

**MINUTES**  
**NC STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**Morrisville, North Carolina**  
**December 13, 2024**

**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 8:34 a.m., Friday, December 13, 2024, 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 except for Mr. Dominic Totman. The members present at the Board office included Dr. William Litaker, Dr. Mark Johnson, Dr. Stan Hardesty, Dr. Catherine Watkins, Dr. Karen Lanier, Dr. Vincent Allison, 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, Rick Hetzel, Investigator, Tyler Henderson, Investigator, Kevin Snead, Investigator and Mr. Douglas Brocker, Legal Counsel for the Board were also present.

C. Declaration of Quorum

With seven 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 Dr. Litaker, 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 November 15, 2024 **[Item #1] Dr. Johnson**  
Following a review of the November 15, 2024, Minutes, Dr. Litaker moved to approve the Minutes as presented. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion which passed by general consent.

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At 8:38 a.m., Mr. Bobby White and Mr. Douglas Brocker resumed the training session for new and existing Board members as required by G.S. 93B-5(g). Approximately half of the training content was covered at the September 13, 2024 meeting. The remaining topics covered included ethical duties, liability and lobbying.

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### IV. REPORT FROM PRESIDENT

[No Report]

### V. REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Mr. White**

- A. Financial Report (November) **[Item #2]**  
Following a review of the November 2024 Financial Report, Dr. Lanier moved to accept the report for informational purposes. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion which passed by general consent.
- B. Personnel Matters  
Dr. Hardesty made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Lanier, to move into closed session, pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(6), in order to discuss performance and fitness of current employees. The motion carried.

Following the discussion of personnel matters, Dr. Litaker made a motion to move back into open session in order to continue with the consideration of Board business. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- C. Miscellaneous
- ❖ SCDDE Annual Meeting  
Mr. White reminded Board Members of the upcoming SCDDE Meeting being held on January 24-26, 2025, in Gainesville, Florida. Drs. Litaker, Hardesty, Lanier, Watkins, and Hendrick are registered to attend.
  - ❖ February 2025 Board Meeting  
Mr. White reminded Board Members that the February 2025 Board meeting will be held at the East Carolina School of Dental Medicine and Dr. Bill Claytor will be presenting a one-hour continuing education course on mental health and substance abuse awareness.
  - ❖ SB 382  
Mr. White informed the Board that Senate Bill 382, which originally contained language that would change the Dental Practice Act (DPA) was revised and no longer contained any language that would impact the DPA.

- ❖ **Dental/Dental Hygiene Compacts**  
Senator Corbin has requested copies of both the CSG and AADB Compacts. Ms. Hendrick agreed to forward both versions to Senator Corbin.
- ❖ **CDP Audit** **[Item #3]**  
The Board received and reviewed the CDP's annual audit. The audit was accepted for informational purposes.
- ❖ Mr. White acknowledged Dr. Johnson's wife's recent surgery and thanked him for his continued service in light of his stressful and busy personal schedule.
- ❖ Dr. Hardesty made a motion to move forward with the removal of the Covid shields in the Boardroom. Dr. Litaker seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

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At 10:00 a.m., Dr. Hardesty made a motion to move into closed session, pursuant to NCGS §143-318.18(6), in order to conduct a settlement conference. Dr. Watkins seconded the motion. The motion carried. The conference concluded at 10:38 a.m., at which time Dr. Hardesty made a motion to move into open session to resume Board business. Dr. Watkins seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

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## **VI. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

- A. Executive Committee  
[No Report]
- B. Finance Committee
  - a. 2025 Budget **[Item #4]**    **Dr. Litaker**
- C. Upon review of the proposed budget for 2024, Dr. Litaker made a motion to approve the budget. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- D. Sedation/General Anesthesia Committee  
The American Dental Society of Anesthesiology (ADSA) held a meeting in Chicago, Illinois on December 8-9, 2024. Dr. Johnson informed the Board that a new informational packet from ADSA was presented at that meeting and recommended the Board utilize this publication as a resource when determining the current standard of care regarding sedation and general anesthesia delivery.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

[None]

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

[None]

**IX. LICENSURE MATTERS**

- A. Approval of Licenses/Permits/Reinstatements **[Item #5] Ms. Goode**
- B. 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.
  
- C. Examinations  
Dr. Litaker reported that ADEX has introduced a modified endodontic tooth for the 2024-2025 examination cycle. The new version is more realistic and more closely mimics a human tooth. As a result of the modification, there has been an increase in the number of failures on the endodontic portion of the clinical examination.

**X. REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL**

**Mr. Brocker/Mr. White**

- A. Supervision Subcommittee **[Item #6] Mr. Brocker**  
At the October 18, 2024 Board Meeting, a subcommittee was established for the purpose of making recommendations to the Board regarding the role of owner dentists with respect to supervising his/her employees. The subcommittee considered existing regulations from other North Carolina occupational boards, as well as statutes from other states that address these issues. As a result, the subcommittee made recommendations for moving forward with drafting proposed regulations for the Board to review at a future Board meeting.  
  
Dr. Hardesty made a motion allowing staff to move forward with drafting rules consistent with the subcommittee's recommendations. Dr. Lanier seconded the motion. The motion carried.
  
- B. Proposed Rule Amendments **[Item #7]**  
Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve amendments to 21 NCAC 16I .0206 and 21 NCAC 16R .0206 for publication. Dr. Watkins seconded the motion. The motion carried.
  
- C. Licensure by Credentials **[Item #8] Mr. White**  
The credentialing statute (90-36(c)(3)) automatically prohibits those with a felony conviction from eligibility for licensure. On the other hand, the more recent revisions to 93B-8.1 prohibit occupational licensing boards from automatically denying licensure based on an applicant's criminal history. Therefore, Dr. Hardesty made a motion to modify the Board's position that applicants with felony convictions are automatically ineligible to obtain a license by credentials. Moving forward, all licensure by credentials applicants with felony convictions will be reviewed and eligibility for licensure will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Dr. Hendrick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**XI. INVESTIGATIVE MATTERS**

- A. Investigative Statistics (November) **[Item #9] Dr. Litaker**  
The Board reviewed investigative statistics for the month of November, as well as the year to date. The statistics were accepted for informational purposes.
  
- B. Hearing Panel Decisions

During open session, and without conducting other business, Dr. Hardesty made a motion to move into closed session, pursuant to NCGS §143-318.18(6) and §90-41(g), in order to rule on Hearing Panel Decisions and other investigative matters. The motion was seconded by Dr. Litaker and passed by general consent.

- a. Log #21-168 [Item #10] Dr. Lanier  
[Postponed]
- b. Log #23-363 [Item #11] Dr. Lanier

C. Settlement Conferences

The Board conducted a settlement conference during the meeting. Ms. Crystal Carlisle represented the Investigative Panel. Standard protocol was followed.

**XII. NEXT MEETING**

The Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will begin on Thursday, January 9, 2025, and will be held at the Board's offices in Morrisville, North Carolina to conduct a formal hearing involving Dr. Daniel Driskill and to conduct routine Board business.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Dr. Litaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion, which passed by general consent. The meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

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

Date of Approval: January 10, 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*