



**TEXAS STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS
BOARD MEETING**

Convenes on November 8, 2024 – 8:30 a.m. – Conclusion
George H.W. Bush State Office Building
1801 Congress Avenue, Suite 4.300
Austin, TX 78701

MINUTES

1. Call to Order.

Dr. Yu called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m. and asked Dr. Melchor to read the mission of the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.

2. Roll Call of Board Members.

Dr. Yu asked Dr. Henderson to call the roll and a quorum was present.

Dr. Linda Burke	Present
Mr. Ricky Garcia	Present
Dr. Bryan Henderson	Present
Ms. Lorie Jones	Present
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	Present
Dr. Margo Melchor	Present
Dr. Robert McNeill	Present
Ms. Lois Palermo	Present
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	Present
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	Present

Staff present: Ms. Nichols, Executive Director, Ms. Studdard, General Counsel, Ms. Sanchez, Assistant General Counsel, Mr. Richards, Litigation Manager, Ms. Kappel, Deputy Executive Director, Ms. Mendez, Director of Licensing, Ms. Fernandez, Licensing Specialist, Dr. Bell, Dental Director, Ms. Hieber, Director of Investigations, Mr. Gregory, Director of IT, Mr. Matthews, IT Department, Ms. Richardson, Executive Assistant

3. Discussion and Approval of Minutes from Previous Board Meetings.

a. Minutes for August 9, 2024 Board Meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by Dr. McNeill and seconded by Dr. Burke.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

4. Presiding Officer Report.

a. Advisory Committee on Dental Anesthesia Nominations and Vote.

A motion was made to approve the Dental Anesthesia Nominations of Dr. Nelson and Dr. Moorani by Ms. Jones and seconded by Dr. Morehead.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

b. Dental/Hygiene/Assistant Education Reports.

AADB is not accepting CRDTS for the compact.

ADEX: Ms. Jones met with AADB, WREB, SRTA and one key point is an occupational analysis for dentists. All the testing agencies use the occupational analysis and it showed this year that 48% of dentists are doing hygiene procedures and they don't know what is contributing to it. Ms. Palermo advised that there will be a change in dental exam hours in 2026. The next ADEX meeting is in Chicago in February 2025.

TIMECODE 1:03:29

Dr. Melchor reported that the steering sessions were completed and she, Ms. Jones, and Dr. Joe Diaz from Brownsville are the current Texas steering committee. They discussed exam updates, statistics, and the compact. Next year the meeting will be in Grapevine, Texas.

SRTA: Dr. Morehead reported on CRDTS and everyone voted and the merger was approved.

AADB: Ms. Jones reported that the compact update was discussed, they learned what other states were dealing with, i.e. hygienists practicing without hygiene licenses, practitioners that apply dental gems etc. She advised the mental health discussion was robust and Dr. McNeill brought a roundtable of leaders to speak and it was a valuable discussion.

Dr. Henderson has been added to the CDCA steering committee.

Emily Falls of the College of Mainland Dental Hygiene Program Director gave her report virtually.

TIMECODE 1:23:12

4. Professional Recovery Network Report (PRN).

Ms. Leal gave her report virtually.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Cases Heard before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

a. Docket No. 504-24-13747, Girish Shelke, Petitioner/Applicant. Consideration of the Administrative Law Judge's Proposal for Decision on Summary Disposition, Recommendations and Board Action.

Assistant General Counsel, Ms. Sanchez lead the discussion.

A motion was made to approve the SOAH order of the board and deny the applicant license by Dr. Henderson and seconded by Dr. McNeill.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

- c. Docket No. 504-24-21741, Jason P. White, DDS, License Number 22697. Consideration of the Administrative Law Judge's Proposal for Decision on Summary Disposition, Recommendations and Board Action.

Staff attorney Ms. Davidson spoke about the case.

A motion was made to approve the SOAH order of the board and revocation of the license by Dr. Jones and seconded by Dr. Melchor.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Anesthesia Committee Report and Recommendations.

- a. Committee recommendation and possible action on 22 Tex. Admin. Code §107.400, Collection and Reporting of Enforcement and Licensing Data.

Dr. Henderson thanked IT staff member Daniel Matthews for the thorough and dense data report and the committee asked for various charts to allow for identifying trends.

- b. Committee recommendation and possible action on Staff's update on the issuance of local infiltration anesthesia certificates to dental hygienists pursuant to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §115.10, Administration of Local Infiltration Anesthesia.

Mr. Lannen, Anesthesia Division Specialist, presented the update on local infiltration anesthesia certificates to dental hygienists. Ms. Nichols thanked the TDHA and agency staff on providing support for the process. Ms. Palermo asked how hygienists get a certificate if they've been doing anesthesia for 25 years but their old school no longer exists to provide documentation. All issues with providing documentation can be addressed by TSBDE staff on a one by one basis. Dr. Henderson advised that we have received 276 applications and we've approved 106 to date.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Disciplinary Review Committee Report and Recommendations.

Dr. Maldonado thanked her committee members.

a. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Case Resolutions.

i. Agreed Settlement Orders.

A motion was made to approve the Agreed Settlement Orders by Dr. Maldonado and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

ii. Remedial Plans.

TIMECODE 2:04:11

A motion was made to approve the Remedial Plans by Dr. Maldonado and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

iii. Agreed Administrative Penalties.

A motion was made to approve the Agreed Administrative Penalties by Dr. Maldonado and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

iv. Consent Orders.

Dr. Yu advised on pulling the case 2024-0105 as they found the Minnesota board reinstated her license. The committee sent the case back to the agency staff without an order.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

A motion was made to approve the Consent Orders except 2024-0105 by Dr. Maldonado and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For

Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

v. Pre-ISC Recommendations of Dismissal.

A motion was made to approve the Pre-ISC Recommendations except 2023-01446 by Dr. Maldonado and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

A motion was made by Dr. Maldonado to approve Case 2023-01446 with a rule 108.8 reminder and no second is needed as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

vi. Post-ISC Recommendations of Dismissal.

A motion was made to approve the Post-ISC Recommendations by Dr. Maldonado and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For

Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

vii. Modification Orders--None.

viii. Discussion of Specific Orders--None.

- b. Committee recommendation and possible action on a presentation from the Central Regional Dental Testing Services (CRDTS) regarding its remediation program.

TIMECODE 2:13:25

Ms. Catrice Opitchka gave her CRDTS CARE PROGRAM presentation in person.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Dental Practice Committee Report and Recommendations.

- a. Committee recommendation and possible action on a presentation from the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB).

A review of DANB was presented at the committee meeting. No action.

- b. Committee recommendation and possible action on rule reviews in accordance with Section 2001.039, Texas Government Code:

- i. For Proposal: Chapter 108, Professional Conduct (§108.1 – 108.16, 108.20 – 108.24, 108.40 – 108.43, 108.50 – 108.63, 108.70 – 108.74)

Ms. Studdard led the discussion.

TIMECODE 2:54:13

A motion was made to approve the rule reviews of Chapters 108 and 112 as presented by Dr. Burke and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For

Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	Absent for vote
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 9 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

ii. For Proposal: Chapter 112, Visual Dental Health Inspections (§112.1 – 112.3)

c. Committee recommendation and possible action on 22 Tex. Admin. Code §111.1, Additional Continuing Education Required.

Ms. Studdard led the discussion and explained that this is a clean up of the rule eliminating subsection A that is no longer in effect.

A motion was made to approve the changes to the rules of additional CE required by Dr. Burke and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

d. Committee recommendation and possible action on the delegation of digital scanning of final impressions for prostheses to dental assistants.

Dr. Burke led the discussion on the non-action item and stakeholder meeting comments were reviewed. Dr. Melchor added to the discussion that the point is to make it the safest for the public. Ms. Jones added that the dentist has the final look at the scan before it is sent off and we can use technology (a thousand images per second) that was not available when the statute was created. Board staff will take time to discuss their comments. Dr. Robirds was available to speak if needed. No action.

- e. Committee recommendation and possible action on public comments received from the September 27, 2024 stakeholder meeting regarding 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§108.42, Obtaining a Mobile Dental Facility Permit and 113.2, X-Ray Laboratories.

Dr. Burke led the discussion. Ms. Studdard added that removed 108.42 subsection C6D.

A motion was made to approve the 108.42 Obtaining a Mobile Dental Facility Permit by Dr. Burke and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

Ms. Studdard led the discussion. The committee voted to remove language to be determined by board staff and they uploaded the new language to board materials. Ms. Studdard led the discussion on removing Section C and declined to include ALARA standard language (as low as reasonably achievable) as it would be confusing.

A motion was made to approve the new language in rule 113.2 X-ray laboratories by Dr. Burke and seconded by Ms. Jones.

TIMECODE 3:04:50

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Continuing Education Review Committee Report and Recommendations.

Dr. Melchor thanked her committee.

- a. Committee recommendation and possible action on 22 Tex. Admin. Code §102.1, Fees.

Dr. Melchor led the discussion on an annual, one-time fee of \$100 for CE providers.

A motion was made to approve the \$100 fee for CE providers by Dr. Melchor and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

- b. Committee recommendation and possible action on 22 Tex. Admin. Code §114.12, Continuing Education for Registered Dental Assistants.

Dr. Melchor led the discussion on the RDAs and the amendment of 2 hours of 12 hours on Rules and Regulations in the biennial renewal cycle. Ms. Sanchez elaborated on the proposal. Dr. Melchor added that the CEs are difficult for RDAs and a large percentage don't complete them. Dr. Henderson asks if the RDAs commented or the TDA commented? Ms. Nichols indicates that it has not gone out for public comment yet. Dr. Burke commented that her concern is how easy it is to find courses available that teaches this subject? Ms. Jones states the courses will be created depending on what the board passes. DANB did a survey of consumers and what they expect of the RDAs and they expect them to be knowledgeable and educated. Dr. Burke does not feel this should be tacked on to their requirements but feels the Dentist should teach them what duties are allowed and not allowed, the RDAs should be focused on clinical. Ms. Palermo stated that without anonymous reporting there are issues with RDAs currently and they can perform duties without a dentist present so this is imperative.

A motion was made to approve the additional 2 hours of 12 for Rules and Regulations CE by Dr. Melchor and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	Against
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	Against
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 8 AGAINST: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

- c. Committee recommendation and possible action on 22 Tex. Admin. Code §104.1, Continuing Education Requirements.

Dr. Melchor led the discussion on the suggestion of attesting to reading the TSBDE web-site and newsletter for 2 hours of CE credit. The State Board of Dental Examiners (Board) proposes this amendment to 22 TAC §104.1, concerning continuing education requirements. The proposed amendment allows dentists and dental hygienists to reduce their 24-hour continuing education requirement by 2 hours if they attest they read all newsletters issued by the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners during the renewal period. The proposed amendment does not apply to the 16-hour technical and scientific requirement. Dr. Burke asks if this discussion included staffing needs? Could it be taken advantage of? Dr. McNeill spoke about the need for licensees to read our current news. He would like the newsletter shortened. Dr. Melchor asks how staff would handle the certification, attestation, etc. Dr. Henderson spoke about the time it takes to read is different for everyone and it might take someone 5 hours to read vs. 15 minutes for another. Dr. Yu pointed out that reading old newsletters will have old information that is not applicable. Dr. Melchor asks about the newsletter content and who creates it, how much content is needed for 2 hours of credit, who will monitor this and how much time is added for staff and does it need a committee? Mr. Garcia spoke about reading project manager case studies being valuable in his experience as a Project Manager but it was unstructured and not required. Ms. Nichols presented the metrics of 75,000 newsletters were sent and 45,000 were opened. Daniel Mathews advised that 63% of the email list opens the newsletter.

TIMECODE 3:40:03

A motion was made to adopt the rule as written by Dr. McNeill and seconded by Dr. Henderson.

Dr. Linda Burke	Against
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For

Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	Against
Dr. Margo Melchor	Against
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	Against

FOR: 6 AGAINST: 4 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

- d. Committee recommendation and possible action on review of continuing education providers pursuant to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §104.2.

Dr. Melchor led the discussion and the CE providers on our website were reviewed and Dental Risk Solutions was contacted as their website is not available and they may not be in business.

Break began at 11:00am
Break ended at 11:51am

Dr. Shepard made a public comment about §104.1 and the veracity of the attestation and suggested they go to a separate place to take an exam. Add a “want to get a CE for reading this newsletter? And create a 10 question exam.”

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Licensing Committee Report and Recommendations.

Dr. McNeill thanked his committee and noted that Ms. Lamb was absent.

- a. Committee recommendation and possible action on currently proposed rule from the August 9, 2024 Board Meeting: 22 Tex. Admin. Code §102.1, Fees.

Ms. Kappel led the discussion and gave background on this fee. In December 2023 the state auditors noted that the late fees we were charging were incorrect and the fee change reflects that. An extra \$15 charge on the dental renewal was also imposed that will be corrected.

A motion was made to approve the 102.1 fee by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For

Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

- b. Committee recommendation and possible action on remediation programs and requirements in other states.

Dr. McNeill spoke on the general discussion of taking a remediation program without permission from the board and/or taking the test multiple times.

No action taken.

- c. Committee recommendation and possible action on application for a registered dental assistant course provider: College of the Mainland

The item was tabled.

- d. Committee recommendation and possible action on application for registration of a non-profit authorized to employ dentists: Smile Foundation, LLC

A motion was made to approve the Smile Foundation, LLC by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

- e. Committee recommendation and possible action on Staff's recommended application denial: 2025-Q1-DDS1

Ms. Mendez led the discussion. Dr. Kawaiiah applied for licensure and was denied due to the applicant's previous disciplinary action taken by other licensing boards, namely Quebec, Canada; Newfoundland and Labrador; and Aruba Medical Tribune.

A motion was made to approve the denial of 2025-Q1-DDS1 by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

- f. Committee recommendation and possible action on requests for exception to Board rules:
 - i. 2025-Q1-DDS2

TIMECODE 4:21:14

Ms. Mendez led the discussion. The applicant Dr. Maheen Rahman applied for licensure. During the review of the application package it was discovered that the applicant had taken and failed the Posterior Restorative component of the ADEX examination administered by CDCA-WREB-CITA three times. The applicant successfully passed this component on the fourth attempt without completing a board approved remediation.

A motion was made to approve the exception to board rule of 2025-Q1-DDS2 by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

ii. 2025-Q1-DDS3

TIMECODE 4:26:38

Ms. Sanchez spoke about the renewal of licensure request. Dr. Nikhilesh Choudhary practiced in Wisconsin and was ordered a reprimand that is different from Texas and he was not allowed to renew his license in Texas with the reprimand. He won't sign the ASO that is needed to renew his license and will go to SOAH.

A motion was made to deny the exception to board rule of 2025-Q1-DDS3 by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Discussion: The attorney, Mr. Loiacono asked the board to table the motion and give Ms. Sanchez and Mr. Loiacono to work out the issue. Ms. Sanchez advises that we can send the issue back to staff to consider. Dr. Henderson asks about the standard procedure if all licensees with out of state orders and Ms. Sanchez confirms this is in the disciplinary matrix. It is standard that the licensee would sign the ASO to move forward. Ms. Sanchez advised that a new order would need to be generated.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

No vote was taken to send it back to staff.

g. Committee recommendation and possible action on requests for remediation approval:

i. 2025-Q1-DDS4

Ms. Mendez led the discussion. The applicant, Dr. Anas Aljumaili, submitted a request for Remediation Approval. The remediation program will be offered by the University of Florida College of Dentistry. Information regarding the program is included in your materials for review. The candidate has taken and failed the Posterior Restorative component of the ADEX - Dental exam four times and has passed this component on the fifth attempt without an approved remediation. Attorney Boyd Shepard and the applicant spoke in person. He spoke on his own behalf virtually that the remediation is a financial burden.

He checked many schools and none offered 1000 hour remediation programs. Ms. Palermo commented on the benefits of 1000 hours remediation given the portions he failed.

TIMECODE 4:49:10

A motion was made to approve the 80 hours of remediation and the entire clinical exam by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	Against
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	Abstain
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	Against
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 7 AGAINST: 2 ABSTAIN: 1 MOTION: CARRIES

ii. 2025-Q1-DDS5

Ms. Nichols led the discussion about remediation and it was approved by the committee yesterday and then was advised that she does not want to do remediation. Dr. Thanuja Ramanna spoke on her own behalf virtually that the remediation is a financial burden. She explained her past procedures performed in oral facial pain training.

A motion was made to approve the 80-hour remediation by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	Abstain
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 9 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 MOTION: CARRIES

iii. 2025-Q1-DDS6

Dr. McNeill advised the applicant submitted a Request for Remediation Approval.

A motion was made to approve the 80-hour remediation program by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

iv. 2025-Q1-DDS7

Dr. McNeill led the discussion.

TIMECODE 50.04:00

A motion was made to approve the 80-hour remediation by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

v. 2025-Q1-RDH1

Dr. McNeill led the discussion.

A motion was made to approve the 40-hour remediation request by Dr. McNeill and no second was required as it came from committee.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	Absent
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 10 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

- h. Committee recommendation and possible action on request for alternative courses or procedures regarding continuing education requirement pursuant to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §104.1(1): 2025-Q1-RDH2

Case withdrawn.

12. Public Comments. None.

13. Agency Activity Reports.

- a. Executive Division Report.

Ms. Nichols gave her report in person. She reported on the Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) for the 2026-2027 biennium, the joint budget hearing to present the LAR to representatives from the LBB and Office of the Governor. The panel had one question for the agency about employee turnover. The 89th legislative session begins January 14, 2025 and runs through June 2, 2025. First and foremost, a huge thank you to Lee Lannen, Lauren Studdard and Christine Mendez for their work on implementing the local infiltration permit process. Special thanks to the Texas Dental Hygienists Association, especially Cathy Nobles, who put together a helpful guide for LIA applicants. We appreciate TDHA's efforts to help us streamline the process as well. The agency and board members are participating in The Holiday Wishes program that delivers gifts for children in foster care.

- b. Finance and Administration Division Report.

Ms. Kappel gave her report virtually. Her statistics on fines and budget were uploaded to the board materials.

- c. Licensing Division Report.

Ms. Mendez reported virtually. 262 RDAs were selected for audits and only 62 have responded. Current applications are being processed as of Nov 5 for Dentists, November 5 for Hygienists and September 30, 2024 for RDAs. Ms. Palermo suggested renewal reminders for RDAs via email instead of postcards that are currently sent.

d. Dental Division Report.

Dr. Bell gave her report virtually. The division productivity, current mentee/pending case assignment data, and division dismissals since the last Board meeting can all be found below.

The division is still feeling the increased caseload, but productivity has been excellent. After collaborating with Legal, one additional ISC date has been added to help accommodate the increase in the number of cases. That date is April 3-4, 2024.

We are still in need of additional DRP members with orthodontic training. We have one active orthodontist and one will be voted on today. Not only do we have 17 pending orthodontic cases waiting to be reviewed, but we are seeing many cases headed to SOAH that are in need of expert support.

We have seven DRP Mentees for review. Due to scoring, one out of the seven will receive extra training prior to being assigned a case. Six of the proposed mentees scored such that they need no additional training. Those mentees will be considered active if approved by the Board.

i. Discussion and possible action on Dental Review Panel (DRP) mentees.

A motion was made to approve the proposed DRP members by Dr. McNeill and seconded by Dr. Henderson.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	For
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 11 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

e. Investigations Division Report.

Ms. Hieber gave her report virtually. Her report is in the board materials and highlights that the investigations team continues to work hard and had another very productive quarter, completing 285 cases.

f. Legal Division Report.

Ms. Studdard gave her report in person and encourages board members to sign up for the 2025 ISC meetings that need members.

14. Announcements.

Dr. Henderson would like to recognize Colonel Morehead and other veterans at the agency. Dr. Henderson thanked the dental students that are attending the meeting. Ms. Palermo thanked a high school freshman that is attending as she is considering the dental or legal field.

15. Adjourn.

A motion was made to adjourn at 1:11pm by Dr. Melchor and seconded by Mr. Garcia.

Dr. Linda Burke	For
Mr. Ricky Garcia	For
Dr. Bryan Henderson	For
Ms. Lorie Jones	For
Dr. Yvonne Maldonado	For
Dr. Margo Melchor	For
Dr. Robert McNeill	For
Ms. Lois Palermo	For
Dr. Brady M. Morehead	For
Ms. Sarah Lamb	For
Dr. David Yu (ex officio)	For

FOR: 11 AGAINST: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 MOTION: CARRIES

MEETING ENDED AT 1:11PM



PRESIDING OFFICER



BOARD SECRETARY