

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE  
BEGINNING AT 10:00 AM ON  
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020**

A special meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry was held on Friday, May 15, 2020, via teleconference. The meeting was held pursuant to public notice, each member received notice, and notice was properly posted.

***CALL TO ORDER***

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by Dr. Richard Willis, President.

***1. ROLL CALL***

At the request of Dr. Willis, a roll call was taken. Dr. Willis stated that a quorum of the Board was present.

**PRESENT**

Dr. Richard Willis, President  
Dr. Isaac House, Vice President  
Dr. Donald Bennett, Secretary-Treasurer  
Mr. Albert Bossier, Member  
Dr. Jay Dumas, Member  
Patty Hanson, RDH, Member  
Dr. Kimberly Caldwell, Member  
Dr. Claudia Cavallino, Member  
Dr. Robert Foret, Member  
Dr. Marija LaSalle, Member  
Dr. Jerry Smith Member  
Dr. Russell Mayer, Member  
Dr. Steven Ortego, Member  
Dr. Jeetendra Patel, Member  
Dr. Thomas Price, Member

**ABSENT**

Dr. Glenn Appleton, Member

**ALSO PRESENT WERE**

Arthur Hickham, Jr., Executive Director  
Erin Conner, Assistant Executive Director  
Kirk Groh, Board Counsel  
Rachel Daniel, Board Staff  
Alexx Smith, Board Staff  
Annette Droddy, LDA

Dr. William Hadlock  
Gary Pickard, Pacific Dental Services

*2. OPENING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT*

Dr. Willis thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He asked all guests to introduce themselves.

*3. PUBLIC COMMENT*

Dr. Willis asked for public comment. Mr. Pickard urged the Board to allow dentists to do diagnostic testing for COVID-19. He was informed that there is no prohibition on dentists doing diagnostic testing for COVID-19 on their patients.

*4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING*

Dr. Cavallino moved

**Resolved**, that the minutes, as circulated, of the special Board meeting, the Office Management Committee meeting, and the Rulemaking Committee meeting, all of which took place on March 6, 2020, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, are hereby adopted, ratified, and approved in their entirety.

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

*5. CONFIRMATION OF ACTS SINCE PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING*

Dr. Cavallino moved

**Resolved**, that the acts and decisions taken by the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and Executive Director in the general conduct and transactions of Board business, excluding the decision to issue licenses to Louisiana graduates without completing an entire clinical examination, since March 6, 2020, be and they are hereby approved, adopted, and ratified in full by the Board.

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

*6. LICENSURE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC*

Mr. Bossier moved

**Resolved**, that the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby grant provisional licenses without their completion of a clinical examination to 2020 graduates of CODA accredited dental and hygiene programs; and

**Be it further resolved**, provisional license holders would then be required to successfully complete a clinical examination within a set period of time to receive full licensure.

There was no second; the motion failed.

Dr. Mayer moved

**Resolved**, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby grant full licensure to any applicant graduating in 2020 from a CODA accredited program without the necessity of having successfully completed a clinical examination.

All members voted in the affirmative except Mr. Bossier, Ms. Hanson, and Dr. LaSalle who voted in the negative, and Dr. Bennet and Dr. House who abstained. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Bossier left the meeting at this point and did not participate further in the meeting.

*7. CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC*

Dr. House moved

**Resolved**, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby waives the personally attended continuing education requirement for all licensees scheduled to renew their dental or hygiene licenses in 2020, allowing all of the continuing education for licensees renewing in 2020 to be done online.

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

*8. QUARTERLY FINANCIALS AND BUDGET*

Dr. Hickham reviewed the Board's latest quarterly financial statements.

Dr. Bennett moved

**Resolved**, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry having reviewed its budget for fiscal year 2019-2020, hereby amends its revenue and expense sections as per the attached documentation.

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

*9. LICENSE BY CREDENTIALS APPLICANTS*

Dr. House moved

**Resolved**, having considered the application for licensure by credentials in the State of Louisiana by the person named below, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby approves said application and awards her her requested license to practice dentistry in the State of Louisiana, granting her all the privileges, duties, and responsibilities associated therewith.

Dr. Tien Nguyen

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Dr. House moved

**Resolved**, having considered the application for licensure by credentials in the State of Louisiana by the person named below, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby approves said application and awards her her requested license to practice dentistry in the State of Louisiana, granting her all the privileges, duties, and responsibilities associated therewith, pending the completion of his pediatric dentistry residency, pending the Board's receipt of satisfactory criminal background check results.

Dr. Stephanie Harding

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

*10. ADJOURNMENT*

Dr. Foret moved

**Resolved**, that the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby adjourns its meeting of May 15, 2020.

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Dr. Willis adjourned the meeting at 11:50 AM.

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**Donald Bennett, D.D.S.**

**Secretary/Treasurer**

**Louisiana State Board of Dentistry**