



**TEXAS STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

William P. Hobby Jr. Building  
333 Guadalupe Street, Tower 3, Suite 800  
Austin, Texas 78701

**EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 17, 2020**

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Dr. Tillman called the meeting of the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE) to order at 11:31 a.m. Dr. Tillman read the mission statement of the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.

**2. ROLL CALL.**

Dr. Quirch called the roll. It was noted, for the record, that a quorum was present.

**a. Members Present:**

Dr. David Tillman	Presiding Officer
Dr. Jorge Quirch	Secretary
Dr. Bryan N. Henderson	Member
Dr. David H. Yu	Member
Dr. Robert G. McNeill	Member
Ms. Lorie Jones, RDH	Member
Dr. Margo Melchor	Member
Ms. Lois Palermo, RDH	Member
Dr. Linda T. Burke	Member
Ms. Kathryn Sisk	Member
Mr. Rodney Bustamante	Member

**3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REGIONAL TESTING ORGANIZATIONS.**

A motion was made by Dr. Quirch and seconded by Dr. McNeill to open discussion on regional testing organizations and possible actions.

Ms. Nichols discussed that Board staff has been contacted by numerous schools and graduating dental students, who are concerned that they cannot take their regional exam because of the clinical live patient component. Regional examining boards have been working diligently to update their examinations and they have submitted alternate solutions. The examining boards are moving toward a non-patient based exam to accommodate the current climate. Neither the DPA, nor TSBDE rules, would permit or require a hands-on component to the examination, so the changes being considered are in line with the statute and rules.

Board member discussion.

A motion to amend was made by Dr. McNeill and seconded by Dr. Burke to include hygiene exams and graduating hygiene students in the discussion.

(FOR – 11/OPPOSED – 0/ABSTAIN – 0) MOTION CARRIES

Beth Cole, with WREB, discussed examinations.

Gabriella Vargas, who is a dental hygiene student, gave her comments.

Dr. Horn, President of WREB, discussed examinations.

Board vote on the motion to open discussion taken at this time:

(FOR – 1/OPPOSED – 10/ABSTAIN – 0) MOTION DENIED

**4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PROCESSING LICENSING APPLICATIONS FOR RECENT GRADUATES.**

A motion was made by Dr. McNeill and seconded by Ms. Palermo to open discussion on processing licensing applications for recent graduates.

(FOR – 8/OPPOSED – 3/ABSTAIN – 0) MOTION CARRIES

Ms. Nichols stated that currently Board staff is processing complete applications within one week, currently a 4-day turnaround. We have received requests from dental and hygiene students to waive the clinical board examinations. Board staff would recommend that we do not waive the clinical board examinations, but wanted to bring to the Board's attention.

Carey Hobbs, a dental hygiene educator, gave public comment on Agenda Item No. 3.

Jake Hornberger and Hillary Strassner, fourth year dental students, gave public comment.

Tony Zhang, fourth year dental student, gave public comment.

Motion by Ms. Palermo and seconded by Dr. Quirch to end this discussion.

(FOR – 10/OPPOSED – 0/ABSTAIN – 0) MOTION CARRIES  
[Mr. Bustamante was absent for the vote.]

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Heidi Weber gave public comment.

Tanya Sue Miesta gave public comment.

Steve Breslin, on behalf of the dental support organizations, gave public comment.

Shana Overfelt gave public comment.

Dr. Cohen gave public comment.

Paula Johnson gave public comment.

Dr. Matthew Ung gave public comment.

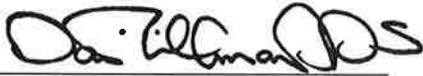
**6. ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

None.

**7. ADJOURN.**

A motion was made by Dr. Quirch and seconded by Ms. Palermo to adjourn the meeting at 1:48 p.m.

(FOR – 10/OPPOSED – 0/ABSTAIN – 0) MOTION CARRIES  
[Mr. Bustamante was absent for the vote.]



David Tillman, DDS  
Presiding Officer  
June 5, 2020



Jorge Quirch, DDS  
Board Secretary  
June 5, 2020