

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
HELD IN THE REX ROOM 8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
AT THE JW MARRIOTT NEW ORLEANS  
LOCATED AT 614 CANAL STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130  
BEGINNING AT 1:00 PM ON DECEMBER 8, 2023**

The annual meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry was held on Friday, December 8, 2023. 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 1:00 PM by Dr. Price, President.

***1. ROLL CALL***

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

**PRESENT**

Dr. Thomas Price, President  
Dr. Jay Dumas, Vice President  
Dr. Jeetendra Patel, Secretary Treasurer  
Dr. Don Bennett, Member  
Mr. Carlos Zelaya, Member  
Dr. Kimberly Caldwell, Member  
Dr. David Baughman, Member  
Dr. Josh Reaves, Member  
Ms. Joelle Breaux, RDH, Member  
Dr. Rick Willis, Member  
Dr. Nelson Daly, Member  
Dr. Terry Billings, Member  
Dr. L. Stephen Ortego, Member  
Dr. Ike House, Member  
Dr. Griffin Deen, Member

**ALSO PRESENT WERE**

Dr. Arthur Hickham, Jr., Executive Director  
Ms. Erin Conner, Assistant Executive Director  
Ms. Rachel Daniel, Board staff  
Ms. Alexx Smith, Board staff

Mr. Kirk Groh, Board Counsel  
Dr. John Gallo, LSU Dental School  
Ms. Suzanne Farrar, RDH, LDHA  
Dr. Donna Foster  
Ms. Lisa Pretus, attorney for Dr. Foster  
Dr. David Reed  
Mr. George Indest, attorney for Dr. David Reed  
Dr. David Kemp  
Dr. Frederick Banks  
Ms. Patty Hansen

*2. OPENING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT*

Dr. Price thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

*3. PUBLIC COMMENT*

Dr. Price asked for public comment.

*4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING*

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the minutes, as circulated, of the Special Board meeting of August 18, 2023 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*

Mr. Zelaya 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 since August 18, 2023, 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. REPORTS ON INVESTIGATIONS, ADJUDICATIONS, AND LITIGATION*

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the agenda be amended to add the consideration of the Request for Reconsideration by Dr. David Reed.

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

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing investigations, adjudications, litigations, and professional competency of individuals and staff; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry may discuss litigation in Executive Session when an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and litigating position of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry.

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

Upon returning from Executive Session,

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the that the Board approve of the request for reconsideration and remove the prohibition on Dr. David Reed applying to be a Medicaid provider from the consent decree involving Dr. Reed which was signed on September 28, 2015.

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the Board grant a license to DF.

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

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the Board grant a license to DK.

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

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the Board grant a license to FB.

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

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the Board that award its eligible classified staff a rewards and recognition payment of 10% of their salary due to their extraordinary service and that Dr. Hickham and Ms. Conner each receive a 10% raise in their salary beginning on January 1, 2024.

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

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the Board ratify the consent decree regarding DMR.

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

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the Board ratify the consent decree regarding WFH.

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

## ***STANDING COMMITTEES***

### ***7. EXAMINATION COMMITTEE, Dr. Steve Ortego, Chair***

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the minutes of the August 18, 2023 Examination Committee meeting, as circulated, be approved.

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

A discussion was held regarding the visit of Drs. House, Bennett and Hickham to the CRDTS office in Topeka, Kansas to learn about the CRDTS remediation program and the CRDTS exam. Drs. House and Bennett will observe a CRDTS exam in January 2024 in Birmingham.

*8. LICENSING AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE*, Dr. Jeet Patel, Chair

Dr. Patel gave his report.

A discussion was held regarding the dental compact and it was mentioned that the LDA CGA is in favor of deferring any action on a compact for now.

*9. OFFICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE*, Dr. Rick Willis, Chair

Dr. Willis reviewed the financial report from the first quarter of the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Dr. Ortego moved

**Resolved**, that the minutes of the August 18, 2023 Office Management Committee meeting, as circulated, be approved.

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

*10. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE*, Mr. Carlos Zelaya, Chair

Mr. Zelaya gave his report.

*11. CE COMMITTEE*, Dr. Kimberly Caldwell, Chair

Dr. Caldwell gave her report.

It was mentioned that the LDA has begun giving EDDA courses and also has scheduled a sedation CE course because LSU has stopped providing these courses.

*12. IMPAIRED DENTIST COMMITTEE*, Dr. Nelson Day, Chair

Dr. Daly presented his report.

*13. ANESTHESIA COMMITTEE*, Dr. David Baughman, Chair

Dr. Baughman gave his report.

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the minutes of the August 18, 2023 Anesthesia Committee meeting, as circulated, be approved.

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

*14. RULEMAKING COMMITTEE, Dr. Jay Dumas, Chair*  
Dr. Dumas gave his report.

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, that the proposed changes to Rule 313, as circulated, be approved.  
The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

*15. NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Dr. Tom Price, Chair*  
Dr. Price gave his report

Mr. Zelaya moved

**RESOLVED**, that the Board accept the recommendations of the Nominating Committee of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby elects the following individuals for the positions of president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer.

President: Dr. Jay Dumas  
Vice President: Dr. Jeet Patel  
Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Kimberly Caldwell

The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.  
The officers were then inducted.

*16. NEW BUSINESS AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD*

Dr. Price was recognized as the out-going president and Drs. Willis and Ortego were recognized as retiring board members. Their contributions to the board in their time and efforts are greatly appreciated.

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry does hereby authorize, confirm, and ratify the signature of any of the officers elected this day and listed herein on all accounts of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry.

President: Dr. Jay Dumas  
Vice President: Dr. Jeet Patel  
Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Kimberly Caldwell  
Executive Director: Arthur Hickham, Jr.  
Assistant Executive Director: Erin K. Conner

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

Mr. Zelaya moved

**Resolved**, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby grants authority to the President and Executive Director to release bank security on Board bank accounts. The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

There was a discussion of tier 2.1 reports, and board member training requirements.

There was a discussion of the Christmas party.

*16. ADJOURNMENT*

Dr. Ortego moved

**Resolved**, that the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry hereby adjourns its meeting of December 8, 2023. The motion was adopted after a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Dr. Price adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM.

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**Jeet Patel, D.D.S.**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
**Louisiana State Board of Dentistry**