MINUTES
NC STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS
BOARD MEETING
Morrisville, North Carolina
September 11-12, 2025

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners convened at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, September 11, 2025, at the Board's offices in Morrisville for the purposes of conducting a public Rule Making Hearing involving proposed amendments to 21 NCAC 16Q .0301 and adoption of 21 NCAC 16Q .0105. A copy of the proposed rules is attached to the Minutes. The public hearing was transcribed by a court reporter and concluded at 6:50 p.m., at which time the Rule Making Hearing was adjourned.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER & ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM **Dr. Litaker**

A. Call to Order

Dr. William Litaker, President of the Board, called the business meeting to order at 8:31 a.m., Friday, September 12, 2025, at the Board's offices in Morrisville, North Carolina. Dr. Litaker 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 Dr. Mark Johnson and the Hon. Teresa Vincent. The members present included Dr. William Litaker, Dr. Stan Hardesty, Dr. Catherine Watkins, Dr. Vincent Allison, Dr. Edward Clemons 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, Kristen Young, Investigator, and Kevin Snead, Investigator. Mr. Douglas Brocker and Ms. Crystal Carlisle, Legal Counsel for the Board, were also present.

C. Declaration of Quorum

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

II. APPROVAL & ORDER OF AGENDA — Dr. Litaker

Dr. Hardesty moved, which was seconded by Dr. 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.

At 8:33 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. Hendrick seconded the motion, which passed by general consent. The conference concluded at 9:23 at which time Dr. Hardesty made the motion to move into open session to resume Board business. Dr. Allison seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of August 7-8, 2025 **[Item #1]** **Dr. Litaker**

Following a review of the August 8, 2025, Minutes, Dr. Hardesty moved to approve the Minutes as presented. Dr. Watkins seconded the motion which passed by general consent.

IV. REPORT FROM PRESIDENT

A. December 12-13, 2025 Board Meeting

Dr. Hardesty made a motion to hold the December 12, 2025, Board Meeting in the mountains of North Carolina. Dr. Allison seconded the motion. The motion carried. Staff will coordinate and plan the meeting and report back with details at the October 10, 2025, Board Meeting.

B. Dr. Litaker expressed condolences to Mr. White and his family on the recent passing of his mother and announced the Board's decision to contribute to the Eugene and Mary White Scholarship Fund in lieu of flowers.

C. Dr. Litaker announced that at the conclusion of the Board's public meeting, there will be an open forum, and attendees will be given an opportunity to address the Board with any comments, questions, or concerns.

V. REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER — Mr. White

A. Financial Report (August) **[Item #2]**

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

B. Personnel Matters

Mr. White announced that Ms. Goode has been nominated to serve as Secretary of the American Association of Dental Administrators for 2026.

C. Miscellaneous

- DAVE Act

  Mr. White informed the Board that he recently responded to the State Auditor in compliance with the DAVE Act. Specifically, he reported that the Dental Board does not have employment vacancies; the Board is provided with monthly budget

updates; and strives to streamline the complaint process and licensure process. Also, he provided the State Auditor with the Board's policy regarding staff remotely working.

- ❖ New Database
  Mr. White announced that our new database is live for license renewal and will soon be available for applicants. He encouraged everyone to create a login as soon as possible.

- ❖ Legal Reserve Fund
  Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve transferring $2,000,000.00 into the legal reserve fund, following its recent expenditures. Dr. Allison seconded the motion. The motion carried.

VI. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee
[No Report]

B. Finance Committee
[No Report]

C. Sedation/General Anesthesia Committee

a. DOCS Education Event-Guest Invitation
Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve expenses for Dr. Mark Johnson to attend a DOCS Education Event. Dr. Clemons seconded the motion. The motion carried.

b. CRNA Position Statement
Mr. White will draft a statement regarding the supervision of CRNAs by NC-licensed dentists who do not have a sedation or anesthesia permit. He will present the statement for Board approval at a future meeting.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Radiology Instructor's Course **Ms. Sines**
The radiology committee will work together to find a solution for the lack of options for interested candidates to complete the required course to become a radiology instructor. The committee will report back at the October Board Meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve Rotation Sites – ABTech **[Item #3]** **Ms. Goode**
ABTech requested Board approval of the Recovered Smiles Program at Miller Family Dentistry in Candler, North Carolina and the Mountain State Fair as rotation sites for dental hygiene students currently enrolled in the dental hygiene program at ABTech. Upon review of the documentation, Dr. Watkins made a motion to approve the proposed rotation sites. Dr. Hendrick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B. Approve Rotation Sites – Cape Fear **[Item #4]** **Ms. Goode**

Cape Fear Community College (CFCC) requested Board approval of the Pender County Community Health Center, the New Hanover County Health and Human Services Children's Mobile Dental Unit, and the ECU School of Dentistry dental clinic as rotation sites for dental hygiene students currently enrolled in the dental hygiene program at CFCC. CFCC also requested approval for students to participate in community-based free dental clinics such as MOM clinics and Give Kids a Smile. Upon review of the documentation, Dr. Watkins made a motion to approve the proposed rotation sites. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

C. Approve 2026 Meeting Dates **[Item #5]** **Ms. Goode**

Dr. Hardesty made a motion to approve the proposed 2026 meeting dates after moving the proposed October 9-10, 2026, to October 2-3, 2026. Dr. Watkins seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IX. LICENSURE MATTERS

A. Approval of Licenses/Permits/Reinstatements **[Item #6]** **Ms. Goode**

Dr. Hardesty 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. Watkins and passed by general consent.

B. Examinations

a. American Board of Dental Examiners **[Item #7]** **Dr. Litaker**

Litaker announced that the merger of CDCA-WREB-CITA and ADEX has been finalized to form the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX).

b. ADEX Meeting Update **Dr. Litaker**

Dr. Litaker and Dr. Hendrick recently attended the ADEX annual meeting on August 22-23, 2025, in Portland, Maine. They reported on examination updates for the upcoming testing season.

c. Coalition for Modernizing Dental Licensure **[Item #8]** **Mr. White**

The Coalition for Modernizing Dental Licensure recently requested the removal of patient-based clinical examination requirements from statutes and regulations. Since North Carolina already has a manikin-based alternative in place, the Board determined that the request was not warranted. Mr. White will inform the Coalition.

X. REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL **Mr. Brocker/Mr. White**

A. Rulemaking Petition **[Item #9]**

The Board received a request to amend rules to allow dental hygienists the authority to initiate nitrous oxide under the direct supervision of a dentist. The Board directed Mr. Brocker to complete a rule analysis and report back to the Board at the October Board Meeting.

B. Update on Supervision Rules **[Item #10]**

Dr. Hardesty made a motion to move into closed session, pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3), in order to receive the advice of legal counsel. Dr. Clemons seconded the motion, which passed by general consent. Following advice from legal counsel, Dr. Hardesty made a motion to move into open session in order to vote on how to proceed in this matter. Dr. Watkins seconded the motion, which passed by general consent.

Dr. Hardesty made a motion to notify counsel for the Rules Review Commission of the Board's decision to withdraw amendments to 16A .0101 and adoption of 16F .0111 and 16V .0103. Dr. Clemons seconded the motion, which passed by general consent.

C. Management Investigative Panel (MIP)
Dr. Allison made a motion to approve adding Dr. Hardesty to serve on the MIP alongside Dr. Litaker. Dr. Hendrick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

D. Log #23-292 – Litigation Update **[Item #11]**
This Item was moved to Hearing Panel Decisions to receive advice from legal counsel pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3).

E. Licensure Eligibility Question **[Item #12]**
The Board received a licensure eligibility inquiry from Maria George, a foreign-trained dentist who earned her dental degree in India, successfully passed the ADEX dental hygiene examination, and has a dental hygiene license in Florida. Ms. George is requesting permission to be licensed in North Carolina as a dental hygienist. Since Ms. George has not completed a CODA-accredited dental hygiene program, as required by North Carolina statutes, she is not eligible for licensure.

XI. INVESTIGATIVE MATTERS

A. Investigative Statistics (August) **[Item #13] Dr. Hardesty**

B. The Board reviewed investigative statistics for the month of August. 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), §143-318.11(3), and §90-41(g), in order to rule on Hearing Panel Decisions and to receive advice from legal counsel. The motion was seconded by Dr. Watkins and passed by general consent.

a. Log #23-185 **[Item #14] Dr. Watkins**

b. Log #25-066 **[Item #15] Dr. Hardesty**

c. Log #23-292

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

Dr. Litaker made a motion to move out of closed session. Dr. Hardesty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

XII. NEXT MEETING

The Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will begin on Friday, October 10, 2025, and will be held at the Board's offices in Morrisville, North Carolina for the purposes of conducting disciplinary conferences and to conduct routine Board business.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Hardesty made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Allison seconded the motion, which passed by general consent. The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Reported by:

Casie S. Goode

Casie S. Goode
Deputy Operations Officer

Date of Approval: October 10, 2025

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
Dr. William Litaker., President
Dr. W. Stan Hardesty, Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Mark Johnson., Immediate Past President
Dr. Vincent Allison
Dr. Catherine Watkins
Dr. Edward Clemons
Ms. Lori Hendrick, R.D.H., PhD Dental Hygiene Member
Honorable Teresa H. Vincent, Consumer Member