

Allied Dental Committee Meeting

February 18, 2025

4:30 pm

Open WebEx/Teleconference Meeting

Call to Order

Heidi Donnelly called the meeting to order at 4:38 pm.

Board Members Present

Heidi Donnelly, LDA, Chair
Trina Courtright, DH, ADT
Linda Gustafson, PT
Rick Nolting, DDS, MS

Board Staff Present

Bridgett Anderson, Executive Director
Brian Cochran, Assistant Director Licensing and
Credentialing
Kathy Johnson, Legal Analyst
Mary Luecke, Executive Administrative Assistant

Approval of Draft Agenda

The February 18, 2025 agenda was reviewed and approved.

Review and Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

The May 21, 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Expanded Functions Curriculum Review for Western Technical College

Clinical Coordinator Nicole Schmit and Program Director Lisa Mikkelsen presented on behalf of Wisconsin Western Technical College. The College is requesting a curriculum review of their dental assistant program. The goal is to determine how the program could be adjusted to meet licensure requirements for dental assistant students to apply for Minnesota licensure upon graduation. The college is located 1.5 miles from the Minnesota border. The Committee discussed and determined Brian Cochran would send Minnesota's requirements to the program. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Myofunctional Therapy – Board Guidelines

Bridgett Anderson reported board staff have been receiving an increasing number of inquiries

regarding myofunctional therapy. Many hygienists are trained and certified. Neither the State of Minnesota nor the MN Board of Dentistry regulates myofunctional therapy.

An audience hygienist who is certified by the International Association of Orofacial Myology (IAOM) suggested reviewing a letter from the American Dental Hygienists Association. IAOM certification includes ongoing training, case studies, and observation. Dental hygiene provides a foundation for individuals to study further towards achieving IAOM certification. Orofacial myology does not practice hygiene/dentistry at the same time as the treatment. Referrals for orofacial myology come from many sources including dentists, orthodontists, pediatricians and head/neck specialists. Orofacial myology does not diagnose but does provide an assessment of myofunctional disorders. The Committee decided to issue a guidance statement. Bridgett Anderson will develop guidance language for discussion at a future meeting to address some common questions the Board has received.

Announcements

Committee members scheduled the next meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 4:30 pm.

Adjourn

Heidi Donnelly, adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Reviewed by:

Heidi C. Donnelly, LDA
Heidi Donnelly, LDA, Chair

April 8, 2025

Date