

STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Minutes

August 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Dr. Robert Findley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in room W064, Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, and declared a quorum in accordance with Indiana Code § 25-14-1-12(a).

Board Members Present:

Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., President
Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S., Secretary/Designee
Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.
R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.
Edward Sammons, D.D.S.
Twyla Rader, L.D.H.
Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.
Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.
Crunchy Wells, D.M.D
Kevin Ward, D.D.S.
Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

Board Members Not Present:

State Officials Present:

Cindy Vaught, Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency
Dana Brooks, Assistant Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency
Bradley Repass, Litigation Specialist, Professional Licensing Agency
Leif Johnson, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

The video recording can be found on:

<https://www.youtube.com/@INProfessionalLicensingAgency>

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended.

Williamson/Sammons
Motion carried 11-0-0

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of April 5, 2024 as edited.

Williamson/Sheline
Motion carried 11-0-0

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of June 7, 2024 as edited.

Williamson/Sammons
Motion carried 11-0-0

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

A. Tarannum Marya, D.D.S.

Cause No. 202407-DEN-0006

Re: Appeal of Denial of Licensure

Parties Present:

Respondent present

Lindy Myer, Court Reporter, Accurate Reporting

Participating Board Members:

Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., (Hearing Officer)

Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S.

Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.

R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.

Edward Sammons, D.D.S.

Twyla Rader, L.D.H.

Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.

Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.

Crunchy Wells, D.M.D

Kevin Ward, D.D.S.

Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

Witness for Respondent:

Robert Singh

Case Summary: On or about June 28, 2024 Dr. Marya's application by reciprocity was denied by not meeting Ind. Code 25-1-21-5. On or about August 1, 2024 Dr. Marya was notified of a corrected denial notice. Board counsel inquired if she was given the option to continue the hearing to allow her more time to present her case. Dr. Marya stated she did receive that notice and requested to proceed with the hearing.

Dr. Marya discussed that all matters with the court have been addressed, and she was not convicted. She stated that the courts have only required her to do some monitoring which will be complete in 2025. She affirmed that she has been licensed in Illinois and working in that State for 2 years without issue.

The Board discussed the 2-year program she completed at UCLA as it was a non-CODA accredited program. Dr. Marya stated that the website does not reflect that she had to complete a CODA accredited program.

Mr. Singh was called as witness. He affirmed that Dr. Marya is a good dentist who is dedicated to her work.

The Board discussed with counsel the interpretation of Ind. Code 25-1-21-5.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to grant Dr. Marya’s appeal and grant dental licensure upon passing the law examination.

Sheline/Wells
6-5-0 motion passed

Kolkman- yes, Sammons – nay, Williamson – nay, Wells- yes, Sheline – yes, Nowakowski – nay, Rader – nay, Findley – yes, Glickman - yes, Snoddy – nay, Ward - yes

V. PERSONAL APPEARANCES

A. PROBATION

Dr. Swinney appeared to discuss his ongoing probation. Gave progress update.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded that Dr. Swinney’s next appearance will be in August 2025.

Findley/Kolkman
Motion carried 11-0-0

B. APPLICATION

1. Don Helfert, DDS LLC – Mobile Dental Application

Dr. Helfert appeared via zoom to discuss his MDF application. He stated that he is hoping to work in partnership with Jet Dental, Aria, and Big Smiles. He stated that he will be leasing equipment from Jet Dental and would be the Dentist who would handle their Indiana events.

The Board expressed concerns on the professional relationship between Jet Dental and Dr. Helfert. Jordan Smith, representative for Jet Dental, appeared via zoom to provide information. Attested that they are trying to be transparent with the Board.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to table Don Helfert, DDS LLC’s application for additional information and schedule an appearance for the October 4, 2024 meeting.

Sammons/Kolkman
Motion carried 11-0-0

C. REINSTATEMENT

There were no reinstatements for discussion.

VI. APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

A. Applications

1. Arlette Alcantara-Mondragon, LDH

Ms. Alcantara-Mondragon’s application by examination for dental hygiene was submitted for review as she has taken the National Board examination four times and passed on the fourth attempt.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Ms. Alcantara-Mondragon's application based upon Ind. Code 25-13-1-6.

Sammons/Snoddy
Motion carried 11-0-0

2. Doctor MiCaH J?King Blaze, DDS

Dr. Blaze's application was submitted for review as he indicated that there is pending disciplinary action against his Ohio license. The Board noted that while the action is currently being investigated, there is concerns regarding a concern on the mental state for Dr. Blaze's fitness to practice.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Blaze's dental application.

Kolkman/Rader
Motion carried 11-0-0

3. Awais Idris Mufti, DDS

Dr. Mufti's application for dental licensure by examination was submitted for review as they have taken the CDCA Prosthetic portion of the examination four times.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Mufti's application based upon Ind. Code 25-14-1-3.

Williamson/Sammons
Motion carried 11-0-0

4. Nikita Patel, LDH

Ms. Patel's application for dental hygiene by reciprocity was submitted for review to determine if her license is equivalent. She graduated from a program outside the United States and is currently licensed in Florida and Michigan.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Ms. Patel's dental application based upon Ind. Code 25-1-21-5(1)(A).

Williamson/Rader
Motion carried 11-0-0

5. Richard Rolle, Jr., DDS

Dr Rolle's application for dentistry by reciprocity was submitted for review of the disciplinary action that has occurred against his North Carolina license. His North Carolina license is currently on probation until March 2025. The Board expressed concerns and possible falsification of the information he provided on his license application.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Rolle's application based upon Ind. Code 25-1-21-5.

Rader/Nowakowski
Motion carried 11-0-0

B. Continuing Education

1. Indiana Society of Oral Maxillofacial Surgeons

Board noted that this application is for renewal and can be handled by PLA procedures.

VII. DISCUSSION

A. Compliance Fund and Compliance Officers Update

Dr. Findley provided an update that the Compliance Officer contracts. The contracts have been sent to the Compliance Officers, now we just need to wait for them to respond to proceed further.

The Board reviewed the Dental Compliance Fund Report and did not note any concerns.

B. Access Practice Agreement

Dr. Findley provided an update from his discussion with the State Department of Health. He provided information on Access Practice Agreements between Dental Hygienist and Dentists. Dr. Findley provided a summary of what the Agreement would entail, and the scope of practice the Dental Hygienist could do. The Board discussed how this would be implemented and how it would impact on the practice.

C. EFDA Duties

Dr. Kolkman received an email from IU Ft. Wayne with an inquiry if dental assistants could place sealants under the supervision of the dentist. Dr. Kolkman discussed that he and the representative from IU read the statute differently. The Board discussed how they each read the statute. The Board noted that it would be ok for a dental assistant to place sealants under the supervision of the dentist.

VIII. REPORTS

A. Office of the Attorney General

Amy Osborne, Deputy Attorney General, presented her report to the Board.

IX. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Findley noted to thank Lindsey Hyer, Executive Director of Indiana Professional Licensing Agency, for finding a new Board member quickly.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and having completed its duties, the meeting of the State Board of Dentistry adjourned at 12:09 p.m. by consensus.