

# **North Dakota Board of Dental Examiners**

## **MINUTES**

### **SPECIAL MEETING**

**August 24, 2020, 6:30 PM CDT**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:39 PM CDT.
2. Roll call:

#### **Board Members and Staff Attendance**

**Greg Evanoff, DDS, President**                      **Rita Sommers, Executive Director**  
**Alison Fallgatter, DDS, President-Elect**      **Tara Brandner, Assistant Attorney General**  
**Mike Goebel, DDS**  
**Otto Dohm, DDS**  
**Bev Marsh, RDH**

#### **Board Members Absent**

**Tim Mehlhoff, CPA, Treasurer**                      **Mike Keim, DDS**

3. Pending Executive Order: The NDBDE convened to discuss potential language for a pending Executive Order (EO). Discussion: At its June 12, 2020 quarterly meeting the Board moved to authorize Ms. Brandner to contact the Governor's Office for assistance; laws regarding dental clinical competency dental examinations specify "patient-based" exams for restorative and periodontal procedures. No members are aware of available patient-based exams. Due to COVID-19 regional board exam agencies are offering manikin based exams rather than live patient exams. The Board determined deleting the language of "patient-based" exam would satisfy their intent of amending the clinical exam process for those candidates who have been unable, due to COVID-19, to take patient-based exams.

During discussion of the manikin based exam the general consensus of the Board was stated as follows:

- A written exam is not the same as a live patient exam or manikin based exam and the Board is therefore unwilling to add to their request to the Governor's office acceptance of a written examination.
- Under present circumstances, the Board would accept results of the skills demonstrated on a manikin but disagrees that clinical skills can be measured through a written exam. Ms. Brandner will also review laws related to temporary licensure.
- As long as candidates successfully complete each of the disciplines/components as required by the current ND Administrative Code (NDAC) during a manikin based clinical board, a patient based clinical board would not be required at a later date once patient-based exams are again available.
- A testing candidate may potentially successfully complete required components from one testing agency and complete other required components (such as periodontal manikin component) with another board-accepted testing agency (CRDTS is currently planning to offer a dental manikin perio exam in October, 2020 at Vermillion).

Ms. Brandner will work with the Governor's office to craft the language consistent with the requirements of the current NDAC to include all disciplines/components of current rule offered by a regional testing agency.

4. The next meeting of the NDBDE will be held September 18, 2020, Fargo.
5. Adjournment: Moved by Dr. Fallgatter to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Evanoff. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rita Sommers, Executive Director

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Tim Mehlhoff, CPA, Secretary-Treasurer