

Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners

600 East Amite Street, Suite 100
Jackson, MS. 39201

MINUTES of the Emergency Teleconference Board Meeting

4/30/2020; 3:00 PM

Conference Call-In: 1-978-990-5000; Participant Access Code: 438699

Roll Call by Conference Call-In:

Irons_ Conaway_ Harkins_ Williams_ Smith_ Richoux_ Moore_ Porter_

At 3:05 PM, Dr. Mike Harkins, Board President, called the meeting to order with a roll call. All Board Members were present and accounted for. Additional attendees on the call were: Chris Hutchinson, MSBDE Executive Director, Stan Ingram, Board Counsel, and Ken Walley, AG Assignment. This meeting was deemed to be of an emergency nature during an emergency declaration and 24-hour Public Notice Requirements were waived as timing was of the essence in making public the results of the Board Meeting. Approximately three individuals were indicated by the Conference Call Service to be in the virtual public, but no public attendee declared themselves.

The first item on the agenda was the Discussion and Recommendation on the addition of Orthodontic procedures as well as implant placement to be added to the list of Essential Procedures effective May 4, 2020. Dr. Harkins gave a brief statement on the previous day's request in letter form (attached to these minutes as an exhibit) to the State Health Officer, Thomas Dobbs, MD, seeking support of this amendment. Dr. Harkins indicated that the support from Dr. Dobbs had been indicated and received in the form of an email (also attached to these minutes as an exhibit) to the Board Executive Director, Chris Hutchinson. Dr. Irons made Motion to approve this amendment, Seconded by Moore; and Dr. Harkins called for discussion. Much discussion was had revolving around opposition to the amendment from Dr. Conaway and Dr. Williams in that confusion could be forthcoming in that dentists would have issue that they were not allowed to perform procedures that were also not aerosol producing. The pair attest that the current mandate needed to remain intact as written to avoid public confusion. Additional discussion was had on the justification of implant procedures and the severe issues

that could result of not completing such restoration. Following discussion, Harkins called for a Vote. Irons, Moore, Porter, Smith, Harkins, and Richoux all Voted to the Affirmative of the Amendment; Conaway and Williams Opposed the Amendment. The Motion Passed by a vote of 6-2.

Next, Dr. Harkins asked the Board Members if there was any additional business to be discussed. Dr. Williams requested the floor and the request was granted. Dr. Williams discussed the confusion surrounding a diagram entitled "Essential versus Non-Essential Procedures" that had been incorrectly stated publicly as an ADA document. Dr. Williams felt responsible for the error and asked Mr. Hutchinson to elaborate on the resolution of the issue. Mr. Hutchinson discussed in detail the discovery and correction of the error. The diagram had been designed and authored by The Association of Dental Support Organizations (ADSO) from various sources and publicly issued in an online journal known as Group Dentistry Now dot com. Mr. Hutchinson explained that he had not sought board guidance as it was well within his duties as the Executive Director to protect the Board from any Intellectual Property violations and to correct public addresses to "give credit where credit is due" to the actual author of the diagram. Hutchinson continued that he had received this diagram from multiple sources and not just from Dr. Williams, and that he himself also had incorrectly assumed it was ADA driven. Hutchinson concluded that Dr. Williams was not to blame for the error. Mr. Hutchinson was thanked publicly by the Board for making the correction and being vigilant to such errors. No Action was required or taken.

Next, Mr. Hutchinson asked the Board for proper permission to issue the blast email for the earlier item of business to amend the essential services. This Blast is attached to these minutes as an exhibit. Dr. Moore made the Motion for the Executive Director to blast email the amendment to all licensees; Seconded by Irons; All were in Favor.

Next, a short discussion was had thanking Mr. Hutchinson for taking the initiative to begin a weekly web conferences with the State Health Officer of the Mississippi Department of Health. Also, he was thanked for moving the Board into the "21st Century" by beginning live webinars for Board business as opposed to teleconference meetings. No Action was taken.

At this point in the agenda, Dr. Harkins stated that he would entertain a Motion to Adjourn; Accommodated by Dr. Moore in the form of a Motion; Seconded by Irons; and, All were in Favor. At 3:44 PM, the Emergency Teleconference Board Meeting of 4/30/2020 was Adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON THIS DATE _____ OF 2020.

STEVEN MARK PORTER, DDS (SECRETARY)