

**State Board of Dentistry
Meeting Summary
November 17, 2023**

Miscellaneous

Molly Paulhaus introduced herself as the as the new representative from the Attorney General's Office. She works in the health care division.

Report Of Board Counsel

Regulation 16A-4621 Anesthesia Update

Board Counsel reviewed several changes to the proposed rulemaking and indicated that he will draft a Preamble. One change includes reference to the use of transport equipment (wheelchair transport to car) for patients.

Regulation 16A-4628 General Revisions

Board Counsel stated that he must draft the Preamble to the proposed rulemaking. The board had a general discussion related to recognized specialties in the regulations and whether to consider other areas of practices. It was mentioned that the federal government has rendered an opinion that a health care practitioner may advertise as a specialist that is currently not recognized by the American Dental Association (ADA) when certain requirements are met. The ADA recognizes 12 specialties, but there is still a pathway to advertise as specialist in another practice area. This entails completion of post-doctoral education programs and other requirements, as well.

Counsel clarified that the provision requiring an automated external defibrillator applies to all locations where dental services are provided.

Board Chairman report

Dr. Casey reported the following:

- 1,500 people were treated at MOM-N-PA event in June.
- Dr. Casey believes that there are problems with the Council on State Governments (CSG) Dentists and Dental Hygienists Licensing Compact, and encouraged board members to speak to state lawmakers about their concerns. Board members may do so personally and not as representatives of the board. Dr. Casey stated that Act 41, which provides provisional licenses to qualified applicants, is "working well," and he believes that all applicants should have to pass a clinical licensing exam in order to obtain a Pennsylvania license. He referenced the OSCE exam as insufficient because it does not contain a clinical component. Dr. Casey believes that the current system for licensing dentists and dental hygienists in the Commonwealth is sufficient and that all stakeholders can work together to changes when necessary.
- The Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs issued a Request-for-Proposal to accept bids for a new licensing system that will replace PALS. The deadline for submission is November 27, 2023.
- All future board meetings will be held at 2525 N. Seventh Street in Harrisburg.

Discussion on Dentist and Dental Hygienist Licensing Compact

The board indicated that it discussed this issue in full during its last meeting, and that the CSG Compact is, at this point, a legislative matter. The American Association of Dental Boards (AABD), which introduced an alternative licensing model, may also choose to pursue legislative action.

Committee Reports

Legislative Committee: Dr. Brice Arndt stated that his committee met to discuss a request from the American Dental Implantology Association to amend regulations to recognize dental implantology as a specialty, so that dentists who meet certain requirements may advertise as such. The board tabled a discussion for a future meeting.

Election of Officers

The board voted the following:

- Dr. Jennifer Unis Sullivan- Chair
- Dr. Shawn Casey- Vice Chair
- Theresa Groody, EFDA-Secretary

2024 Meeting Dates

January 12

March 15

May 10

July 19

September 13

November 15