

July 26, 2005

PUBLIC MEMBER MEDIA REPORT

The Missouri Dental Board held its regularly scheduled meeting on July 21-23, 2005, at the Doubletree Hotel & Conference Center, 16625 Swingley Ridge Road, in Chesterfield, Missouri, according to its Public Member, Maxine Thompson.

President Eric J. Aubert, D.M.D., convened the regular open business session of the Board on Saturday, July 23, in Chesterfield, where the Board discussed or took action on the following matters:

Deborah Polc, R.D.H., President of the Missouri Dental Hygienists Association (MDHA), provided a report to the Board. Senate Bill 177, which includes the Distance Learning Program for Dental Hygienists, was signed by Governor Blunt on July 5, 2005, and will become law on August 28, 2005. The bill creates a "Dental Hygienists Distance Learning Committee". The members of the Committee are appointed by the Director of the Department of Economic Development. Ms. Polc reported that the Committee has not been appointed and although there has been some discussion among the association leaders about what direction the Committee needs to take, there have not been any decisions made regarding the tasks assigned to the Committee. The Committee, by law, dissolves on November 1, 2005. It was noted that the Committee will likely not be appointed until after the effective date of the new law and that the leaders of the two associations should have a plan formulated for the Committee when it is appointed. The MDHA annual meeting will be October 28-29, 2005, at Tan-Tar-A in Lake Ozarks.

Missouri Dental Association (MDA) President Dr. Robert Fox reported that he recently came back from a national conference where presidents and president elects from professional dental associations around the country get together and talk about issues. The President of the Texas Dental Association is doing a survey on dental boards and Dr. Fox reported that based on that survey he is pleased that Missouri is so far ahead than most other states. For instance, one state's dental board is composed of 14 members with 10 being public members. Dr. Fox spoke to the subject of Senate Bill 177 and said that one of the Committee's tasks will be writing up the specifications for the RFP (Request for Proposal). He also reported that the MDA's annual meeting is next week, July 27-31, in Branson, Missouri, at Chateau on the Lake. The Board of Directors is meeting on Thursday morning, July 28th. This is also the joint meeting with the Kansas Dental Association. The Oklahoma Dental Association may be involved in this joint meeting in the future.

Representing the Dental Assistants Association, Ms. Lee Ann Turnbaugh said that the Basic Skills Examination will be given at the July MDA meeting in Branson on Friday, July 29.

Sharlene Rimiller, Executive Director of the Missouri Dental Board, presented a quarterly report on budget and other fiscal and administrative matters. It is anticipated that the Board's fund balance will increase in fiscal year 2005 due to higher than estimated revenues and a decrease in expenses. A detailed report on fiscal year 2005 revenues and expenses will be presented to the Board at its October meeting. Mrs. Rimiller also presented a report on rules that are progressing through the rulemaking process. The amendments to the license renewal rule, the rule on certification of dental specialists, the fee rule, and the continuing education rule will go into effect on August 30, 2005. The only other two rules progressing through the system at this time are the new certification rule for federally qualified health centers and the rescission of the rule on endodontic materials. Both the Proposed Rule and the Proposed Rescission are scheduled to appear in the Missouri Register for the thirty (30) day public comment period on August 1, 2005.

Policy Review Committee (PRC) Chairman Dr. Larry Jackson presented a report on the Committee's review of the proposed nitrous oxide course to be sponsored by the Oral Health Network of Missouri. A list of instructors for the clinical portion of the course was presented and Ms. Karen Dent, Program Coordinator of the Oral Health Network of Missouri, provided additional information on the course curriculum. The Board voted to approve the course as presented but will re-evaluate the course in three (3) years.

Responding to comments from the organization of Pediatric Dentists on the new Conscious Sedation Rule, the PRC asked to Board to consider delaying enforcement of the new conscious sedation rule for another six (6) months. Recognizing the difficulty for licensees to come into compliance with the new conscious sedation rule because of practical obstacles (available training and equipment needed for the dental office), the Board voted to take into consideration those difficulties when addressing compliance issues until the end of April, 2006.

Public Member Maxine Thompson, with Hygiene Advisory Commission members Deborah Polc and Debra Adams, were assigned to review the jurisprudence examinations for both dental hygienists and dentists and develop new test items for the dentist examination. The new test items will be presented to the Advisory Commission for Dental Hygienists at its next meeting on October 27, 2005.

The PRC took no action on the comments received on the Board's proposed changes to its rule on advertising. The Board voted to hold an informal hearing on the proposed changes at a meeting of the PRC on Friday, August 19th.

Board representative on the Well Being Committee Dr. Larry Jackson reported that the finances of the Committee continue to remain solvent and that there are currently 33 participants in the program. The Board considered the need to request additional funding for the program. Mrs. Rimiller will communicate with the contractor to request the information needed in order for the Board to determine if additional funding should be requested through the budget process.

Advisory Commission for Dental Hygienists Acting President Deborah Gerecke, R.D.H., and Patricia Lepp, R.D.H., are the only CRDTS (Central Regional Dental Testing Service) dental hygiene examiners from Missouri. The Board encouraged the new Commission members to get involved in the examination process. Ms. Gerecke and Ms. Lepp are also involved in the development of an Ethics course for dental hygienists. The Advisory Commission for Dental Hygienists consists of Deborah L. Gerecke, Debra A. Adams, Patricia Lepp, Deborah Polc, and Tia Marie Strait, all licensed dental hygienists.

Discussion continues among the states on a unified national licensure examination for dentists and dental hygienists. The American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) is close to administering the first national examination for dentists. The first examination is slated for October of 2005. The national examination for dental hygienists will not be ready until 2006. With forty-two (42) states accepting the ADEX national examination concept, the Board reviewed the proposed membership and examination acceptance agreement. The Board will likely accept the terms of the membership and examination agreement but have asked legal counsel to review it first and discuss any concerns with ADEX directly. Of the four regional examination services, the Western Regional Examination Board (WREB), consisting of seven western states, continues to administer its own examination and has not approved of the new ADEX examination.

Dr. Eric Aubert will be the Board's representative on the steering committee of CRDTS with Patricia Lepp, R.D.H. and Dr. Rolfe McCoy serving on the CRDTS examination review committee.

For the coming year, Dr. Eric Aubert, Dr. John L. Sheets, and Dr. H. Fred Christman, III, will serve on the Board's Complaint Review Committee with Dr. Aubert serving as Chairman. The Policy Review Committee will consist of Dr. Rolfe C. McCoy, Dr. Larry W. Jackson, Patricia Lepp, R.D.H., and Ms. Maxine Thompson with Dr. McCoy serving as Chairman.

At its annual election of officers, the Board elected:

John L. Sheets, D.D.S., President
Rolfe C. McCoy, D.M.D., Vice President
Patricia A. Lepp, R.D.H., Secretary

The new terms of office begin immediately following this meeting.

The Missouri Dental Board regulates approximately 3,125 dentists, 621 dental specialists, and 2,690 dental hygienists.

Members of the Missouri Dental Board are:

Eric J. Aubert, D.M.D., President, St. Louis, MO
John L. Sheets, D.D.S., Vice President, Cape Girardeau, MO
E. Maxine Thompson, Public Member and Secretary, Cameron, MO

Larry W. Jackson, D.D.S., Member, Doniphan, MO
H. Fred Christman, III, D.D.S., Columbia, MO
Rolfe C. McCoy, D.M.D., Member, Chillicothe, MO
Patricia A. Lepp, R.D.H., Dental Hygiene Member, St. Louis, MO

All members of the Board were present at this meeting.

The Missouri Dental Board will meet again on October 13-15, 2005, in Kansas City, MO.
For more information regarding the Missouri Dental Board, individuals may write to:
Missouri Dental Board, P.O. Box 1367, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, or call (573)
751-0040.

CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY

A written copy of this statutorily mandated report was provided to the following radio station and newspapers by mailing same postage prepaid this twenty-sixth day of July, 2005.

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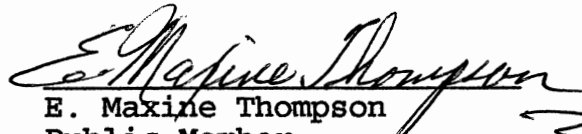
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✓ Sharlene Rimiller, Executive Director
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JUL 28 2005

MISSOURI DENTAL BOARD


E. Maxine Thompson
Public Member
Missouri Dental Board