

BOARD OF DENTISTRY
Professional & Vocational Licensing Division
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING¹

Date: March 10, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Queen Liliuokalani Room, 1st Floor
King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

<https://dcca-hawaii->

gov.zoom.us/j/84406910260?pwd=NYaz1XDSwD9mjzabbefyH3Cn5handx.1

Members Present: Andrew Tseu, D.D.S., J.D., Chair, Dental Member
Jonathan Lau, D.D.S., Vice-Chair, Dental Member
Staphe Fujimoto, D.D.S., Dental Member
Katherine Fukushima, R.D.H., Dental Hygiene Member
Paul Guevara, D.M.D, M.D.S., Dental Member
Steven Pine, D.D.S., Dental Member
Joy Shimabuku, Public Member
Joyce Yamada, Ed.D., R.D.H., Dental Hygiene Member

Members Excused: Craig Yamamoto, D.D.S., Dental Member

Staff Present: Sheena Choy, Executive Officer (“EO Choy”)
Andrew Kim, Esq., Deputy Attorney General (“DAG Kim”)
Dawn Lee, Secretary

In-Person Guests: Charles Kamimura
Richmond Luzar, HDA
Dr. Joseph Mayer

Zoom Webinar

Guests: Dr. Fabiana Melo
Michael Khouri
Dr. Eugene Azuma
Dr. Tuan Pham, Queen’s Medical Center
Gerraine Hignite, HDHA
Kim Nguyen, HDA
Kristina “Tina” Clarke

¹ Comments from the public were solicited on each agenda item. If no public comments were given, the solicitation for and lack of public comment are not explicitly stated in these minutes.

Virtual Meeting Instructions:

A short video regarding virtual meetings was played for attendees.

Ms. Yamada provided information on internet and phone access for today's virtual meeting and announced that today's meeting was being recorded and that the recording will be posted on the Board's web page.

Agenda:

The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, as required by §92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS").

Roll Call:

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded with a roll call of the Board members. All Board members confirmed that they were present; those on Zoom confirmed they were present and alone.

Call to Order:

There being a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of the Open & Executive Session Minutes of the January 13, 2025 Meeting and the February 3, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting

The Chair asked if there was any Board discussion of, corrections to, or public comments regarding the January 13, 2025 minutes or the February 3, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting minutes.

Ms. Fukushima noted a non-substantive date change for the Open Session minutes for the February 3, 2025 meeting.

Seeing no public comments or further Board discussion, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the Open and Executive Session minutes of the January 13, 2025 meeting and the minutes of the February 3, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting.

Upon a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by Dr. Pine, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the Open and Executive Session minutes of the January 13, 2025 meeting and the minutes of the February 3, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting as amended.

New Business:

Request from Dr. Fabiana Melo regarding dentist license DT-2234, license history, and options for restoration or reactivation of license

The Chair asked if there was any public testimony.

Fabiana Melo and Michael Khouri raised their hands on Zoom and were promoted to panelist.

The Chair welcomed Dr. Fabiana Melo and Michael Khouri and reminded them that they have five (5) minutes to share oral testimony.

EO Choy stated that although this is not a discussion of a current application, because the inquiry involves personal information about Dr. Melo's license and intent for application, they have the option to provide oral testimony to the Board in Executive Session.

Dr. Melo stated that she would like to provide her oral testimony in Open Session.

EO Choy stated that the Board is in receipt of all the application materials Dr. Melo has submitted to date, including emailed communication with the Board, redacted.

Dr. Melo stated that she was unaware her inactive license had been terminated until January 2025, when she tried to reactive the license. She stated she has held her Hawaii dentist ("DT") license since 2005, and it was never her intention to let the license lapse. In 2021, she called the Board to see if she could renew on inactive status. Dr. Melo stated that office staff told her she could renew on inactive status and reactivate it in the future. She stated that she did not receive a renewal reminder from the Board in 2024. Now that her license has been terminated for non-renewal, she stated that she appears to be unable to restore the license as a foreign-trained dentist. She requests the Board consider allowing her to restore her license.

Michael Khouri stated that he is Dr. Melo's attorney in California. However, he is not barred in Hawaii, so he is in attendance as a member of the public. He stated that he believes that the Board can choose to enforce the "spirit of the law" over the "letter of the law" for the sake of "equity."

EO Choy asked Dr. Melo if she has been in active practice in California since the 2021 expiration of her Hawaii DT license.

Dr. Melo confirmed that she has been in active dental practice in California since her Hawaii license expired.

At 10:21 a.m., upon a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by Dr. Pine, it was voted on and unanimously carried to move into Executive Session in accordance with HRS §92-4 and §92-5(a)(1) and (4) "To consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for professional or vocational licenses cited in section 26-9 or both;" and "To consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities."

At 10:51 a.m., upon a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Shimabuku, it was voted on and unanimously carried to move out of Executive Session.

The Chair summarized that in Executive Session, the Board discussed with Dr. Melo and her legal counsel regarding confidential information

related to her dentist license and licensure application. The Board provided an explanation of HAR §16-79-3.1(b) and related laws and rules for informational and explanatory purposes only. EO Choy will provide Dr. Melo with detailed guidance in written communication after the meeting.

The Board also notes that there is no option for “exemption” of the Board’s laws and rules relating to renewal and restoration deadlines. Any guidance and options provided to Dr. Melo are in accordance with existing laws and rules.

Additionally, licensees are reminded that maintenance, including timely renewal of their license, is the sole responsibility of the licensee. The Board will send a reminder to the contact information on file as renewal deadlines approach, but this is a courtesy only.

§16-79-3.1 Restoration of forfeited license. (a) A license which has been forfeited may be restored within two years after the date of expiration upon compliance with the licensing renewal requirements provided by law and upon written application and payment of all applicable renewal fees, penalty fees, and compliance resolution fund fees.

(b) A forfeited license may be restored after two years from the date of expiration upon:

- (1) Written application and payment of all applicable fees;
- (2) Being engaged in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene, as applicable, for at least three years preceding the date of the written application which includes:

- (A) Evidence of active clinical practice of not less than one thousand hours per year for the three years immediately prior to the date of request; and
- (B) A certification from the appropriate state board or licensing authority in the other jurisdiction that the licensee was authorized to practice during the term of said active practice;

- (3) Submitting evidence of completion of the CE requirements of a minimum of thirty-two hours for licensed dentists and twenty hours for licensed dental hygienists each biennium;

- (4) Submitting a self-query background check from the NPDB. In addition, the board may require a background check from an independent background check service approved by the board, provided that the applicant shall pay the cost of the background check; and

- (5) If the person is unable to meet the above requirements, the person may be required to reapply as a new applicant, take and pass the licensure examination.

(c) If the person has not restored the license for more than five years from the date of expiration, the person shall be required to reapply as a new applicant, take and pass the licensure examination, submit a self-query report from the NPDB, and

submit a report from an independent background check service approved by the board; provided that the applicant shall pay the cost of the background check.

See the board's relevant laws and rules for more details. Please be advised that in accordance with HAR §16-201-90, the above interpretation is for informational and explanatory purposes only. It is not an official opinion or decision, and therefore is not to be viewed as binding on the board, or the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Inquiry from Dr. Tuan Pham, DDS, The Queen's Medical Center – Dental Clinic Director, regarding clarification of the exemptions allowed by HRS §448-1

The Chair stated that the Board received an email inquiry from Dr. Pham requesting clarification as to the exemptions allowed by HRS §448-1. Specifically, he would like to know if the out-of-state clinician retained for a two-part lecture series hosted by the Dental Division at the Queen's Medical Center ("QMC") would qualify for a licensure exemption for the purposes of the lecture series under HRS §448-1(3). The multi-day even would be sponsored by the QMC General Practice Residency ("GPR") program.

Dr. Tuan Pham raised his hand on Zoom and was promoted to panelist.

EO Choy read the email from Dr. Pham:

"Aloha, I am the dental director at the Queen's Medical Center and am attempting to bring in a lecturer for Queen's Medical Center and open it up to the general dental population: Dr. Nojan Bakhtiari is a board-certified TMJ and Oral Facial Pain specialist. Dr. Nojan was in charge of the Orofacial Pain and TMJ Disorders service at Yale-New Haven from 2015-2020. He is a past professor of Orofacial Pain & TMJ at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, where he led the clinical service and academic curricula for the entire university and residency programs.

He was interested in providing a hands on series for the QMC-Dental division for trigger point injections.

Regarding licensure exemption HRS §448-1 Dentistry defined; exempted practices: (3) The practice of dentistry by licensed dentists of other states or countries at meetings of the Hawaii Dental Association or component parts thereof, alumni meetings of dental colleges, or any other like dental organizations, while appearing as clinicians;

The Queen's Medical Center (General Practice Residency program and non-profit organization) would be the organization to sponsor.

Please advise [sic] this would be sufficient and what other steps we can do to make this happen.”

EO Choy stated that the question before the Board would be – is the QMC GPR Program considered a, “like dental organization” under HRS §448-1(3). She noted that the proposed out-of-state practitioner, Dr. Nojan Bakhtiari, is a licensed dentist in New York. Additionally, the QMC GPR Program is CODA-accredited.

The Chair stated that the proposed course appears to have both didactic and clinical portions.

The Vice Chair opined that the QMC GPR Program appears to be a “like dental organization” as the program formally teaches the practice of dentistry within an accredited program.

Dr. Pine agreed that he would consider the QMC GPR Program a “like dental organization” since the program is CODA-accredited and the proposed lecture is in support of and sponsored by this program.

The Chair, Ms. Yamada, and Dr. Guevara, also agreed that they would consider the QMC GPR Program a “like dental organization.”

Dr. Guevara asked how the program would apply for continuing education approval.

EO Choy stated that if the course were to be submitted for continuing education, “CODA-accredited” programs are listed as an “approved sponsoring organization” for continuing education requirements under HAR §16-79-142. Therefore, no additional paperwork would be required to be submitted to the Board to qualify the course for continuing education credit.

The Board provided guidance that the QMC GPR program is considered a “like dental organization” under HRS §448-1(3).

§448-1 Dentistry defined; exempted practices. The following practices, acts, and operations, however, are exempt from the operation of this chapter:

- (3) The practice of dentistry by licensed dentists of other states or countries at meetings of the Hawaii Dental Association or component parts thereof, alumni meetings of dental colleges, or any other like dental organizations, while appearing as clinicians

See the board’s relevant laws and rules for more details. Please be advised that in accordance with HAR §16-201-90, the above interpretation is for informational and explanatory purposes only. It is not an official opinion or decision, and therefore is not to be viewed as binding on the board, or the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Request from Katrina “Tina” Clarke for approval of her “Teacher Tina RDH” dental hygienist anesthesia courses to meet the educational requirements of HRS §447-3.5 for permit to administer intra-oral block anesthesia

EO Choy stated that the Board received a request from Ms. Clarke for approval of her dental hygienist anesthesia courses to meet the education requirements of HRS §447-3.5 for permit to administer intra-oral block anesthesia. One course is a full anesthesia course for dental hygienists and the other course is a “refresher” course, which can be taken by dental hygienists who need to remediate parts of their anesthesia education and training to meet Hawaii-specific requirements.

EO Choy stated that pursuant to HAR §16-79-76(b)(2)(A), a licensed dental hygienist may apply to the Board for certification to administer intra-oral block anesthesia by providing to the Board a certificate of completion from a CODA-accredited dental hygiene school or by a “certification program approved by the board.” Ms. Clarke’s request to the Board is for approval to qualify as such a “certification program approved by the Board.”

Kristina “Tina” Clarke raised her hand on Zoom and was promoted to panelist.

Ms. Clarke stated that she is available for any Board questions. She also requested the correction that her name is “Kristina” and not “Katrina” as was incorrectly referenced on the Board’s agenda.

At 11:04 a.m., upon a motion by Ms. Shimabuku, seconded by Ms. Yamada, it was voted on and unanimously carried to move into Executive Session in accordance with HRS §92-4 and §92-5(a)(4), “To consult with the Board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities.”

At 11:18 a.m., upon a motion by Ms. Shimabuku, seconded by Ms. Yamada, it was voted on and unanimously carried to move out of Executive Session.

The Board entered in a brief recess from 11:18 a.m. to 11:22 a.m.

The Chair summarized that in Executive Session, the Board consulted with its attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities regarding this inquiry.

Upon a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Yamada, it was voted upon and unanimously carried to approve both of the submitted anesthesia courses as being “certification programs” which can be used to meet the requirements of HRS §447-3.5, noting that Ms. Clarke must be appropriately licensed and permitted in Hawaii to teach the clinical

hands-on components of the course under the supervision of a Hawaii licensed dentist.

Request from Jennifer McCloskey for approval of dental hygienist anesthesia course to meet the educational requirements of HRS §447-3.5 for permit to administer intra-oral block anesthesia

EO Choy stated that the Board received an email inquiry from Ms. McCloskey requesting the Board approve the submitted anesthesia course from Taft College as allowable for her to remediate the anesthesia coursework she is currently “short” in to meet the requirements of HRS §447-3.5. Ms. McCloskey holds a current Hawaii community service dentist (“CSDT”) license.

Dr. Pine stated that he would like to recuse himself from this agenda item.

The Vice Chair stated that it appears the course appears to meet the requirements of HRS §447-3.5.

There was no further discussion.

The Chair stated that Board guidance is as follows: Based on the materials provided by Ms. McCloskey, the course appears to meet the education and training requirements of HRS §447-3.5 for the dental hygiene additional permit to administer block anesthesia, and that the number of injections her previous coursework is currently “short” in is also accurate as calculated by the applicant in her correspondence to the Board.

See the board’s relevant laws and rules for more details. Please be advised that in accordance with HAR §16-201-90, the above interpretation is for informational and explanatory purposes only. It is not an official opinion or decision, and therefore is not to be viewed as binding on the board, or the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Central Regional Dental Testing Service, Inc. (“CRDTS”) 2025 Steering Committee Meeting – Report

The Chair stated that Joyce Yamada is the Board’s representative to CRDTS. She attended the 2025 CRDTS Steering Committee on January 25, 2025 on behalf of the Board.

Ms. Yamada submitted a formal report that is included in the meeting packet. She highlighted the following updates:

1. Finalization of the CRDTS and State Resources for Testing and Assessments (“SRTA”) merger.
2. CRDTS concern about the American Association of Dental Boards (“AADB”) Compact regarding eliminating or leaving out the CRDTS exam as a qualifying exam.

3. Concern for public health, safety, and welfare regarding the Council of State Governments ("CSG") compact because it allows for clinical licensure examinations without a hands-skill component.
4. CRDTS CARE remediation program is also growing; CRDTS has presented previously to the Board about this resource.

The Chair stated that dental compacts have been an ongoing issue of research and discussion by the Board. The Board has received several presentations from both compact organizations and is continuing to evaluate the issue.

Scope of Practice:

Inquiry from Dr. Eugene Azuma regarding licensed dentist use of specific laser treatments

The Chair stated that the Board received an email inquiry from Dr. Azuma regarding whether licensed dentist use of the Fotona Lightwalker laser to perform non-surgical procedures (Nightlase, Naselase, Liplase, and Smoothlase) is permitted in Hawaii.

EO Choy read the email from Dr. Azuma:

"I have never had to address the board or request anything of the board, [sic] But while I was at the HDA conference at the end of [sic] Jan, I had a conversation with Sheron Harwood from TDIC. During this conversation she asked me to get some clarification from the Dental Board about certain procedures that I have been trained to perform.

I am a Diplomate with the American Sleep and Breathing Academy, and have been on the Board of this organization since 2014, from 2022-24 I was the VP and now am the Acting Executive Director of this Organization.

As my level of continuing education and scope of practice has been expanded to support the ADA's 2017 policy on OSA (Please refer to attached document). In my practice we address the entire airway from the Nares to the lungs. I have been coordinating care with Pulmonologist, Myofunctional therapists, ENT, OMFS, AO and SGOT.

i [sic] am VIVOS trained, and have done advanced Craniofacial manipulations and am trained in nonsurgical Maxillomandibular expansions. This is the only FDA approved treatment for all levels of OSA in adults and children. We have a 3D conebeam and utilize various airway assessment from Nasal ,URAS, Nasal vs Oral breathing, Sleep position, Posterior pharyngeal airway collapse and oral causes of inadequate tongue space due to Maxillomandibular deficiency, Nighttime bruxism to create airway patency.

The Dentist is in the unique position because of routine recall appts and oral signs and manifestations which are easily recognizable

during our recall appointments.

The structures which are within our Dental realm greatly affect the person's ability to sleep and greatly affect the airway.

I have been involved with Dental lasers since 1995 from Diode, Erbium, Lightwalker(both of these wavelengths in one laser unit). Fotona Lightwalker laser has been FDA approved to perform a non Surgical version of the UPPP to open and stimulate Neocollagenesis called Nightlase.

<https://www.fotona.com/en/treatments/2039/nightlase-r/>

There are other procedures that can be performed such as Naselase, Oralase, Liplase, Smoothlase which have beneficial effects on increasing airway patency.

Sheron Harwood wanted me to contact you for consideration for approval of procedures to be allowed under my Dental license. The Nightlase procedure is a nonsurgical UPPP stimulating Neocollagenesis with no pain, no anesthesia, and nonablative procedure. The Naselase, Liplase, and Smoothlase procedures are all similar tissue effect with no residual contraindications. These procedures, with the exception of the Naselase procedure are performed intraorally.

Due to the wavelength on light utilized by the Fotona Lightwalker laser, these effects are nonablative and does not result in trauma and residual scarring light the similar procedure performed with a CO2 laser which is a hot, ablative wavelength [sic] of the light spectrum.

Dr. Eugene Azuma raised his hand on Zoom and was promoted to panelist.

Dr. Azuma summarized additional information about the lasers he is inquiring about, stating that their primary purpose is to alleviate sleep apnea. He detailed the training dentists utilizing such lasers receive. Patients are not anesthetized for these procedures.

The Vice Chair asked Dr. Azuma which areas of the body the procedures treat and how long the treatment lasts.

Dr. Azuma stated that the procedures are entirely in the mouth. He stated that the procedure is not permanent and requires continuous treatment to maintain efficacy.

EO Choy stated that the Board is determining if the use of the laser treatments described by Dr. Azuma fall under the practice of dentistry as defined in HRS §448-1. Specifically, do the processes involve, "diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases of the teeth, oral cavity, and associated structures..."

§448-1 Dentistry defined; exempted practices. A person practices dentistry, within the meaning of this chapter, who represents oneself as being able to diagnose, treat, operate or prescribe for any disease, pain, injury, deficiency, deformity, or physical condition of the human teeth, alveolar process, gums, or jaw, or who offers or undertakes by any means or methods to diagnose, treat, operate or prescribe for any disease, pain, injury, deficiency, deformity, or physical condition of the same, or to take impressions of the teeth or jaws; or who owns, maintains, or operates an office for the practice of dentistry; or who engages in any of the practices included in the curricula of recognized and approved dental schools or colleges. Dentistry includes that part of health care concerned with the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases of the teeth, oral cavity, and associated structures including the restoration of defective or missing teeth. The fact that a person uses any dental degree, or designation, or any card, device, directory, poster, sign, or other media whereby one represents oneself to be a dentist, shall be prima facie evidence that the person is engaged in the practice of dentistry.

Dr. Guevara stated that the procedures seem to fall under “associated structures.” Dr. Pine agreed.

Seeing no further discussion, the Chair stated that Board guidance is that specific laser treatment procedures described by Dr. Azuma appear to fall under “the practice of dentistry” as defined by HRS §448-1.

Dr. Azuma was returned to attendee on Zoom.

See the board’s relevant laws and rules for more details. Please be advised that in accordance with HAR §16-201-90, the above interpretation is for informational and explanatory purposes only. It is not an official opinion or decision, and therefore is not to be viewed as binding on the board, or the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Applications:

Ratification Lists

After reading the license numbers on the ratification lists, the Chair asked if there was any public testimony or Board discussion.

Seeing none, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the ratification lists.

Upon a motion by Ms. Shimabuku, seconded by Ms. Yamada, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following ratification lists:

1) Approved Dentists

DT-3213-0

Tyler Russell Johansen

DT-3214-0 Jamie Arthus Azdair
DT-3215-0 Joann Kim Ha Tran

2) Approved Dental Hygienists

DH-2508-0 Darci Larae Silcox
DH-2509-0 Amanda M Clifton
DH-2510-0 Blanche Keith Malayka B Ablao
DH-2511-0 Nalani Villalona
DH-2512-0 Shirin Kerimi Villegas

4) Approved Dental Hygienist Certification in the Administration of Intra-Oral Block Anesthesia

DH-2510-0 Blanche Keith Malayka B Ablao

Ongoing Business: **2025 Legislative Session – Bill Discussion & Updates**

The Chair asked if there was any public testimony.

EO Choy stated that the Hawaii Dental Association (“HDA”) submitted written testimony, which highlighted some of the legislative efforts HDA was in support of for 2025. HDA opposed S.B. 481, which is no longer active.

EO Choy reported that the Legislative Session is now about halfway through. March 6, 2025 was the “crossover” deadline for bills; bills still in play will now crossover to be heard by the corresponding committees in the opposite chamber.

S.B. 481, RELATING TO COMMUNITY SERVICE LICENSES.

Purpose: Allows a dental graduate from a dental college accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada to be an eligible candidate for a community service license (CSL). Repeals the requirement that the licensing examinations be completed within five years of a request for a CSL. Repeals the requirement that a CSL applicant provide a copy of an active, unrestricted dental practice license from another state. Repeals the prohibition against a person who failed the license examination from obtaining a CSL. Requires a CSL to be eligible for conversion to an unrestricted dental practice license when a dental provider who holds a CSL completes at least five thousand hours of community service to patients in the State.

EO Choy reminded the Board that they voted at the February 6, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting to appreciate the intent of this bill and offer comments expressing some concern with the proposed amendments to HRS §448-9.6 as written.

EO Choy stated that this bill was heard by the HHS committee on February 10, 2025, and was deferred.

S.B. 1373 & H.B. 1054, RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSURE ACTIONS AGAINST SEX OFFENDERS.

Purpose: Authorizes the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate the professional licenses of registered sex offenders.

EO Choy reminded the Board that they voted at the February 6, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting to support these companion bills.

EO Choy reported that H.B. 1054 was not heard by its second committee (JHA) and has therefore died. S.B. 1373 was heard by the CPN and JDC committees and has crossed over to the House. She will continue to testify on the Board's behalf for S.B. 1373, S.D. 2 as it advances.

H.B. 1431, RELATING TO ORAL HEALTH

Purpose: Establishes an Oral Health Task Force to review the status of oral health in the State and make recommendations to improve the State's oral health infrastructure. Establishes temporary full-time equivalent program specialist V positions. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

EO Choy stated that at the February 6, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting, the Board directed her to track this measure. H.B. 1431 was passed by the HLT and FIN committees and has now crossed over to the Senate. She will continue to track H.B. 4131, H.D. 2 and provide a report to the Board.

EO Choy stated that at the February 6, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting, members of the public brought the following additional bills to the Board's attention:

- S.B. 488, RELATING TO WATER FLUORIDATION
- S.B. 727, RELATING TO HEALTH
- S.B. 719, RELATING TO SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES
- H.B. 380, RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

EO Choy stated that these bills are not directly related to licensure, but she included them on the bill sheet addendum for the Board's information.

EO Choy reported that in addition to the four bills mentioned above, all the other bills not previously mentioned did not advance and are therefore dead.

Richmond Luzar raised his hand and was invited to share in-person testimony.

Mr. Luzar introduced himself as a representative from HDA. He stated that in addition to the bills noted in their written testimony, HDA is tracking H.B. 746, related to e-cigarettes, and S.B. 299 and H.B. 213, related to loan repayment.

There was no further public testimony or Board discussion.

Discussion of considerations for future revisions to HAR §16-79

EO Choy stated that after the Board February 3, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting, the Board received several inquiries as to how to provide testimony regarding any future revisions to the Board's Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR"), Chapter 16-79.

EO Choy reminded the Board that there is a current rules package going through the rules revision process.

This agenda item was included to allow for public testimony regarding future rules revisions.

The Chair asked if there was any public testimony.

There was no public testimony or Board discussion.

Executive Officer's Report:

Reminder – Renewal year for dental licenses

EO Choy stated that the Board continues to remind all dental licensees that this is a renewal year. EO Choy reported that she emailed a copy of the renewal FAQs available online to the Hawaii Dental Association ("HDA") and the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association ("HDHA").

Pursuant to HRS §447-1(a)(d), HRS §448-7 and HRS §448-8.5, all dentist and dental hygiene licensees must renew their license on a biennial basis, which includes meeting the continuing education requirements. The next renewal deadline for the 2024-2025 licensure biennium is December 31, 2025.

Dentists with the additional privilege/permit to administer deep sedation/general anesthesia and/or moderate sedation are additionally reminded that a renewal facility inspection is required before December 31, 2025 if the licensee wishes to maintain the additional privilege to administer.

A renewal FAQs document is available on the Board's website: https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/news-releases/dental_announcements/. A yellow banner has also been posted at the top of the Board's website for

a quick overview of FAQs.

EO Choy highlighted several points from the FAQs:

1. A renewal postcard will be sent to licensees closer to the renewal deadline. However, this is a courtesy reminder only. All licensees are responsible for the timely renewal of their license and compliance with all renewal requirements.
2. The Board is accepting 100% of CEs completed online for the 2024-2025 licensure biennium only. However, the hands-on component of Basic Life Support ("BLS") courses must be taken in-person.
3. Renewal facility inspections for dentist with the additional permit to administer anesthesia will begin on July 1, 2025.
4. Any request for waiver of CE requirements must be submitted and approved BEFORE a renewal application is submitted.

Ms. Yamada asked for clarification if 100% online Basic Life Support ("BLS") courses were acceptable.

EO Choy clarified that the Board voted for a waiver to continue acceptance of 100% online continuing education ("CE") courses for the 2024-2025 licensing biennium. However, the Board also voted that the hands-on component of BLS courses must be completed in-person.

Dr. Pine requested an update be made to the FAQs to note that community service dental hygienists ("CSDHs") renew on an annual, not biennial, basis.

The Chair offered appreciation for extensive effort of the Board members and volunteer inspection team involved in the anesthesia facility inspections.

Next Meeting:

Monday, May 12, 2025
10:00 a.m.

In-Person: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room
HRH King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual

Participation: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Taken, recorded, and approved by:

/s/ Sheena Choy

Sheena Choy
Executive Officer

SC:my

5/2/25

☒ Minutes approved as is.

☐ Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of