Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners



6010 S. Rainbow Blvd., Bldg. A, Ste.1 • Las Vegas, NV 89118 • (702) 486-7044 • (800) DDS-EXAM • Fax (702) 486-7046

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA FOR THE CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(Ron Lemon, DMD, (Chair); Elizabeth Park, DDS; Kevin Moore, DDS)

Meeting Date & Time

Tuesday, August 25, 2020 6:00 p.m.

Video and Teleconferencing was available for this meeting

MINUTES

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 011, there will be no physical location for this meeting

<u>The Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners may hold board meetings via video conference or telephone conference call.</u>

<u>In the event that there are technical difficulties with Zoom, please use the teleconference number (702) 486-5260 / Collaboration Code 67044</u>

Public Comment time is available after roll call (beginning of meeting) and prior to adjournment (end of meeting). Public Comment is limited to three (3) minutes for each individual. You may provide the Board with written comment to be added to the record.

Persons wishing to comment may appear at the scheduled meeting/hearing or may address their comments, data, views, arguments in written form to: Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners, 6010 S. Rainbow Blvd, A-1, Las Vegas, Nevada 89118; FAX number (702) 486-7046; e-mail address nsbde@nsbde.nv.gov. Written submissions should be received by the Board on or before Monday, August 24, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in order to make copies available to members and the public.

The Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners may 1) address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Board or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting; 2) combine items for consideration by the public body; 3) pull or remove items from the agenda at any time. The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. See NRS 241.030. Prior to the commencement and conclusion of a contested case or a quasi-judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual the board may refuse to consider public comment. See NRS 233B.126.

Persons/facilities who want to be on the mailing list must submit a written request every six (6) months to the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners at the address listed in the previous paragraph. With regard to any board meeting or telephone conference, it is possible that an amended agenda will be published adding new items to the original agenda. Amended Nevada notices will be posted in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Board office, at (702) 486-7044, no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for special arrangements made after this time frame cannot be guaranteed.

Pursuant to NRS 241.020(2) you may contact the Board office at (702) 486-7044, to request supporting materials for the public body or you may download the supporting materials for the public body from the Board's website at http://dental.nv.gov. In addition, the supporting materials for the public body are available at the Board's office located at 6010 S Rainbow Blvd, Ste. A-1, Las Vegas, Nevada.

| Note: | Asterisks (*) "For Possible Action" denotes items on which the Board may take acti | on. |
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| Note: | Action by the Board on an item may be to approve, deny, amend, or tabled. | |

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1. Call to Order

Roll call/Quorum

Committee Member Lemon called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m., and Executive Director, Mr. Frank DiMaggio conducted the following roll call:

Executive Staff: Phil Su, General Counsel; Frank DiMaggio, Executive Director; Sandra Spilsbury, Site Inspection-CE Coordinator.

2. Public Comment: The public comment period is limited to matters <u>specifically</u> noticed on the agenda. No action may be taken upon the matter raised during public comment unless the matter itself has been specifically included on the agenda as an action item. Comments by the public may be limited to three minutes as a reasonable time, place and manner restriction, but may not be limited based upon viewpoint. The Chairperson may allow additional time at his/her discretion.

Committee Member Lemon stated that the Committee was in receipt of a high volume of public comment for the record. He asked that the public please limit this portion of public comment to those that have new public comment regarding any of the agenda items or for anyone that had not submitted any public comment for the record.

Charles Buchannan, a fourth-year dental student at UNLV School of Dental Medicine, commented on agenda items (5)(c)(d) and (e). He asked the Committee consider extending the exam period beyond the December 31, 2020 as it would impact current dental students of the class of 2021, as they have begun taking portions of the WREB and ADEX exams in 2020, but will not be taking the operative portion until spring of 2021.

Dr. Bill Pappas, a current Nevada licensed dentist and President of ADEX, noted that he was present to answer any questions the committee may have regarding ADEX.

Dr. Pooja Mehta, DDS stated that she was a class of 2020 dental graduate, and stated that she was commenting on agenda items (5)(c)(d) and (5)(e), and spoke in favor of acceptance of the acceptance of both the WREB and ADEX alternative exams. She spoke on her personal experience with taking the exams during COVID-19 and asked that the Board take into consideration the unique difficulties students are facing in 2020.

Antonio Ventura stated that he was the immediate past president for the Southern Nevada Dental Hygienists Association (SNHDA) and a committee member for the Legislative Committee for the Nevada Dental Hygienists Association (NDHA). He read written testimony as it changed slightly from the testimony he originally submitted in writing. He stated that the NDHA was in support of the OSCE exam through WREB as an alternate exam for 2020 CSN and TMCC dental hygiene graduates. Further, they supported the elimination of patient based exams for candidates who are graduates of the Commission on Dental Accredited Dental Hygiene programs.

Tiffany Richardson stated that she was a member of the CSN Dental Hygiene graduating class of 2020 and added that she was in full support of all ADEX and WREB alternate pathways to licensure; as it would allow them to adapt to the unique COVID-19 circumstances. She stated that the current statutes do not stipulate the use of a patient based clinical exam. She spoke on the cons of using patient based exams, and spoke of the benefits of accepting exam alternatives, and how it would greatly benefit the community to license more dental hygienists to serve the citizens of Nevada.

Kimberly Grover stated that she was the CSN Student American Dental Hygiene Association President and was still a student trying to receive a license during the pandemic. She stated that due to the multiple delays in meeting the requirements, and a new dental hygiene class and dental assisting classes starting in the clinic facility cannot support all the needs of the students. She stated that the schedule is continually getting extended in unattainable timeline to take a live patient clinic board scheduled test in

November. She noted that students and patients are faced with the fear of becoming exposed to COVID-19. She spoke in favor of an alternative to the patient based clinical exam that would be safe for both students and patients, which was the proposed alternative exams, which has been approved in over 28 states. She felt that both were fair and appropriate ways to test students' standardized skills. She spoke in favor of the board approving the ADEX and WREB alternative exams.

Benjamin Abrahams commented that he was in favor of agenda (5)(d), and noted that he had completed portions of the ADEX exam on live patients and another section of the exam was completed on the CompeDont and attested to the fact that both exam sections were very similar to each other, and the he did not see a significant difference in testing on a live patient versus a manikin. He hoped that the Board would strongly consider approving the alternate exam option from ADEX.

Morgan Heath commented on agenda item (5)(c)(d) and (e). She stated that she was a CSN Class of 2020 Dental Hygiene student, and stated that on behalf of the class of 2020 and 2021, she supported the approval of both the WREB and ADEX alternate exams for full licensure. She noted that both graduating classes of 2020 and 2021 were greatly affected by the pandemic. She noted that the option of a patient-less based exam would ease the concern of interstate travel of patients and students and the risks associated with it during the pandemic. She advocated for the Board to approve and accept the alternate exams from WREB and ADEX.

Christine Ho commented that she was addressing (5)(c)(d) and (5)(e). She noted that she was currently licensed in California and was in full support of approving the manikin based WREB and ADEX exams. She noted that she recently completed the manikin based exams and after practicing for years in another state, she confidently spoke of the competence she found the manikin based exams offered. She vouched that the patient-less based exams were efficient and more than adequate in testing the clinical skill levels of dentists and dental hygienists from the Class of 2020 seeking licensure. She spoke in detail regarding the exam sections and how they compared to a live patient exam.

- *3. Chairman's Report: Ron Lemon, DMD (For Possible Action)
 - *a. Request to remove agenda item(s) (For Possible Action)

There were no requests made to remove agenda items.

*b. Approve Agenda (For Possible Action)

Committee Member Lemon called for a motion.

MOTION: Committee Member Moore moved to approve the agenda. Committee Member Lemon seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

- 4. Old Business: (Informational Purposes Only)
 - a. Consideration and recommendation whether training completed during Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) Residency satisfies the training requirements pursuant to NAC 631.257(1) (Informational Purposes Only)

Committee Member Moore stated there appeared to be a bit of info in the regulations already regarding the training requirements and it discussed having different qualifications. He stated upon doing some research of the different programs, there did not appear to be 100% consistency in the OMS programs that include dermal fillers in the curriculum.

Committee Member Lemon stated that in looking at the CODA documents for certifying OMS programs, there was no mention of requirements for standards for dermal or soft tissue fillers. He concurred with Committee Member Moore that if a licensee is able to provide proof that their particular program satisfies the requirements of NAC 631.257, then that would be acceptable.

There was discussion regarding Board approved programs and the criteria that the programs have to meet in order to be approved. Ms. Sandra Spilsbury noted that there were currently 4 or 5 approved CE courses. It was noted that this was discussion was for informational purposes only.

MOTION: Committee Member Moore moved to place this agenda item on the next meeting as an action item to make a recommendation to the Board. Committee Member Lemon seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

*5. New Business: (For Possible Action)

*a. Consideration of approval/rejection of retroactive approval requested by the Pacific Training Institute for Facial Aesthetics for their Level 1, 2, & 4 (total 72-unit program) approved by the Board on April 30, 2020 (For Possible Action)

Committee Member Lemon asked Ms. Sandra Spilsbury to go over the history of this agenda item.

Ms. Spilsbury explained that the Pacific Training Institute for Facial Aesthetics (PTIFA) had originally submitted their program in September 2019 which was placed for consideration on the November 1, 2019 Board meeting agenda; however, the November meeting was cancelled. She noted further that the course was placed on the next meeting agenda of January 2020, however, the Board underwent an unprecedented transition period. She added that the item was tabled in January so that the course could be reviewed by the CE Committee, which took place at the CE Committee meeting held in April. She noted that the CE Committee made the recommendation for approval of the course, which was presented for Board approval on April 30, 2020. She further noted that the course was approved by the Board at its April 30, 2020 meeting. Ms. Spilsbury noted that PTIFA was now requesting retroactive approval of their course.

Committee Member Moore commented that this particular program was approved and passed, however, the Board possibly could have not accepted the prior program. He stated that he did not see the wisdom in retroactively approving the course for those that completed the course prior to the Board approving the course program on April 30, 2020. It was his opinion for the Committee not to approve the request for retroactive approval of the PTIFA course if taken prior to April 30, 2020.

There was discussion on clarifying the request retroactive approval of the course due to the fact that the course was originally scheduled to go before the Board on November 1, 2019, but was delayed in being considered and potentially approved. Committee Member Moore stated that it was premature for the PTIFA to have Nevada licensees complete the course prior to course being approved by the Board.

Carly Olynyk with PTIFA gave a bit of perspective as to why they made the request for retroactive approval. She noted that they had practitioners licensed in other states who are now practicing and licensed in Nevada that completed their course. However, the practitioners would like to administer Botox and dermal fillers in Nevada, but because they took the course prior to it being approved in Nevada, they are unable to administer in Nevada.

Mr. DiMaggio clarified for the Committee that the request submitted by PTIFA was asking for retroactive approval dating back to March of 2017.

Committee Member Moore expressed his opinion that it would be irresponsible for CE course programs of any sort which were taken prior to obtaining approval from the Board, to assume that the Board will approve their course retroactively.

Carly with PTIFA stated that they have never advertised that their course would be accepted in Nevada prior to the course being approved. She clarified that they have simply had previous students take their course, which is offered in British Columbia, prior to it being approved in Nevada and were asking if the Board would consider retroactively approving the course.

It was clarified for the Committee that if PTIFA was going to be offering their course in Nevada, they would need to have a licensed Nevada dentist instruct the course. However, Ms. Spilsbury noted that the PTIFA course was currently offered in British Columbia, thus requiring for participants to travel to British Columbia to attend he course.

 Committee Member Park expressed that she was in agreement with Dr. Moore that the course should not be approved for retroactive approval.

MOTION: Committee Member Moore moved to not approve the retroactive request from PTIFA.

Committee Member Park seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

*b. Review, discussion and possible recommendations to the Board of Temporary approval and acceptance of the Western Regional Examining Board's (WREB) Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) exam for dental hygiene licensure if completed during the period of May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 – NRS 631.300 (For Possible Action)

Committee Member Moore inquired how this agenda item reflected the temporary license application that was already in place. Mr. DiMaggio stated that the Board approved temporary license for dentists and dental hygienists, they issued a memorandum regarding same, and also created applications for a temporary license, which created a pathway to licensure for the class of 2020 graduates. He noted that the temporary license would be valid until the end of the pandemic as declared by Governor Sisolak. Committee Member Moore inquired if that temporary license option could extend through 2021, to which Mr. DiMaggio responded affirmatively.

MOTION: Committee Member Moore made the motion that the Board already offers a temporary license to both dentists and dental hygienists, and therefore did not believe there was further action to take on this agenda item. Discussion: Mr. DiMaggio clarified for Committee Member Moore that while he believed Committee Member Moore covered the item, it was not clear what his motion was. Committee Member Lemon stated that this was the beginning of eliminating patients from a board examination. He noted that there was a trend nationally to eliminate live patient exams. Dr. Sharon Osborne from WREB stated that she was present. Committee Member Moore stated that the committee received numerous amounts of comments that many complained that the exam is biased and not standardized. He inquired if Ms. Osborne could elaborate on how moving to a manikin based exam would answer the concerns of students.

Dr. Osborne stated that the patient based exam was standardized. She added that while the patient based exam was not as standardized as the manikin based exam because they have much more control over the manikin. However, the benefit of the patient based exam was that it makes the practice of dentistry much more realistic than any manikin or selective response exam can be. She noted that there will always be pros and cons to different types of exams.

Committee Member Moore inquired what further competency do the exams really show if they are manikin based. Dr. Osborne stated that there are students that have been deemed competent to graduate the program, however, that there are a small percentage of candidates who fail the exam multiple times. She added that those were the candidates that the patient based exams were screening out and that in an ideal world, schools would only pass students who were ready to go out and competently practice, however, that is not the case.

Committee Member Lemon stated that he was in favor of moving towards a patient-less exams. He stated that in his career as an instructor, he has seen many of their top students fail the exams, while many of the weaker students pass the exams, due to lack of consistency in the exams. He stated that simulated exams are consistent from one to another.

It was addressed that WREB's patient-less exam was created rather quickly in response to the pandemic. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the competency concerns of a patient-less exam, and how would the exam entities evaluate particular sections of the exam. There was discussion regarding concerns of undertrained dentists and dental hygienists. Committee Member Lemon noted similar concerns when Hurricane Katrina hit,

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and many students were unable to complete their training; however, they were offered free continuing education courses to assist them in completing their training. He stated that while it was not an ideal option, it was necessary given the circumstances.

Committee Member Moore stated that he would like to make the motion to table agenda item (5)(b) until the pandemic is over, due to the fact that they do not know when the pandemic will be over, and because they have a temporary license option that was already approved by the Board. Committee Member Park seconded the motion. Committee Member Lemon opposed the motion; all others in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

*c. Review, discussion and possible recommendations to the Board of Temporary approval and acceptance of the use of manikins by American Board of Dental Examiners' (ADEX) for the Dental Periodontal Scaling Exercise portion of the ADEX dental exam for dental licensure and for the ADEX dental hygiene clinical examination for dental hygiene licensure if completed during the period of May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 – NRS 631.240 and NRS 631.300 (For Possible Action)

Committee Member Lemon invited Dr. Bill Pappas to speak regarding the ADEX exam. Dr. Pappas stated that currently 38 states have approved the ADEX CompeDont exam, which is the dental simulated exam for restorative. He added that 18 of the 38 states have accepted the CompeDont beyond the pandemic. Dr. Pappas noted that ADEX was the only testing agency that has a simulated tooth that has caries, affected dentin, enamel, and that no one else offers it. He spoke on the advantages that the ADEX exam offers with the use of their CompeDont. Dr. Pappas addressed Committee Member Park's concern of students being tested on anesthesia. He clarified that candidates are only tested on their ability to administer local anesthesia and not general anesthesia, which specifically relates to the dental hygiene exam. Dr. Pappas discussed the exam section in length and how they test candidates in the different areas, and noted how their patient-less exam was not created specifically due to the pandemic, and that the CompeDont has been in development for three (3) years. He noted that the manikin for dental and dental hygiene periodontics, and dental hygiene scaling was developed in response to the pandemic, but did not see ADEX extending it permanently beyond the pandemic. Committee Member Moore asked Mr. Su if there was anything in the statutes or regulations that state the exam has to be a live patient based exam. Mr. Su stated that the laws says a 'clinical exam approved by the Board'. Committee Member Moore inquired if the laws clearly state that it must be a patient based exam. Mr. Su responded that ultimately it would be at the discretion of the Board to determine if they would like to accept only a live patient exam or a patient-less exam.

MOTION: Committee Member Park made the motion to recommend that the language is clear that the Board can accept the alternate exam. Committee Member Lemon seconded the motion. Discussion: Committee Member Moore asked that if this motion passed how would it be different than agenda item (5)(b). Committee Member Park asked if it was required that the OSCE portion be accepted by the Nevada statutes. Dr. Pappas stated that the OSCE exam is listed in the statute, under the dental simulated clinical examination – which was the ADEX computer based examination. Committee Member Park clarified that she was referring to NRS 631.300, and whether or not it was clear in the statute. Dr. Pappas stated that it was in the language, in the sense that the Board had the discretion to approve the ADEX or WREB exams. Mr. Su referred the Committee to NAC 631.090, and read the language into the record. He states that the language of the NRS 631.240 requires Board approval for ADEX exam, and just requires a certificate of presentation for the WREB exam. There was discussion regarding accepting a patient-less based exam during the pandemic, and how it was believed that the statute was designed for the Board to determine the exam types they would accept for permanent license and not necessarily for a temporary licensure. Mr. Su noted that the agenda item they are discussing is time limited. Committee Member Moore inquired if agenda (5)(b) and (c) were the same. Mr. Su that section (b) of NRS 631.240 states that the ADEX exam has to be approved by the Board, but requires that WREB exam applicants must provide a certificate from WREB showing that they have passed the WREB clinical examination.

However, that upon reviewing NAC 631.090, it requires that the Board approve both the ADEX and WREB exams. He noted that there was an inconsistency with the NAC and the NRS. Committee Member Park reiterated her motion to accept the use of ADEX clinical exam for hygiene licensure during the period of May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 pursuant to NRS 631.240 and NAC 631.300. Committee Member Lemon seconded the motion

Discussion: Mr. DiMaggio clarified that the motion only approved the ADEX dental hygiene exam and not the dental portion of the exam. Committee Member Park stated that her motion covered the portion of the agenda item she was comfortable with. Mr. DiMaggio noted that if the Committee did not make a motion regarding the dental portion of the agenda item, then the Committee would have to reconvene and revisit the agenda item.

MOTION: Committee Member Lemon made the motion to recommend the approval of the acceptance of the use of manikins by ADEX for dental periodontal scaling portion of the ADEX exam for the period as stated. Motion failed for lack of second.

Committee Member Moore stated that he was having difficulty understanding the issue with the motion, and why Mr. DiMaggio was requesting for another motion. Mr. DiMaggio explained that the agenda item noted both the dental and dental hygiene exams, however, that the motion made by Committee Member Park only addressed the dental hygiene portion of the exam and did not include or cover the dental exam portion of the agenda item.

Committee Member Park indicated that she read the statute and made her motion based on the statute, and not necessarily on the agenda item as written. Mr. DiMaggio stated that in effort to clarify things for the record, the agenda item addressed the use of manikins as it applied to both dental licensure and dental hygiene licensure. He explained that her motion excluded the manikin from the dental portion of the exam. Committee Member Park stated that she did not use the term 'manikin' because her motion was based on the statute, and therefore did not understand why her motion was creating an issue. Mr. DiMaggio stated that he drafted the agenda items, and that the intent of the agenda items, especially 5c, was as he stated the use of manikins for both dental and dental hygiene exams; therefore, if the vote was for something other than what is listed on the agenda, then it could possibly be an open meeting law violation. Mr. Su concurred with Mr. DiMaggio's statement. Committee Member Park amended her motion to approve agenda item 5(c) in its entirety. Committee Member Lemon seconded the motion. Committee Member Lemon noted that they would need to withdraw the original motion in order to accept all of agenda item (5)(c). Mr. Su responded affirmatively, and stated that the current motion needed to move forward. All were in favor, motion passed.

*d. Review, discussion and possible recommendations to the Board of Temporary approval and acceptance of the restorative procedures in the American Board of Dental Examiners'

(ADEX) exam for dental licensure to be completed on either a live patient or the CompeDont tooth during the period of May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 – NRS 631.240 (For Possible Action)

Committee Member Lemon inquired if the Committee would like to quickly move forward with this agenda item as it was similar to the previous agenda item, or if the Committee would like to table this item for a future meeting. He called for a motion.

MOTION: Committee Member Moore made motion to accept (5)(d) in its entirety as stated on the agenda. Committee Member Moore inquired what would transpire after the December 31, 2020 date, if the approval would become null and void. Mr. Phil Su clarified that the exam alternative option expired upon the date noted, unless the Board created a new agenda item at a future meeting to extend the time period. Committee Member Lemon seconded the motion. Committee Member Park opposed; all others were in favor of the

motion. Motion passed.

- *e. Review, discussion and possible recommendations to the Board of Temporary approval and acceptance of the alternatives to the current Western Regional Examining Board's (WREB) exam for dental licensure, including WREB Dental Licensing Examination COVID-19 Options for 2020, if completed during the period of May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 NRS 631.240 (For Possible Action)
- *f. Consideration and possible recommendation of CE Broker Technical Proposal (For Possible Action)

Committee Member Lemon stated that due to time constraints, the Committee would need to table this item, and have another meeting scheduled. He called for a motion to table agenda items (5)(e) and (5)(f).

MOTION: Committee Member Moore made the motion to table agenda items (5)(e) and (5)(f). Committee Member Park seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

Public Comment: This public comment period is for any matter that is within the jurisdiction of the public body. No action may be taken upon the matter raised during public comment unless the matter itself has been specifically included on the agenda as an action item. The Chairperson of the Board will impose a time limit of three (3) minutes. The Chairperson may allow additional time at his/her discretion.

Ryan Hunter, a dental student, took the manikin WREB boards and is curious how they expect him to practice in Nevada when the dentist that wants him to practice has not been licensed for 5 years, and therefore has no way to practice because of that provision in the temporary license. He noted that they approved the ADEX exam for temporary licensure but they did not approve the WREB exam for temporary licensure. Committee Member Moore stated that item was tabled, however, that the Board has the ultimate decision. He commented that he and many others have already waited a long time for the Board to make a decision.

Randy Wells commented that there were many supporters for the WREB and ADEX manikin based exams, and noted that if they looked at the current times they are in, it was hard for them to have a patient based exam to base licensure off of. He stated that eventually they were going to have to start looking at patient-less based exams for the foreseeable future. He commented that he took the WREB exam, and described what the exam entailed, and felt that the level of competence was apparent in all that they had to complete for the exam. He asked that the Committee reconsider their decisions this evening, as it is hindering him from practicing in Nevada, and with all of the delays, it is inevitable that he will need to look at another state for licensure and employment, though he wishes to practice in Nevada. He stated that with all of the delays, the Board is hindering recent graduates from getting a license. He stated that unless an amendment is made, then he cannot qualify for temporary licensure since his potential employer has not been licensed for 5 years.

Charles Buchannan stated that he had a lot of feedback and the Board would need to return to him for comment.

Kimberly, a CSN dental hygiene student, stated that the timeline of 90 days after the pandemic is lifted by the Governor did not work for them since they would not have time to screen a patient, and that the ADEX manikin exam that was just recommended for approval did not have any available exams offered after the deadline of December 31, 2020; that they would not be able to obtain a temporary license since they cannot graduate until December. She noted that their only option was to take the WREB OSCE exam. She implored the Committee members to please reconsider their decision, since if they do not, they will not be able to obtain a license.

Pooja Mehta commented that she would like to support her dental colleagues and stated that the temporary license does not help them or potential employers, such as her, if the employer has not been licensed for 5 years. She asked that the Committee meet again quickly to address the WREB exams as it would hinder students trying to obtain licensure.

Stephanie, a dental hygiene student of the class of 2020, stated that the temporary license as it stands requires them to get a clinical exam within 90 days of the end of the State of Emergency. She stated that the logistics behind that do not work very well, since the exams are only given one time per year, per location; and that the ability to get in within 90 days is difficult. She noted that they were originally planning to sign up in January for the exam offered in July, just to give the Committee Members an idea of the timeline and the issues they'll most likely face with the 90 day requirement they've placed on the temporary licenses. She stated that she supported the Board accepting the OSCE exam for both the WREB and ADEX. She went on to discuss the available portions of the WREB and ADEX exams and their timelines.

Kent Horsley commented that he agreed with his other colleagues, that the stipulation of requiring a licensed dentist of 5 years in order to supervise temporary license holders is creating a lot issues for students graduating this year. He noted that students complete their programs with a letter of completion from the school and spoke about the concern the Committee has with schools graduating students who may not be competent and ready to be out in practice. He spoke about the exams and the hardships that graduates are and will be facing with the high standards the Board is setting, and the issues the graduates are facing.

Dr. Aimee Abittan stated that she is a practicing dentist in Nevada, and spoke in favor of a patient-less based exam for permanent licensure, and that it should be considered as an ethical issue. She stated that she would like to see the members of the committee do research into why it is being requested – the acceptance of patient-less exams, especially in the current situation in trying to find patient based exams. She commented that the temporary licensure that is being offered is cumbersome and difficult to satisfy as far as finding someone who will be able to supervise 24/7 while practicing.

Ben Abrahams, a dental student of the graduating class of 2020, asked for clarification on the agenda item (5)(d), if an applicant completes the exams during May 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, will they be granted full unrestricted licensure or temporary licensure. His concern with temporary licensure is how cumbersome it is finding a dentist that meets the temporary license requirement, and noted that he has been searching for a dentist that meets the requirements for some time and has not been successful. He urged the Board to accept ADEX and WREB manikin based exams during this time for full licensure.

Charles Buchannan he stated that he understood that there was period where the Board did not have a quorum of its members, and noted that he would try to be as respectful as possible with his comments. He stated that the information regarding both ADEX and WREB had been available since April, and the information has been accessible for several months. He did not understand that why after all the months during the pandemic, the Board is still unclear on the exam matters, since the Board did not need a quorum to research and review the information about the WREB and ADEX exams. He asked how much more time the Board needed to review the information, since the graduates of 2020 have run out of their time and their livelihoods were at the mercy of the Board.

7. Announcements

No announcements were made.

*8. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

Committee Member Lemon called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Committee Member Moore moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:54 p.m. Committee Member Lemon seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Frank DiMaggio, Executive Director