

MINUTES
NC STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS
BOARD MEETING
Morrisville, North Carolina
April 3-4, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER & ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Dr. Johnson

A. Call to Order

Dr. Mark Johnson, President of the Board, called the business meeting to order at 1:21 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2025, at the Board's offices in Morrisville, North Carolina. Dr. Johnson read the following statement regarding conflicts of interest as a reminder to all Board members:

In accordance with General Statute 138A-15(e), it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict.

Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Board today?

If so, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict and refrain from any undue participation in the particular matter involved.

If, during the discussion, any Board member learns of a conflict or the appearance of a conflict, he or she should notify the Chair and take appropriate action to recuse himself or herself.

B. Roll Call

All members of the Board were present at the meeting. The members present included Dr. William Litaker, Dr. Mark Johnson, Dr. Stan Hardesty, Dr. Catherine Watkins, Dr. Karen Lanier, Dr. Vincent Allison, Dr. Dominic Totman, Esq. and Ms. Lori Hendrick, RDH, PhD. Mr. Bobby D. White, Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Casie Goode, Deputy Operations Officer, Betty Sines, Assistant Director of Investigations, Jamie Rivera, Investigator/Paralegal, Kristen Young, Investigator, and Kevin Snead, Investigator. Mr. Douglas Brocker, Legal Counsel for the Board, was also present.

C. Declaration of Quorum

With all members of the Board present, Dr. Johnson declared a quorum for the purposes of conducting the business of the Board.

II. APPROVAL & ORDER OF AGENDA

Dr. Johnson

Dr. Hardesty moved, which was seconded by Ms. Hendrick, to accept the agenda with permission for the President to take items out of order to facilitate business. The motion passed by general consent.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of March 13-15, 2025

[Item #1] Dr. Johnson

Following a review of the March 13-15, 2025, Minutes, Dr. Litaker moved to approve the Minutes as presented. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion which passed by general consent.

IV. REPORT FROM PRESIDENT

[No Report]

V. REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mr. White

A. Financial Report (March)

[Item #2]

Following a review of the March Financial Report, Dr. Watkins moved to accept the report for informational purposes. Dr. Lanier seconded the motion which passed by general consent.

B. Personnel Matters

- ❖ Mr. White introduced and welcomed the Board's new investigator, Kristen Young.
- ❖ Mr. White thanked Mr. Dominic Totman for his long-standing service to the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners as its Consumer Member. Mr. Totman has served in this capacity for 7.5 years, making him the longest-serving consumer member in Board history.
- ❖ New Consumer Member – Mr. White announced Governor Stein's recent appointment of the Honorable Teresa H. Vincent as the Board's new consumer member. Ms. Vincent will be sworn into office on Monday, April 7, 2025.

C. Miscellaneous

❖ ADEX Annual Meeting – Save the Date

[Item #3]

Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve expenses for Dr. Litaker and Ms. Hendrick to attend the ADEX Annual meeting held on August 22-23, 2025, in Portland, Maine. Dr. Lanier seconded the motion. The motion carried.

❖ Temporary Out-of-State Volunteers

[Item #4]

Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve the dental clinic sponsored by Liberty and Health Alliance and being held in Asheville, NC, during the week of June 1-8, 2025, as a volunteer site. Dr. Litaker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

VI. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee

Dr. Johnson took a moment to thank Mr. White and the Members of the Executive Committee for their contribution and participation in the Tripartite meeting hosted by the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners at the offices of the North Carolina Dental Society in Cary, North Carolina, which was held earlier this morning.

B. Finance Committee

[No Report]

C. Sedation/General Anesthesia Committee

Dr. Lanier announced an upcoming meeting of the subcommittee chairs to be held next week, Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

[None]

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Old North State Dental Society Annual Meeting **[Item #5] Mr. White**
Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve expenses for Dr. Allison to attend the Old North State Dental Society Annual Summer Meeting on behalf of the Board. The meeting will be held on June 20, 2025 at the Washington Duke Inn in Durham, NC. Dr. Watkins seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- B. NPDB Compliance **[Item #6] Mr. White**
Dr. Hardesty made a motion to allow disciplinary actions to remain on our website in compliance with the National Practitioner Data Bank's auditing requirements. Dr. Litaker approved the motion. The motion carried.
- C. Senate Bill 599 **[Item #7] Mr. White**
Mr. White informed the Board of the recent introduction of Senate Bill 599 (SB599), "An Act to Revise the North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners." Mr. White will continue to monitor the status of SB599 and provide updates as they become available.

IX. LICENSURE MATTERS

- A. Approval of Licenses/Permits/Reinstatements **[Item #8] Ms. Goode**
Dr. Litaker moved to approve all provisional licenses, licenses issued by credentials, intern permits, sedation permits, CE waivers and reinstatements issued since the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hardesty and passed by general consent
- B. Examinations
Dr. Litaker shared sample typodont models that were prepared by Dr. Hardesty to illustrate typical deficiencies that examiners find when grading the ADEX dental examination.

X. REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL

- A. Annual Rules Review **[Item #9] Mr. Brocker**
Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve amendments to 21NCAC 16B .1101, 16C 0601, 16Q .0701, 16H .0205, 16W .0101, 16I .0206 and 16R .0206 and new rule 16T .0104 for permanent adoption. Dr. Litaker seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- B. "Safe Haven" Laws **[Item #10] Mr. Brocker**
Dr. Watkins made a motion to change the current applications for licensure for dentists and dental hygienists in an attempt to remove stigmatizing language as it relates to substance use disorders and mental health conditions. The new language will provide a "safe haven" through compliance with the Caring Dental Professionals (CDP). The attestation portion of the application will be titled "notice," and the website address for the CDP will be added. Dr. Litaker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

XI. INVESTIGATIVE MATTERS

- A. Investigative Statistics (March) **[Item #11] Dr. Litaker**
The Board reviewed investigative statistics for the month of March, as well as the year to date. The statistics were accepted for informational purposes.

- B. Hearing Panel Decisions
[None]

- C. Settlement Conferences
[None]

XII. NEXT MEETING

The Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will begin on Thursday, May 15, 2025, and will be held at Thistle Golf Club in Sunset Beach, North Carolina, in conjunction with the North Carolina Dental Society's annual meeting. The Board will conduct disciplinary hearings and consider routine business.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Litaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Totman seconded the motion, which passed by general consent. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Reported by: Casie S. Goode
Casie S. Goode
Deputy Operations Officer

Date of Approval: May 15, 2025

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
Dr. Mark Johnson, President
Dr. William Litaker, Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Catherine Watkins, Immediate Past President
Dr. Karen Lanier
Dr. Vincent Allison
Dr. W. Stan Hardesty
Ms. Lori Hendrick, R.D.H., PhD Dental Hygiene Member
Mr. Dominic Totman, Esq., Consumer Member