



Department of Health

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## Board of Examiners in Dentistry

### Open Session Minutes for January 6, 2021

#### 1. Establishment of a Quorum

An 8:00A.M. roll call of board members established that a quorum was present:

##### BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Marian Royer, DMD, Chair  
Ernest Votolato, DMD, Vice Chair  
Julie Galleshaw, RDH/PHDH, Secretary  
Ricardo Burdiel, DMD  
Lindsay Cassidy, DMD  
Samuel Zwetchkenbaum, DDS, Dental Director  
Kelly Orr, Pharm D.  
John Duhaime, DMD  
Charlotte Bigg, DMD  
Mary McCabe, DDS  
Marie Jones-Bridges, RDH/PHDH  
Virginia Cairrao, CDA

##### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

none

##### STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Robert Bartro, DDS, Administrative Consultant

#### 2. Special Order of Business

ADEX Meeting Report: Dr. Russell Chin reported on the latest ADEX activities and explained what ADEX was all about for people new to the subject. He advised that nearly all states accept the ADEX exam for initial dental licensure (exceptions are NY and Washington DC). The Compedont simulated tooth is being utilized in the examinations, and is very similar to natural tooth structure in handling characteristics. Due to the pandemic, clinical examinations are not occurring, so the exams are being conducted using typodonts and Compedont. Dr. Chin announced the latest officers of ADEX, and described any testing modifications. An upcoming annual CDCA meeting will be held virtually.

### **3. Presentation of the December 2, 2020 Open Session Minutes**

Following notification of a typographical error that did not affect meaning, and upon a **motion** by Ms. Jones-Bridges; **seconded** by Ms. Galleshaw, the December 2, 2020 Open Session Minutes were unanimously **approved**.

### **4. Report of the Chair**

Dr. Marian Royer welcomed the attendees and wished them a Happy New Year.

- Dr. Royer's reported that a previously approved Board draft relating to Teledentistry is out for review by Ms. Lauren Gareau, Rules Coordinator. After review the draft will be returned to the Board with any suggested changes, and later followed by a period for public comment.
- CDCA hosts a virtual meeting this week.
- Dr. Royer attended a meeting of State Board Chairs and Administrators.
- CCRI is in the process of working to fill the Clinic Manager position. Concerns have been expressed about the viability of the CCRI Dental Assisting program.
- Yankee Dental Congress will be held virtually.
- Dr. Royer commented that dentistry is essential healthcare, and that the responsibilities are overwhelming.
- Many dental personnel have expressed interest in becoming vaccinators.
- The Rhode Island Dental Association is working on the issues of distribution and application of vaccines. There was a strong sentiment expressed that dentists and dental personnel should be prioritized to receive the vaccine, especially since they work in close proximity to patients who are not wearing masks, and in an environment where aerosols are produced.
- Our next meeting will be on 6 January 2021.

### **5. Consulting Administrator's Report**

- The name of each new Licensee was read.

### **6. Report of the Dental Director**

COVID-19 report:

- Case trends reviewed
- COVID-19 Healthcare team providing guidance to practices with positive cases, including dental offices
- Vaccine update provided
- Testing update provided- BinaxNOW available for offices

### **7. Old Business**

- none

### **8. New Business**

- The Board voted unanimously to permit Dr. Zwetchkenbaum bring up the topic of tooth whitening. A vote to introduce a subject that is not on the agenda is limited to discussion only.
- A discussion took place discussing the application of 'gemstones' to teeth by individuals that are not licensed dental professionals. No action was taken at this meeting.

- Regional Testing for Initial Dental/Dental Hygiene Licensure: **Motion** was made (Dr. Burdiel), and seconded (Ms. Galleshaw) to **Accept for initial licensure either in-person patient based clinical examinations, or, the typodont/Compedont examinations, beginning now and into the future.** Discussion ensued, and by a unanimous **Vote** of the Board, the **motion carried.**

## 9. **Public Comment**

- Dr. Chin thanked Dr. Zwetchkenbaum and RIDA for their work related to COVID-19. He questioned why there are no dentists on the Vaccine Advisory Committee. Dr. Chin expressed that dentists should be allowed to administer vaccines.

## 10. **Motion to Adjourn to Closed Session**

- **Motion** was made by Dr. Cassidy, and **seconded** by Dr. Zwetchkenbaum (at 9:50AM) to adjourn to Closed Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(4) of the Rhode Island General Laws. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Closed Session.

## 11. **Motion to Return to Open Session**

- **Motion** to return to Open Session was made by Ms. Cassidy, **seconded** by Dr. Duhaime at 11:10AM., and unanimously approved. Pursuant to Sections 42-46-4, 42-46-5 and 42-46-7 a motion to seal the minutes of the Closed Session (**motion**-Ms. Galleshaw; **second**-Dr. Zwetchkenbaum) was voted and unanimously approved.

## 12. **Final Actions on All Votes Taken in Closed Session**

- Two determinations to Administratively Close
- One case continued

## 13. **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Cassidy, seconded by Dr. Votolato. Upon a unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 11:15AM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Robert Bartro*

*Administrative Consultant*

*State of Rhode Island*

*Center for Professional Boards and Commissions*

*Board of Examiners in Dentistry*