

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY

MINUTES

- Dates:** March 24, 2020
- Location:** WV Board of Dentistry
1319 Robert C Byrd Drive
Crab Orchard, WV 25827
Via Telephone Conference
- Members Present:** Samuel V. Veltri, DDS, President
MaryBeth Shea, RDH, Secretary
John E. Bogers, DDS
David G. Edwards, DDS
William E. Ford, III
C. Richard Gerber, DDS
Lewis D. Gilbert, DDS
Stan W. Kaczkowski, DDS
Beverly L. Stevens, COMSA
- Staff Present:** Mrs. Susan M. Combs, Executive Director
- Board Counsel:** Mr. Keith D. Fisher, Assistant Attorney General

March 24, 2020

The Board's President, Dr. Veltri, determined this emergency meeting was properly noticed with the Secretary of State's office and a sufficient number of members were in attendance to constitute a quorum. The quorum was determined by the presence of all Board members. Therefore, the meeting of the West Virginia Board of Dentistry was called to order.

The first order of business was the meeting notice to the Secretary of State which was distributed for information purposes only.

The next order of business was the consideration of the continually developing public health crisis concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and discussion of updating the Board's guidance and information for licensees. A draft of the newly updated guidance requests licensees' cooperation in limiting their practices to emergent procedures only, while also keeping aerosol formation to a minimum, for the duration of the Governor's Stay At Home Order. It also clarifies examples of non-emergent procedures, as well as guidance when symptomatic and non-symptomatic patients need emergent treatment. Dr. C. Richard Gerber made a motion to approve the document with an amendment to the time-frame, changing it to say "until at least April 3, 2020.". The motion was seconded by Dr. Stan W. Kaczkowski, and unanimously passed. With this situation

being fluid, the Board will revisit this document when it is deemed necessary.

The updated guidance document also states the Board will formally request Governor Justice to make the Board's recommendations mandatory to best protect the patients, our licensees, and the citizens of West Virginia. A draft letter was presented for the Board's consideration. Dr. David G. Edwards made a motion to approve sending the letter to the Governor and adding a request that the Governor's office help procure N95 masks for the dental offices treating emergency patients. Mary Beth Shea seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The letter will be copied to some members of the Governor's COVID-19 Crisis team and to Jason Roush, WV State Dental Director.

The next order of business was a discussion concerning alternative options for upcoming law exams and interviews for licensure during this crisis. Dr. David G. Edwards made a motion that during this crisis the Board allow electronic submission of law exams and allow test administration by dental and dental hygiene school administration officials. Interviews may be conducted one on one in person or via electronic video means. Dr. Jack E. Bogers seconded the motion, which unanimously passed.

At this time the meeting was adjourned upon motion by Dr. David G. Edwards, properly seconded by Dr. Lewis D. Gilbert, and unanimously passing.