does not seem to solve the access to care issue. Mrs. Walker addressed Mr. Merritt's concerns by explaining that if the applicant submits all required documents as outlined in the Director's Declaration, the access to care issue can be solved. Mrs. Walker added that the documents/requirements for a temporary license are solely dependent on the applicant's submittal in comparison to an application for full licensure which involves other entities (ex. transcripts, board exam scores, verifications of licensure.) Mrs. Walker encouraged meeting guests to have applicants who have submitted all required documents and are waiting for temporary licensure to send an email to Ms. Kathleen Ibeh, Health Licensing Specialist, and to copy her as well. (Both email addresses were posted.)
- **Max Brown** informed meeting attendees that the budget approved by DC Council included additional funds which were allocated to hire more staff, particularly in licensing. Mr. Brown inquired about the Board's plan regarding hiring more staff. Mrs. Walker commented that leadership has not yet provided any guidelines as to how those funds will be distributed towards hiring more staff.



**BOARD OF DENTISTRY**

**Open Session Meeting Minutes May 18, 2022**

<b>CLOSING</b>		
OS-0518-11	<p><b><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></b></p> <p>The Board member should move as follows:</p> <p>“Mister Board Chair, I move that the Board close the Open Public session portion of the meeting and move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the following purposes: to discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to § 2-575(b)(9); to seek the advice of counsel to the board, to preserve the attorney-client privilege, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4); and to plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigations pursuant to § 2-575(b)(14).”</p>	
	<p><b>Motion:</b> The Board to close the Open Session meeting.  <b>Moved by:</b> Dr. Iris Jeffries-Morton, (Board Member)  <b>Seconded by:</b> Dr. Judith Henry, (Board Member)</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b></p> <p>The Board voted unanimously.</p>	
	<p>This concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the reasons set forth in the motion.</p>	

This ends the Open Session Agenda, next meeting is scheduled for **June 15, 2022.**  
The meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

*This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at [opengovoffice@dc.gov](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov).*