VIRGINIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY
EXAMINATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2, 2018

TIME AND PLACE: The Examination Committee convened on February 2, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Board Room 4, Henrico, Virginia.

PRESIDING: James D. Watkins, D.D.S.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Nathaniel C. Bryant, D.D.S.
Patricia B. Bonwell, R.D.H., PhD.
Jamiah Dawson, D.D.S.
Carol R. Russek, J.D.

STAFF PRESENT:
Kelley W. Palmatier, Deputy Executive Director
Donna Lee, Discipline Case Manager

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: All five members of the Committee were present.

Ms. Palmatier read the emergency evacuation procedures.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dr. Watkins asked if there were any corrections or changes to the April 28, 2017 minutes. Dr. Bryant moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

IMPLEMENTING A LAW EXAM FOR LICENSURE APPLICANTS: Ms. Palmatier stated that the Board of Dentistry (Board) at its December 15, 2017 meeting requested that the Exam Committee determine whether it would recommend that the Board continue to pursue a law examination for new licensees; and if so, how to proceed with implementing that exam. Ms. Palmatier reminded the Committee that it was explained that the law exam would need to be psychometrically validated to assure all applicants are treated fairly, questions are written properly, and the questions are not biased.

The Committee agreed that it is current licensees that they want to ensure are keeping apprised of the changes in the regulations more so than new licensees because most discipline cases involve licensees who have been licensed by the Board for some time.

The Committee unanimously recommended that the Board put five statements of "Did You Know" on the renewal form for both dentists and dental hygienists that would list current changes in regulations or informative regulations for each profession, which would communicate to licensees that it is important to be aware of the laws and regulations of the Board.

The Committee unanimously recommended that the Board not move forward with requiring a law exam for new licensees.

PROPOSE A POSITION STATEMENT ON CLINICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR LICENSURE OF DENTISTS:

Ms. Palmatier reported to the Committee that WREB is the only clinical examination accepted by the Board that does not have a required prosthodontics exam. Ms. Palmatier requested that the Committee consider recommending that the Board adopt a guidance document that states "All examinations taken after March 9, 2018 must include, at a minimum, sections on Endodontics, Prosthodontics, and Restorative dentistry" for dental licensure applicants by examination or credentials.

The Committee unanimously recommended that the Board adopt a guidance document, and also that a regulatory change be made to 18VAC60-21-210(B)(2) to reflect the requirements stated in the guidance document.

No new meeting date set.

ADJOURNMENT:

With all business concluded, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

James D. Watkins, D.D.S, Chair

Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director

Date

Date