COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

TIME: 11:00 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

August 28, 2026

State Board of Dentistry
August 28, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
Godfrey Joel Funari, DMD, Chairperson
Shawn M. Casey, DMD, Vice Chairperson
Brice D. Arndt, DDS, Secretary - Absent
Ana Chavez, M.Ed., EFDA, CDA - Absent
Barbara (Bonnie) Fowler, Public Member
LaJuan M. Mountain, DMD
Donna L. Murray, RDH, MSDH, PHDHP
Jennifer Unis Sullivan, DMD, JD
Joyce Warwick, DMD
Brian Wyant, Public Health Program Director, Department of Health designee - Absent
Randy Kim, Office of Attorney General

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Laura Neal, Esquire, Board Counsel
Paul J. Jarabeck, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor and Board Prosecution Liaison
Caitlin Ostrowski, Board Administrator
Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Denice M. Szekely, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Sarah Buhite, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Ryan Lysaght, Esquire, Office of General Counsel
Jason C. Giurintano, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel, Counsel Division
Ronald Rouse, Esquire, Senior Counsel, Office of General Counsel
Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division
Willow Marsh, Legislative Aide, Office of Legislative Affairs
Julie Droddy, Program Co-Manager, Professional Health Monitoring Program
Haven Harrington, Legal Intern

ALSO PRESENT:

Christie DeWitt, Senior Registered Apprenticeship Strategist, Apprenticeship & Training Office, Department of Labor and Industry
Tara Loew, Director, Apprenticeship & Training Office, Department of Labor and Industry

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ALSO PRESENT (cont.):

Danielle Demirovic, Pre-Apprenticeship Supervisor, Apprenticeship & Training Office, Department of Labor and Industry
Steve Neidlinger, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Academy of General Dentistry
Katie Gruber, MSW, CADC, Billing Data and Training Manager, Peer Assistance Monitoring Program, Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society
Nicole Payonk, Policy & Advocacy Coordinator, Pennsylvania Coalition for Oral Health
Marisa Swarney, Director of Government Relations, Pennsylvania Dental Association
Radwan Azim, Legislative Analyst, Cozen O'Connor Public Strategies
Becky Fox, DMD, FAGD, D-ABDSM, Pennsylvania Dental Sleep Medicine, President Elect, American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine
Linda Himmelberger, DMD, Devon Dental Services
Stephen Prisby, Regulatory and Education Affairs Director, American Board of Dental Examiners
Lyn Vijayendran, Program Director, Center for Workforce Development, Bucks County Community College
Helen Hawkey, Executive Director, PA Coalition for Oral Health
Laurie Elliott, Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 9:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Laura Neal, Esquire, Board Counsel, to have attorney-client consultations and for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations. The Board returned to open session at 11:00 a.m.]

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The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Dentistry was held on Friday, August 28, 2026. Godfrey Joel Funari, DMD, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

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Roll Call of Board Members/Introduction of Attendees

[Godfrey Joel Funari, DMD, Chairperson, requested a roll call of Board members and introduction of attendees. A quorum of Board Members was present.]

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[Laura Neal, Esquire, Board Counsel, informed everyone that the meeting of the State Board of Dentistry was being held in a hybrid format, both in person and by livestream videoconference, pursuant to

Act 100 of 2021, which requires boards to use a virtual platform to conduct business when a public meeting is held.

Ms. Neal noted the meeting was being recorded and voluntary participation constituted consent to be recorded.

Ms. Neal also noted the Board entered into Executive Session with Board Counsel to have attorney-client consultations and for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations.]

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Appointment - Presentation from the Apprenticeship and Training Office, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

[Christie DeWitt, Senior Registered Apprenticeship Strategist, Apprenticeship & Training Office, Department of Labor and Industry reviewed a prepared slideshow. She started with describing what the responsibilities of the Apprenticeship and Training Office (ATO). Ms. DeWitt explained apprenticeship is an employer-designed paid training pathway that combines on-the-job training with classroom learning and cultivates portable state and/or national credentials. She reviewed common misconceptions of apprenticeship.

Ms. DeWitt noted, on a federal level at the U.D. Department of Labor and Industry (USDOL), the occupation of dental assistant is identified. She learned Pennsylvania separately recognizes expanded function dental assistants (EFDA) as a Board regulated certification pathway. She emphasized apprentices only perform duties permitted under Pennsylvania's dental regulation and required supervision standards. She reviewed the three current and one closed apprenticeship programs registered with ATO.

Dr. Casey asked how an interested person would register for an apprenticeship program, even if contact information could be shared. Ms. DeWitt noted she would touch on the topic during the presentation.

Ms. DeWitt shared ATO is working on scaling registered apprenticeships beyond traditional trades through sector strategies and by creating statewide templates. She reviewed slides explaining the sector strategies and how ATO is working through the process. She presented a snapshot of some of the work completed in other industries.

Ms. DeWitt reviewed key components of registered apprenticeship, noting it included a full-time paid

job, on the job learning, related technical instruction, mentorship, and credentials. She discussed pre-apprenticeship programs that provide a path for apprentices to start getting hands-on knowledge and skill sets that can feed into a registered apprenticeship program. She explained who can be the sponsor of a registered apprenticeship program.

Nicole Payonk, Policy & Advocacy Coordinator, Pennsylvania Coalition for Oral Health, asked how apprenticeship and training reps are identified or selected to support sector strategy work. Ms. DeWitt stated the reps are staff at ATO. She noted the sponsors of a program take on the full responsibility to run a program after registration; however, the reps will support the sponsors.

Dr. Casey asked if there was collaboration with local universities or colleges if apprentices wanted to continue longer in their career. Ms. DeWitt explained the collaborations start as part of the program because community colleges or universities are typically the ones who would provide the education component. Apprentices can get credits that can be transfer to other higher education organizations to further their education.

Ms. DeWitt the roles and tasks of a programs sponsor. She noted ATO asks all registered apprentice programs to establish an apprenticeship and training committee to manage the program which gives high level support and provides for program continuation in case of turnover. She also discussed partners for programs, which can include education and training providers, licensing and regulatory bodies, economic development organizations, and community-based organizations. She provided an example of a partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Education for an education program.

Ms. DeWitt concluded her presentation by providing contact information, noting anyone who may be interested in starting an apprenticeship program could reach out. Additionally, anyone trying to connect job seekers to a program could reach out to be put in touch with the outreach and engagement coordinator.

Dr. Warwick thanked Ms. DeWitt for the presentation. She reviewed an apprentice program when looking for an assistant but shared she was reluctant to get involved in paying for the trainee with no assurance the trainee would continue on with her after the program. She asked what commitment a

student would have after the training program to the dentist who sponsored them. Ms. DeWitt explained because apprenticeship is a no-cost opportunity for the apprentice. The cost falls back on the sponsor, employer, related technical instruction provider, or partners. She stated there are multiple ways to help fund the programs. She noted employers need to consider the return on investment, noting statistics show, if an employer is investing in someone, they tend to stay longer with the employer. She added ATO works with sponsors on how to create a sustainability plan.

Tara Loew, Director, Apprenticeship & Training Office, Department of Labor and Industry, explained in a typical model, the employer hires the apprentice as a fulltime employee on the first day at a starting wage. Part of the requirements of registered apprenticeship is a gradual wage scale that moves up as the apprentice meets benchmarks, licensure, and works for a certain amount of time. She stated there is incentive for the apprentice to stay through the course of the program. She added the three-year retention rate after the completing an apprenticeship program is about 93 percent while the three-year retention for a college graduate is around 73

percent.

Ms. Murray asked if there was a requirement for in-person training or if the training was hybrid or online only. Ms. DeWitt replied training could be any of the options mentioned provided it meets the requirements of the state. She added there is a clinical aspect that has to be in person. That is written into the program. In addition, for online learning, there is a requirement of a qualified teacher who can be contacted for questions and the sponsor has to make sure the participant is moving through the curriculum in a timely manner. Ms. Loew added in person training depends on the industry, sector, occupation, and specific program. She mentioned the only time ATO has seen a majority of online learning is for the IT occupations. She noted, if an occupation should have only in person training, ATO is happy to support and reiterate that.

Ms. Loew reiterated ATO is not replacing the licensure process. Apprenticeship programs are a complement to the licensure process.

Ms. Warwick asked if the employer gets to interview the candidate before making a commitment. Ms. DeWitt replied apprenticeship is completely sponsor and employer driven and would include an

interview. Ms. Loew noted there are individual programs created and registered by potential employers who are the owners of the own program. There are also group programs where an association may be acting as the sponsor, but the program is built alongside affiliate employers who work alongside the sponsor.

Ms. Fowler asked if ATO does matching with individuals who are interested in becoming apprentices or makes referrals to existing apprentice programs. Ms. DeWitt stated ATO partners with CareerLink to support potential apprentices.]

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Approval of Minutes of the July 17, 2026 meeting

CHAIR FUNARI:

At this time, I'd like to see if there are any changes, corrections, additions, deletions to the draft minutes from the last meeting, July 17, 2026.

Hearing none, I'll entertain a motion to approve the minutes as they are presented.

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call vote.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, abstain; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried. Ms. Murray abstained from voting on the motion.]

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Report of Prosecutorial Division

[Paul J. Jarabeck, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor and Board Prosecution Liaison, explained Agenda Item No. 3, Case No. 22-46-010705, was tabled until the next meeting.]

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Report of Regulatory Counsel

[Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, noted a Regulatory Status Report for the Board's review. Chair Funari pointed out two of the guiding documents for Regulation 16A-4621, Anesthesia, had changed. The American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) Parameters of Care was in its

seventh edition and the AAMOS Office Anesthesia Evaluation Manual was now in its tenth edition.

Ms. Abelson reviewed Regulation 16A-4628, General Revisions. She explained the Board previously approved the Preamble and Annex; however, because the regulation covers so many topics, updates were needed due to changes in the law. In addition, some language was revised for clarity. The first update was to Section 33.103, Examinations, which previously had explanations about the mergers of various agencies. She stated the explanations were more appropriate for the Preamble and had been moved.

Next, Section 33.103a, professional liability insurance - dentists, was added. Ms. Abelson summarized the section. Section 33.116, certification of public health dental hygiene practitioners (PHDHP), was updated to require PHDHPs to provide evidence of an approved self-insurance plan that meets the standards and procedures established by the insurance department in 31 PA Code Chapter 243.

Section 33.118, temporary voluntary dental license was streamlined and cross references Section 33.103a relating to professional liability insurance. Section 33.119, restricted faculty license, was

updated to comply with Act 13 of 2026. Section 33.202, fictitious names, was updated to reflect that the section applies whether the dentist is practicing individually or through an entity authorized by law such as a professional corporation. The title of Section 33.217 was changed to Business Organizations and Multidisciplinary Practices. In addition, the section was updated to cite to Title 15 of Pennsylvania's Consolidated Statutes. A section was added to state "nothing in this section authorizes a person who is not licensed to practice dentistry to direct, control, or interfere with the professional judgement of a licensed dentist."

Ms. Abelson reviewed the next steps of the regulation that include various levels of approval prior to being submitted to IRRC and being published for a 30-day public comment period.]

MS. ABELSON:

> At this time, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to approve the proposed Regulation Preamble and Annex, 16A-4628, General Revisions, and direct Board Counsel to move the proposed rulemaking through the regulatory process.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Do I have a motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call please.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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[Regarding Agenda Item No. 6, Regulation 16A-4629, Mobile Dental Units, Ms. Abelson noted the exposure draft was approved by the Board for release on July 17, 2026. She placed the first two comments on the Agenda; however, six additional comments were received to be reviewed at the next meeting. She briefly reviewed the first two comments, however the Board requested to review the full array of comments at the next meeting. Chair Funari requested Counsel provide an interpretation of existing Pennsylvania

state laws on PHDHPs owning a dental practice or mobile dental van.]

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Report of Board Counsel

MS. NEAL:

We have two Proposed Adjudications and Orders for review today. The first is at Item No. 7.

I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to postpone deliberation and action on the Proposed Adjudication at Item No. 7, M Yazan Alijraki, Case No.26-46-002365, until the next meeting in order to allow the licensee to file exceptions to the Proposed Adjudication prior to the Board's final decision on that.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Is there a motion on that?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call vote.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. NEAL:

Next at Item No. 8, Ashley Manning, Case No. 26-46-000615.

I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to adopt in part the Proposed Adjudication and Order and direct Board Counsel to draft a Final Adjudication and Order consistent with discussions during Executive Session.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Do I have a motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call vote.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. NEAL:

Next at No. 9, Elisabeth Bird, Case No. 25-46-006740, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to adopt as Final the Drafted Adjudication and Order and direct Board Counsel to issue it.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call vote.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Report of Board Chair

[Godfrey Joel Funari, DMD, Chairperson, noted there were still two open positions on the Board. He added there was one pending approval and the second position was being solicited.]

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Report of Commissioner - No Report

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Report of Board Administrator - No Report

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Report of Committees

[Godfrey Joel Funari, DMD, Chairperson, noted an updated committee assignment was posted reflecting the current status of the Board.]

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Applications

MS. NEAL:

The first application at Item No. 11 is the application of John Heckman for reactivation.

At this time, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to direct Board Counsel to issue a Decision Order

consistent with discussions during Executive Session.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call vote.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

***

MS. NEAL:

Next at Item No. 12, we have the application of Peter Madden for licensure as a dentist.

At this time, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the application.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call vote.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. NEAL:

Okay, next at Item No. 13, we have the application of Maduri Mathoor for permit as a dental hygienist local anesthesia.

At this time, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the application.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call vote.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. NEAL:

Okay, next at Item No. 14, we have the application of Donnaja Ratliff for certification as an expanded function dental assistant.

At this time, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the application.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Roll call.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. NEAL:

Okay, next at Item No. 15, we have the application of Bucks County Community College for approval as an expanded function dental assistant program.

At this time, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to approve the application.

CHAIR FUNARI:

Motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

Claggett, aye; Funari, nay; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim, aye.

[The motion carried. Chair Funari opposed the motion.]

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For the Board's Information

CHAIR FUNARI:

For the Board's information, the American Association of Dental Boards Annual Meeting is being held on October 17, 2026 and October 18, 2026 at the National Harbor in Maryland.

Is there a motion on the floor to fund three representatives to this meeting?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

Claggett, aye; Funari, aye; Casey, aye; Fowler, aye; Mountain, aye; Murray, aye; Sullivan, aye; Warwick, aye; Kim,

aye.

[The motion carried unanimously. Chair Funari noted the three members attending the meeting would be Donna Murray, Dr. Brice Arndt, and Dr. Joel Funari.]

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Public Comment - None

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Adjournment

CHAIR FUNARI:

So at this point in time, I will entertain a motion to adjourn until Friday, November 13, 2026.

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

DR. MOUNTAIN:

Mountain seconds.

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[There being no further business, the State Board of Dentistry Meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m. The next scheduled meeting date is November 13, 2026.]

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Dentistry meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Dentistry meeting.



Laurie Elliott,
Minute Clerk
Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
REFERENCE INDEX

August 28, 2026

TIME	AGENDA
9:00	Executive Session
11:00	Return to Open Session
11:00	Official Call to Order
11:00	Roll Call/Introduction of Attendees
11:03	Appointment - Presentation from the Apprenticeship and Training Office
11:42	Approval of Minutes
11:43	Report of Prosecutorial Division
11:44	Report of Regulatory Counsel
11:58	Report of Board Counsel
12:01	Report of Board Chairperson
12:02	Review of Committees
12:02	Review of Applications
12:06	For the Board’s Information
12:08	Adjournment