



***Dental Hygiene Committee of California***  
***Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting***

*Doubletree LAX*  
*1985 East Grand Avenue*  
*El Segundo, CA 90245*

**Friday, April 29, 2011**

**1. Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum**

**Members Present**

**Michelle Hurlbutt**, RDH, Chair

**Cathy DiFrancesco**, RDH

**Rhona Lee**, RDH, RDHEF

**Staff Present**

**Lori Hubble**, Executive Officer

**Tom Jurach**, Associate

Government Program Analyst

**Traci Napper**, Associate Government  
Program Analyst

**Dennis Patzer**, Enforcement

The meeting began at 1:53 p.m. Members introduced themselves for roll call and a quorum was established.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approval of December 5, 2010 Minutes**

Ms. Hurlbutt asked to make a change to paragraph 3, page 3: Remove the sentences beginning with "Ms. Hurlbutt referenced..." to the end of the paragraph ending "...not in attendance for today's meeting." M/s/c (DiFrancesco/Lee) to accept minutes as recorded. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Chairperson's Report**

Ms. Hurlbutt applauded staff for efforts contributing keeping the Examination and Licensing Subcommittee moving forward.

Ms. Hurlbutt followed with moving forward with alternative pathways to initial licensure and proposed white paper.

Ms. DiFrancesco asked how long a white paper would take to write. Ms. Hurlbutt discussed what a white paper is and discussed the topics and concepts relative to RDH. Ms. DiFrancesco asked if we could use the Dental Board as an example. Ms. Hurlbutt replied that a task force will perform the study and report. Ms. DiFrancesco then asked why a task force was needed to do what has already been done. Ms. Hurlbutt then suggested that DHCC wait until regulations have passed and implement the white paper when feasible.

Motion (DiFrancesco) to table the project until resources are available. Ms. Lee asked to wait until the executive order is lifted resources are available.

Ms. DiFrancesco wants to wait until many of the variables are removed to which Ms. Hurlbutt responded to take no action and move on.

JoAnn Galliano, public comment, if funds are freed up, the process can move forward. Educators would be interested in volunteering to develop a white paper. To which Ms. DiFrancesco responded that the DHCC is here for the public and not the education systems. Ms. Galliano proposed that we explore all options, pros and cons, what is on the table, and how to protect patients. She would like to research all aspects.

Ms. DiFrancesco asked why not wait until the August DHCC meeting to discuss? Ms. Galliano responded that it does not commit, but opens up the possibility to implement the project without allocated funds. Ms. DiFrancesco asked if this would impact staff and Ms. Galliano answered that staff would not be impacted. Ms. Hurlbutt added that staff could not do it because they do not have the tools to do a proper job. Ms. Hurlbutt touched on continued competency for informational purposes only.

Ms. Hurlbutt advised to accept the recommendation with the stipulation that we comply with the executive order approval before moving forward.

Ms. DiFrancesco agreed that continued competency is very important and it does protect the public.

## **5. Clinical and Written Examination Statistics**

Mr. Jurach presented a snapshot of the annual results of the DHCC clinical exam. Ms. DiFrancesco asked if we were tracking gross trauma results from hand instrumentation or ultrasonic equipment. Ms. Hubble noted that tracking that level of detail is difficult given the staffing issues experienced by the DHCC. Mr. Jurach then discussed the Law and Ethics Pass/Fail exam and Ms. Lee asked why the fail rate looked higher than in the past and why? Ms. Hubble agreed with the Pass/Fail rate and explained that a smaller populace may skew results and over time, results should stabilize.

## **6. Licensure Statistics**

Mr. Jurach briefed the Committee on the licensure statistics relative to the DHCC. He discussed total licenses issued, total current licenses, total inactive licenses, and the number of deficient licenses on April 3, 2011.

## **7. Update on regulations relating to courses in the administration of nitrous oxide and oxygen, administration of local anesthetic agents and periodontal soft tissue curettage (Title 16, California Code of Regulations, §1072.2)**

Ms. DiFrancesco briefed on updating SLN legislation and is currently working on regulations. The next meeting is scheduled for May 22 depending on budget and travel restrictions. Ms. Hubble added that the meeting would have to be cancelled or implement a teleconference if allowed to proceed. Ms. Hurlbutt stated that they will continue to move forward as quickly as they are able.

## **8. Future Agenda Items**

Ms. Hurlbutt would like to continue discussing continued competency.

Given no further business to discuss, the Licensing and Examination subcommittee meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.