



## Dental Hygiene Board of California Full Board Meeting Minutes

**Saturday, July 19, 2025**

DHBC Headquarters Building  
2005 Evergreen Street  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Hearing Room  
Sacramento, CA 95815

### **DHBC Members Present:**

President – Joanne Pacheco, Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) Educator Member  
Vice President – Sonia “Pat” Hansen, RDH Member  
Secretary – Naleni “Lolly” Tribble-Agarwal, RDH Member  
Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (RDHAP) Member – Michael Long  
Public Health Dentist Member – Dr. Sridevi Ponnala  
Public Member – Dr. Julie Elginer  
Public Member – Sherman King  
Public Member – Dr. Justin Matthews  
Public Member – Vacant

### **DHBC Staff Present:**

Anthony Lum, Executive Officer  
Adina A. Pineschi-Petty, Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS), Education, Legislative, and Regulatory Specialist  
Crystal Yuyama, Administrative Analyst  
Yuping Lin, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Legal Counsel  
Elizabeth Dietzen-Olsen, DCA Regulatory Legal Counsel

Joanne Pacheco, President of the Dental Hygiene Board of California (DHBC, Board) reviewed meeting guidelines and called the meeting to order at **9:02 a.m.** Executive Officer Anthony Lum provided directions to the nearest emergency exits and restroom locations.

### **1. FULL Board Agenda Item 1: Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum.**

Joanne Pacheco, President called the meeting to order at **10:56 a.m.** Board Secretary Naleni “Lolly” Tribble-Agarwal completed the roll call, and a quorum was established with eight (8) members present.

## 2. FULL Board Agenda Item 2: Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda.

**Board Member comment:** None.

**Public comment:** None.

## 3. FULL Board Agenda Item 3: President's Report.

Joanne Pacheco, Board President, reported on the following:

President Pacheco reported she participated in the Dental Board of California's (DBC) May 14-15, 2025, board meetings in Anaheim where she provided an update of the DHBC's activities, projects, and program status. She also provided some comments on a bill (AB 873) to their Dental Assistant Council that has newly hired dental assistants complete a course in infection control (IC) within 90 days from the first day of employment. The proposed language changes existing law which has them complete the IC course prior to performing any basic supportive dental procedures where IC issues could arise. For consumer protection, it is safer if the dental assistant completes the IC course prior to any duties concerning patient care. The bill is still active and has since been amended to 60 days for the IC course which is still a long time to be working with patients and not have the IC knowledge necessary to safely be in the dental care environment. The President stated that it was good to see some familiar faces at the meeting since leaving the DBC's board at the end of 2024.

She oversaw and participated in the Board's additional meeting on Tuesday, May 27, 2025. The members met to act on board business in the legislative and regulatory areas and voted to change the November 2025 meeting date to Friday and Saturday, November 7 – 8, 2025, due to several board members having conflicting schedules with the original meeting dates the following week.

President Pacheco shared that she participated in the first Dental Hygiene Educational Program Penalty Rubric Taskforce. During the meeting, they initiated taskforce goals and outlined general areas of concern. She reported that the taskforce plans to move into more specific areas in upcoming meetings. The President stated that the taskforce anticipates several future meetings due to the size and scope of this project. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 22, 2025.

Lastly, the President stated she and EO Lum met at least twice a month for the past couple of months for updates on Board issues and for items that need her attention.

**Board Member comment:** None.

**Public comment:** None.

#### 4. FULL Board Agenda Item 4: Update from the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Executive Staff.

Shelly Jones, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Board and Bureau Relations Representative, welcomed the recently appointed member, Nicolas Quach to the Board. She congratulated the Board on being fully seated. Ms. Jones reported on the following:

##### a. Governor's Reorganization Plan:

In January, Governor Newsom released his proposed 2025-26 State budget, which included a proposal to split DCA's oversight Agency, the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency into two state agencies – the California Housing and Homelessness Agency and the Business and Consumer Services Agency.

After public hearings and review by the Little Hoover Commission and the Legislature the Governor's Reorganization Plan was enacted on July 5.

Again, the new Business and Consumer Services Agency will be responsible for consumer affairs, licensing and enforcement, and the Department of Consumer Affairs would be among the eight (8) departments in this new agency.

The two new agencies will officially become operative on July 1, 2026.

DCA will participate in multiple Agency workgroups on the logistics required to transition to the new agency. DCA will continue to keep Board and Bureau leadership apprised throughout the year ahead.

##### b. Hybrid Telework Transition:

On March 3, 2025, Governor Newsom issued an executive order requiring all State agencies and departments to update their hybrid telework policies for employees and increase from two to four days in office per week beginning on July 1, 2025.

At the end of June, agreements with several labor unions representing employees within the Department of Consumer Affairs were released, delaying the four-day in-office requirement by one year.

DCA continues to host bi-weekly meetings with board and bureau leadership to share information and answer questions.

##### c. Travel Updates

On June 9, 2025, the Department of Finance (DOF) issued guidance for out-of-state travel in the upcoming fiscal year. Travel outside of California will be limited to essential

travel that is required to conduct state business – meaning requests should only be made for mission-critical needs.

DCA distributed a memo to all boards and bureaus on June 16, 2025, detailing the criteria for mission critical travel including but not limited to enforcement actions, revenue collection, statutory requirements, auditing and litigation.

Additionally, all requests must be provided to DCA’s Budget Office eight weeks in advance to allow for review by DCA, Agency, and the Governor’s Office. Any questions can be directed to the Board’s assigned budget analyst at DCA.

DCA would like to remind Board Members and staff of our collective responsibility to always work to minimize the cost to the State through responsible travel planning and scheduling.

To best serve the public, it is incumbent upon all of us to ensure that Board members and staff are fiscally prudent in their decisions, especially when traveling for Board business.

DCA is reminding members and staff to evaluate if a rental car is always necessary versus ride-sharing services. Carpooling is also highly encouraged when renting vehicles. DCA knows that there may be new travel costs Board Members are experiencing as well, such as baggage charges, so please keep receipts to ensure reimbursements.

For any questions, please reach out to [MemberRelations@dca.ca.gov](mailto:MemberRelations@dca.ca.gov).

**Board Member comment:** Member Elginer stated that she attended the New Board Member Training in June 2025 and found the training to be very thorough compared to her previous experience being onboarded as a gubernatorial appointee over ten years ago. She congratulated the DCA and Leadership team that orchestrated the training for a job well done.

Member Elginer also requested if Board and Bureau Relations would consider modifying the training for members who have already been appointed or have been re-appointed. She stated that the New Board Member Training is great for first time appointments but shared that the seven-to-eight-hour training is a large time commitment for much of the information to be review for returning members. Member Elginer offered herself as a resource to help modify this training if changes are considered. In response, Ms. Jones stated that she will take this comment back to the Executive team for consideration. Ms. Jones also stated a benefit of having the experienced board members attend the training together would allow them to share their experiences and provide feedback to the new incoming members.

Vice President Hansen asked when the last time the travel reimbursements have been reviewed. Ms. Jones stated that part of the travel reimbursements is directly related to the

federal level and would follow up on that question. EO Lum clarified that about a year ago updates were made to parallel the federal reimbursement rates, such as hotel, rental car, and mileage rates.

**Public comment:** None.

## 5. FULL Board Agenda Item 5: Update from the Dental Board of California (DBC).

Dr. Steven Chan, President of the DBC thanked Executive Officer Lum and members of the Board for the opportunity to provide this update.

Dr. Chan reported on the following:

- The DBC held its most recent board meeting on May 14-15, 2025, in Anaheim. The next Board meeting will be held on August 14-15, 2025, in Sacramento.
- At the May 14-15, 2025, DBC meeting, the proposed regulations for the minimum standards of Infection Control were approved by the board.
- He announced that John Dierking was appointed by the Senate Rules Committee
- The DBC continues to process licensing applications within its statutory mandates, address access to care concerns, and be responsive to consumers of dental services.
- The DBC will be creating its strategic plan this year as the current strategic plan expires at the end of 2025. The strategic planning meeting will be held on November 5, 2025.
- Dr. Chan stated that he looks forward to the continued partnership with the DHBC.

**Board Member comment:** Member Elginer asked if there is an opportunity for members of the DHBC to participate in the DBC's strategic planning meeting. Dr. Chan stated that the meeting is still publicly noticed. EO Lum stated that if similar to DHBC's strategic planning meeting practices then the DBC's meeting should be open for the public to make comments as well.

**Public comment:** None.

**6. FULL Board Agenda Item 6: Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the March 21, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes.**

**Motion:** Member Long moved to approve the March 21, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes, as amended.

**Second:** Member King.

**Board Member discussion:** Board Staff Crystal Yuyama stated that Agenda Item 22 on page 414 of the March 21, 2025, Meeting Minutes should modify the minutes to state the Legislation and Regulatory Committee instead of the Education Committee.

**Public comment:** None.

**Vote: Motion to approve the March 21, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes, as amended. Passed 8:0:0.**

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala	X		
Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal	X		

**7. FULL Board Agenda Item 7: Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the March 22, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes.**

**Motion:** Member Long moved to approve the March 22, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes, as amended.

**Second:** Member Matthews.

**Board Member discussion:** Board Staff Crystal Yuyama stated that Full Board Agenda Item 13 Leg Reg Agenda Items 6 and 7 on pages 437 and 439 of the March 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes should modify the voting ratio to 8:0:0. She stated that the motions’ language reads correct and that all members voted in favor of approving the motions, so the ratio listed should match the members’ votes.

**Public comment:** Susan McLearn, California Dental Hygienist Association (CDHA), asked the Board what becomes of the suggestions made by members, specifically inquiring about a comment made by Member Elginer on page 427. Ms. McLearn stated that Member Elginer’s suggestion for the Board to work with the Chiropractic Board regarding the scope of practice discussion and whether the Board has followed up with the member’s suggestion. made by the Board. EO Lum stated that he has not contacted the Chiropractic Board at this time, but there could be an option to do so in the future.

**Vote: Motion to approve the March 22, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes, as amended. Passed 8:0:0.**

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala	X		
Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal	X		

**8. FULL Board Agenda Item 8: Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the May 27, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes.**

**Motion:** Member Elginer moved to approve the May 27, 2025, Full Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes, as amended.

**Second:** Member Ponnala.

**Board Member discussion:** Board Staff Crystal Yuyama stated two changes to make on the cover page of the minutes. A change from Friday to Tuesday as the day listed for the meeting and another change to remove Albert Law as one of listed staff attendees.

**Public comment:** Tooka Zokaie, on behalf of the CDA, stated that the Board’s listed November 7-8, 2025, meeting dates may conflict with the DBC’s scheduled board meetings November 5-6, 2025, and strategic planning meeting set to take place on November 7, 2025, if members and staff of the DHBC would like to participate at the DBC’s meetings as well.

**Vote: Motion to approve the May 27, 2025, Full Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes, as amended. Passed 6:0:2.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain/Absent</b>
<b>Julie Elginer</b>	X		
<b>Sonia “Pat” Hansen</b>	X		
<b>Sherman King</b>			Abstain.
<b>Michael Long</b>			Abstain.
<b>Justin Matthews</b>	X		
<b>Joanne Pacheco</b>	X		
<b>Sridevi Ponnala</b>	X		
<b>Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal</b>	X		

**9. FULL Board Agenda Item 9: Executive Officer’s Report. (Informational Only).**

EO Anthony Lum reported on the following:

**a. Personnel:**

EO Lum reported that state workers were supposed to return to the office (RTO) four (4) days per week as of July 1, 2025. However, the Governor’s administration and multiple bargaining units came to agreements at the 11th hour where the RTO order has been postponed for a year to be enacted as of July 1, 2026, unless amended. He added that staff are currently in the office three (3) days per week for coverage.

EO Lum reported that the board has four (4) vacant positions and two (2) staff working modified half-time schedules, which equals a 36% reduction in workforce. He added that the board also lost one fulltime position enacted in this year’s budget from the staff reduction drill completed last year. EO Lum stated he will be working to fill the positions to overcome the shortage of staff. Most recently, Albert Law, the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) and Special Investigator, Paul Corbin, left for promotions at the DBC in May. Currently, EO Lum is advertising the AEO position and reviewing applications for the vacant citation and fine analyst to schedule interviews soon. The remaining vacant positions will be addressed once reviews and duty statement revisions are complete.

EO Lum reported that he received notification on Wednesday from the Legislature’s Senate Rules Committee that the Board been appointed a new public member to fill the

last vacant board position. He stated that the new member, Nicolas Quach, would not attend today's meeting but should be able to attend November's meeting barring any schedule conflicts of the dates. He stated he would reach out soon to welcome him and provide some information about the Board.

**b. Budget:**

EO reported that the DHBC has a newly approved state budget, so funds are fully replenished, and the balance is roughly \$3 million for FY 2025/26. He stated that the reports in the materials reflect the latest versions from the end of the last fiscal year through month 11, as the final budget reports for the prior year have not been released.

The latest Budget Expenditure, Expenditure Projection, Revenue, and Fund Condition reports are in today's meeting materials on pages 457 – 465 for your review. These reports show totals from fiscal month 11 which are expenses captured through May 2025. EO Lum stated that this report is point-in-time from the end of May and additional charges will be incurred from fiscal month 12 but the board has the funds to cover those expenses.

The Expenditure Report is on pages 457 – 459. EO Lum reports that the board has spent approximately 77% (~\$2.3 million) of our \$2.9 million budget and will continue to be selective and efficient with spending.

The Expenditure Projection Report on pages 460 – 462 show anticipated expenses through the end of the year, and it is projected that the board will have roughly 10.4% (~\$294,000) of our budget remaining at year-end. EO Lum notes that the projected amount may be higher as the recently vacated positions would account for less staff salaries.

The Board's Revenue Report is on pages 463 – 464 and shows the amount of revenue the Board has received through FM11 (~\$3.4 million). This total indicates the board is on track to receive the anticipated amount of revenue by year-end (~\$3.5 million).

The Fund Condition Report, which is our "savings account" by fiscal year, on page 465 shows the amount of dollars available in the fund to show the fiscal health of the board. The fund continues to be good standing moving forward with ~\$4.6 million in the fund this year.

**c. Administration – EO Activities and Updates:**

EO Lum stated that since his last report, the following are some of his activities:

- He participated in the Dept. of Consumer Affairs' March and June 2025 Leadership and DCA Director's Quarterly Meetings where current issues affecting programs were discussed. He stated that it is a great opportunity for the boards and bureaus under DCA to directly communicate with the DCA and Agency Executive teams and obtain the latest information and updates.
- He attended the Dental Board's May 14-15, 2025, Board meetings in Anaheim with President Pacheco where they provided an updated report on the Dental Hygiene Board's activities. They also provided comment on a dental assistant bill (AB 873 – Alanis 2025) that has a DA complete an infection control course within 90 days of initial employment as opposed to the current law that has them complete this course prior to assisting with any dental services where Infection Control (IC) could be compromised. It has since been amended to 60 days after hiring but still could be viewed as a consumer protection risk. They submitted an opposition position to this bill.
- He continued to reach out to several legislators to see if the board could insert its proposed statutory language into one of their existing bills but was turned down and asked to contact them later for a possible future bill.

He was able to have a couple of issues inserted into the annual Omnibus bill (SB 861 – Senate B&P: 1) removal of the language pertaining to having the Dental Board review DH scope issues as clean up language, and 2) the separation of the Application and Initial Licensure Fee from one combined fee to two without an increase in the amount for clarity). Other proposed language was denied due to their substantive nature.

- As a result of multiple inquiries received through calls and emails, he has decided the next newsletter topics should primarily contain reminders of required processes like license renewal and its requirements, applicant reminders, and references both applicants and licensees can use during their quest to obtain or maintain their CA dental hygiene license. He stated that the next newsletter will be a good reference for licensees to use as an ongoing resource. The newsletter has been delayed due to many issues, but it is his priority to get a draft completed soon.
- It was requested from a member to provide an update on one of the new strategic plan goals recently established to update and modernize the Board Member Procedural Manual. This goal to update the manual is on the EO's higher priority list and the Board may need to create a committee to address it. So, if a member would like to add this for a Future Agenda Item, that would be appreciated so staff can work on specific ideas the members want to add to the manual.

Many priorities have arisen for EO Lum to address over the past few months including the previously reported staff exodus and resulting shortage, fiscal year-

end activities, attempts to arrange our proposed legislative language in a bill, several departmental exercises, and to conduct an additional board meeting to name a few.

He asked the Board to remember that these numerous strategic plan goals are anticipated to be completed over several years and not within a few months or a year. The plan was adopted at the November 2024 meeting which is only 8 months ago. He reported a summary of issues staff have addressed contained in the strategic plan:

1. Staff have initiated the reporting of the law & ethics exam results to each individual dental hygiene educational program to assist with future educational decisions. We will continue to do so on an annual basis to capture a full year of data prior to reporting it to them. So far, the board has received positive and appreciative feedback from the program directors for providing this exam information.
2. Staff posted the latest version of the PSI handbook on our website, so the graduating students have the latest information available about the law & ethics exam process and steps to complete it.
3. Staff inquired with the DCA (OPES) about adding a Spanish version of the law & ethics exam as an option. More communications on specifics need to occur on this issue and staff will be working with OPES to figure it out.
4. The Applicant's information on the website to obtain a license has been revised to make it more user friendly and informative specific to the chosen pathway to licensure.
5. To provide licensees more information about continuing education (CE), staff have created a CE information guide to be posted on our website within the next couple of weeks. It includes the following:
  - Links to the laws and regulations pertaining to CE so licensees are informed.
  - How to research and verify approved CE providers with step-by-step snapshot visuals of the computer system.
  - The number of Board required CE hours and courses to renew dental hygiene licenses.
  - FAQ section containing the most frequently asked questions received from Licensing staff.
  - Other information about CE audits, CE exemptions, and CE requirements for 1<sup>st</sup> time renewals (1<sup>st</sup> time renewals are exempt from any CE requirements).

6. Many other goals have been implemented even prior to the plan being approved by the Board because staff knew what some of the goals would be in the plan and started addressing them early. Goals like cross-training staff, licensee and applicant education, increased outreach, and improving program efficiencies have all been initiated and are ongoing. In all, staff have completed up to 10 of the 27 strategic plan goals as stated in the current plan and will continue to work on them as time permits.
- He participated in the Board's May 27, 2025, additional board meeting where board business was addressed. The primary agenda item was to reschedule the November 2025 board meeting due to several members having conflicts with the existing dates. The Board voted to move the November meeting to Friday and Saturday, November 7-8, 2025, instead of November 14-15, 2025, which moves the meeting up a week for increased participation. The Board also reviewed and addressed current legislation moving through the legislative process and provided new positions on two bills (SB 470 - Laird – Bagley Keene teleconference provision extension; SB 861 – Omnibus Bill which was previously reported).

Lastly, EO Lum stated that it is a very busy time right now with it being our high season for application processing and the fact that the board is temporarily severely understaffed.

**Board Member comment:** Member Elginer asked EO Lum to clarify a budget line item in the expense category for potentially being underbudgeted. EO Lum stated that the budgeted line items are estimations calculated a year or two in advance. He stated that items may be indicated for less than what is spent because there are fluctuations year to year depending on use. EO Lum also stated that some line items, such as the Office of Professional Services (OPES) do not have a pre-budgeted amount allocated because it is entirely uncertain how much the Board will spend year by year. He stated that for enforcement cases specifically the Board can reallocate additional monies as needed.

Member Elginer asked EO Lum why there are zero-dollar line items on page 463. EO Lum stated that it is an overall projection created based on worksheets and schedules that are completed on an annual basis. He stated that each item will fluctuate each year, so the line items are indicated as zero. He stated that for calculations an average is used to cover the items. Member Elginer stated that it would be helpful to have the projected revenue per line item. EO Lum stated that he would inquire with DCA budget office for more information.

Member Elginer commended board staff on accomplishing the implementation of 10 of the 27 strategic goals while understaffed. She also expressed concern for the sustainability for current staff and asked if there is a need for Board members to assist in the hiring process. EO Lum responded that he appreciates her concern and explained that the hiring process

is conducted with DCA's HR department who he has been in close contact with to get the vacancies filled as soon as possible.

Member Ponnala echoed Member Elginer's staff sustainability concern and asked if EO Lum would consider hiring temporary positions to assist with the staff workload in the meantime. EO Lum stated that he is considering temporary and seasonal hires; however, the hiring process is still the same. He stated that his goal is refill full-time positions and prioritize the positions based on what would help the board the most.

EO Lum praised staff for stepping up this past year to deliver above and beyond their normal job duties.

Member Elginer asked if there is a program within DCA to be able to recognize staff and leadership team. EO Lum stated that he would inquire with DCA Member Relations and disseminate that information to the Board members. She also asked EO Lum to forward the Board staff accomplishments that deserve to be highlighted and recognized.

President Pacheco stated that she has received positive comments and feedback from her own dental hygiene program graduates have interacted with board staff.

Member Hansen asked EO Lum if the interpreter line item for the budget on page 459 is for the court. EO Lum stated that there is a separate line item to pay court reporters, and the board has not needed to request services for an interpreter as of yet.

**Public comment:** Joanne Galliano, Subject Matter Expert (SME) to the DHBC, stated that in the budget section on page 459 there is no budgeted line item for SMEs expenses. EO Lum stated that he would inquire with the department to key in the expenses more clearly.

Lisa Wetron, Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) from LA County, asked if the board would consider offering internships to alleviate some of the staff shortages.

Dr. Carmen Dones, former DHBC President and West LA College faculty, thanked the Board and staff, especially Licensing Manager Traci Napper for providing schools with the Law and Ethics Exam results. She stated that it has been helpful to improve their outcomes.

#### **10. FULL Board Agenda Item 10: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 1005: Minimum Standards for Infection Control.**

EO Lum stated that this agenda item has been an ongoing issue and remains a collaborative effort between the Board and the Dental Board of California (DBC). He stated the Dental Board of California (DBC) established an Infection Control (IC) Advisory Working Group, consisting of Joanne Pacheco (Vice President, DBC), Cara Miyaski [Chair, DBC Dental Assisting Council (DAC)], and Dental Hygiene Board of

California (DHBC) Member Michael Long, have reviewed California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, section 1005 regarding Minimum Standards for Infection Control for clarity of language, necessity for amendments, and consistency with other governing agencies, such as CAL-OSHA, CalEPA, and the Centers for Disease Control. EO Lum stated the goal was to establish a consensus between the DHBC and DBC on the proposed regulatory amendments on 16 CCR section 1005 with subsequent implementation of the minimum standards. The DHBC approved the proposed amendments to 16 CCR section 1005 on November 16, 2024, and the draft language was presented at the February 6, 2025, DAC meeting and subsequent February 6-7, 2025, DBC meeting for approval.

EO Lum reported that the DBC received several comments on issues contained in the draft regulatory language to the extent that further revision to the language was necessary. DBC experts and staff revised the language based upon the comments received, collaborated with the DHBC's experts, and addressed the draft language at their May 2025 board meeting for approval. He stated that both the DBC and the DAC voted to move the Infection Control language forward with the understanding that the public will have the opportunity to provide further comments during the 45-day public comment period once this regulatory language is noticed. The DBC approved language is now being proposed to the DHBC for consensus vote after the initial language was amended.

Dr. Petty stated that the changes in the proposed regulatory language for amending CCR Section 1005 Infection Control starts on page 469 of the board materials with yellow highlights to identify stricken language and underlined text to identify added language. Dr. Petty also mentioned that the separate copy of the CCR Section 1005 Infection Control Addendum is the same version but does not contain the highlights.

**Motion:** Member Long recommended for the Board to approve the final draft of proposed statutory language amendments for 16 CCR Section 1005 – Minimum Standards for Infection Control.

**Second:** Member Ponnala.

**Board Member discussion:** Member Long commented that he found the Infection Control work group to be a great opportunity and is pleased with the progress made thus far. President Pacheco agreed with Member Long's statement.

**Public comment:** Christy Bell, Interim Executive Officer of the DBC, requested that the Board authorize approval of the text that has been approved by the DBC so that the public comment process may begin, and progress can be made in updating these standards. DBC EO Bell stated that the language was last updated in 2011 and are crucial for consumer protection.

Maureen Titus from the Central Coast of California asked whether the stricken language at the end of the text on page 480 in the board materials (also shown below) means no future reviews will take place between the two Boards going forward.

~~(c) The Dental Board of California and the Dental Hygiene Committee of California shall review this regulation annually and establish a consensus.~~

EO Lum confirmed that the Boards will still review the Infection Control regulations and is in statute. EO Lum stated that this specific section was stricken from the text because it was duplicative.

**Vote: Motion to recommend for the Board to approve the final draft of proposed statutory language amendments for 16 CCR section 1005 – Minimum Standards for Infection Control. Passed 7:0:1.**

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen			Abstain.
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala	X		
Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal	X		

**11. FULL Board Agenda Item 11: Discussion and Possible Action on Education Committee Report and Recommendation(s).**

Education Committee Chair Joanne Pacheco stated that because there were action items that required individual recommendations, she reported each item separately, but on the informational only items, a summary was provided at the end of her report.

**FULL Board Agenda Item 11: EDU Agenda Item (3): Discussion and Possible Action on the Request for Approval to Transfer Sponsorship of the San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC) - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs to Carrington College.**

Education Committee Chair Joanne Pacheco reported that San Joaquin Valley College, Inc., the parent organization for both SJVC and Carrington College, recently announced a Strategic Institutional Alignment Plan. This plan will create two specialized institutions: SJVC will focus exclusively on trades, technical and business programs, while Carrington College will concentrate on nursing and allied health education. As part of the realignment, the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia dental hygiene educational programs are requesting a transfer sponsorship to Carrington College

On May 1, 2025, San Joaquin Valley College, Inc. requested for the Board to place their request on the Board’s July 19, 2025, Board meeting to approve the transfer of sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs to Carrington College.

This morning, the Education Committee considered the request from San Joaquin Valley College, Inc., to provisionally approve, pending approval of CODA, to transfer sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs to Carrington College. The Education Committee voted to approve pending approval of CODA, to transfer sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs to Carrington College.

**Motion:** Member Elginer moved for the Board to accept the Education Committee’s recommendation to approve pending approval of CODA, to transfer sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs from SJVC to Carrington College.

**Second:** Member Long.

**Board Member discussion:** None.

**Public comment:** None.

**Vote:** move for the Board to accept the Education Committee’s recommendation to approve pending approval of CODA, to transfer sponsorship of the SJVC - Ontario and SJVC - Visalia Dental Hygiene Educational Programs from SJVC to Carrington College. Passed 7:0:1.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen			Abstain.
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala	X		
Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal	X		

**FULL Board Agenda Item 11: EDU Agenda Item (4): Discussion and Possible Action on the Request to Increase the Initial Student Enrollment at the Proposed California Baptist University Dental Hygiene Educational Program.**

Education Committee Chair Joanne Pacheco stated that on June 4, 2025, California Baptist University sent a request to increase the initial enrollment to two (2) cohorts of 24 students each, with one cohort starting in the fall semester of 2028 and an additional cohort starting in the spring semester of 2029. The increase would result in a programmatic capacity of 96 students.

This morning, the Education Committee considered California Baptist University's request and voted to recommend to the full Board to disapprove the request to increase the initial student enrollment at the proposed California Baptist University Dental Hygiene Educational Program, with the terms of the Board's March 2025 initial provisional approval to remain.

**Motion:** Member Matthews moved for the Board to accept the Education Committee's recommendation to disapprove the request to increase the initial student enrollment at the proposed California Baptist University Dental Hygiene Educational Program, with the terms of the Board's March 2025 initial provisional approval to remain.

**Second:** Member Ponnala.

**Board Member discussion:** Secretary Agarwal and Member Long asked Dr. Petty whether there is historical precedent for determining the number of cohorts in a program and requested her input on the request to expand to two cohorts. Dr. Petty stated that the program had appropriate plans and scheduling in place. She stated that aside from lacking a proven track record, everything looked solid on paper and ultimately, the decision rests with the Board, but they appeared well-prepared and adequately funded.

Member Elginer echoed concerns that the members raised during the Education Committee and stated that the request to double the cohort size less than four months after the initial provisional application approval without documentation to establish the demand for the increase seems premature.

**Public comment:** Joanne Galliano, Education Consultant to the DHBC, stated CBU's initial presentation was not forward thinking. She stated that in her experience most programs typically project out multiple cohorts. Ms. Galliano stated that CBU submitted documentation supporting a second cohort, which was reviewed by her and Dr. Petty; however, their initial request should have indicated plans for multiple cohorts. Ms. Galliano stated that historically, the board has approved multiple cohorts based on evidence of funding, resources, and scheduling, without requiring programs to prove themselves first. Ms. Galliano stated that given the demonstrated need and supporting documentation, recommended the Board reconsider the vote and allow the program to proceed with ongoing oversight.

Tooka Zokaie, on behalf of CDA, stated that she supported the previous comments. Ms. Zokaie stated the proposal remains strong, with efficiency plans to train 96 students over two years. She stated that there is clear demand for this training given the workforce gap of 17,800 licensed RDAs and 36,000 dentists. She identified that despite recent challenges in health systems and workforce planning, this proposal is timely and well-founded. She urged the Board to reconsider the Education Committee's recommendation.

Kelly Donovan, Program Director, in response to Member Elginer's question about the change and timeline stated the documentation was fully reviewed and approved before submission to the Board. Dr. Donovan stated subsequent discussions focused on the financial aspect. She has been in dental hygiene education for 20 years and has been a hygienist for 30 years. Ms. Donovan deeply respects this Board and its work since the Dental Committee of California's inception in 2009. Dr. Donovan stated that they want to serve the Inland Empire community, and she strongly supports this program. She asked the Board to consider that commitment in its decision.

Jeannette Diaz from Costa Mesa agreed with Ms. Galliano. She stated that she is excited to see the effect this program will have on the community. She recommended the Board to reconsider their decision.

Abigail, a recent Bachelor of Science graduate of West Los Angeles College Dental Hygiene Program, stated her firsthand experience with a program that expanded too quickly, causing peers to struggle, with some leaving the program altogether. With stronger faculty support, many could have succeeded. Expanding to a double cohort without a solid foundation risk compromising education quality and mentorship. Ms. Abigail stated that students thrive when supported, not rushed. She urged the Board to prioritize long-term sustainability and student outcomes in their evaluation.

EO Lum stated the Board provisionally approved the school at the March meeting for two cohorts with one per year. Recent comments appear to reflect confusion, suggesting the school is being eliminated, despite its initial provisional approved status. He stated that board staff acknowledges the importance of supporting the Inland Empire, but it is challenging to fully endorse a 96-student expansion over two years. EO Lum recognized the current access-to-care challenges, but as a board focused on consumer protection, all factors must be carefully considered in our decision-making.

After a robust discussion between the Board and the public, Member Matthews withdrew his motion from the table. A new motion was made by Member Hansen.

**(New) Motion:** Member Hansen moved for the Board to approve the request to increase the initial student enrollment at the proposed California Baptist University Dental Hygiene Educational Program, with the terms of the Board's March 2025 initial provisional approval to remain.

**(New) Second:** Member King.

**Board Member discussion:** Board members engaged in a detailed discussion with representatives from CBU regarding the program’s request to expand to two cohorts. Dr. Donovan addressed questions about faculty capacity, confirming that the program has increased from five (5) to ten (10) full-time faculty members, along with 20 – 25 adjuncts, including supervising dentists. Each cohort would have a dedicated clinical lead, with faculty teaching consistent courses across cohorts.

Board members raised concerns about language in the submitted documentation indicating that “efforts are underway” to support instructional needs. Dr. Pearson clarified that this reflects ongoing faculty development and recruitment, which is standard practice in allied health education. He emphasized CBU’s commitment to preparing future faculty through workforce development initiatives and noted that several programs at the university now employ their own graduates as faculty.

Regarding facilities, CBU confirmed that faculty and staff office space is already available within an existing 12,000 sq ft structure, with additional adjacent space planned. The zero-dollar budget line item for offices was explained as being included in the overall build-out cost.

Board members also inquired about the impact of expansion on administrative staff. CBU representatives acknowledged the strain but noted that staffing has been doubled in key areas such as reception and clinical support. They also described a pipeline of student workers from healthcare administration programs who transition into full-time roles, helping to sustain staffing needs and reduce burnout.

Overall, the discussion focused on ensuring adequate faculty, staff, and infrastructure to support the proposed cohort expansion while maintaining program quality and oversight.

**Public comment:** None.

**Vote: Motion for the Board to approve the request to increase the initial student enrollment at the proposed California Baptist University Dental Hygiene Educational Program, with the terms of the Board’s March 2025 initial provisional approval to remain. Passed 7:1:0.**

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews		X	
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala	X		
Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal	X		

**FULL Board Agenda Item 11: EDU Agenda Item (5): Report from the Dental Hygiene Educational Program Penalty Rubric Taskforce, EDU Agenda Item (6): Dental Hygiene Program Site Visit Update and Schedule, and EDU Agenda Item (7): Future Agenda Items. (Informational Only).**

The Education Committee Chair, Joanne Pacheco, reported that the Committee reviewed informational only items including **EDU Agenda Item 5:** Report from the Dental Hygiene Education Program Penalty Rubric Taskforce, **EDU Agenda Item (6):** Dental Hygiene Program Site Visit Update and Schedule, and **EDU Agenda Item (7):** Future Agenda Items.

Education Chair Pacheco reported that the Dental Hygiene Educational Program Penalty Rubric Taskforce conducted their first meeting on June 4, 2025, and began discussions on how to start categorizing the violations with consideration of the factors outlined in 16 CCR section 1104.3 which include:

- Nature and severity of the violation;
- Length of time that has passed since the date of the violation;
- Consequences of the violation, including the potential to harm, or actual patient, harm;
- History of previous violations of a similar nature;
- Evidence that the violation was willful;
- Gravity of the violation; and
- The extent to which the cited DHEP has remediated the deficiencies.

Along with beginning to categorize the aforementioned factors, the Taskforce discussed the frequency of violations discovered at DHEPs along with discussions on timeframes DHEPs shall be given to remediate violations and deficiencies.

There is anticipated to be several future meetings prior to a draft penalty rubric to be presented to the Board for consideration and the next Taskforce meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2025.

Education Chair Pacheco stated reported that the Dental Hygiene Educational Program Site Visit Update and Schedule, Dr. Petty reported on the current compliance status of Pasadena City College, Taft College, Cabrillo College, Cypress College, Concorde Career College-San Diego, Cerritos College, Concorde Career College – Garden Grove, Carrington College - San Jose, Concorde Career College-San Bernardino, and West Los Angeles College. She also provided an update on the current Dental Hygiene Educational Program Site Visit Schedule.

Lastly, the Education Committee Chair reported that there were no future agenda items suggested.

**Board Member discussion:** None.

**Public comment:** None.

**Motion:** Member King moved for the Board to accept the Education Committee’s full report.

**Second:** Member Ponnala.

**Board Member discussion:** Member Ponnala thanked Dr. Petty for working on the rubric and the well-prepared report.

**Public comment:** None.

**Vote: Motion for the Board to accept the Education Committee’s full report. Passed 8:0:0.**

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala	X		
Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal	X		

**12. FULL Board Agenda Item 12: Discussion and Possible Action on Legislative and Regulatory Committee Report and Recommendation(s).**

Legislative and Regulatory Committee Chair, Michael Long, stated that because there were action items that required individual recommendations, each item would be reported separately, but on the informational only items, a summary was provided at the end of the Legislative and Regulatory Committee report.

Legislation and Regulatory Chair Long stated that due to new information and public comments received, staff requested the Legislation and Regulatory Committee to table the discussion and possible action on California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Sections 1116: Mobile Dental Hygiene Clinics; Issuance of Approval and 1116.5: Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice; Physical Facility Registration until November 2025 meeting so staff may revise the proposed language for clarity. He stated that the request was granted.

Chair Long also offered to assist Dr. Petty with drafting language on 16 CCR Sections 1116.

**FULL Board Agenda Item 12: LEG REG Agenda Item (5): Legislative Update: Bills of Interest and Legislative Calendar.**

Legislation and Regulatory Committee Chair Michael Long reported that Dr. Petty reported on new legislation for 2025 of concern to the Board.

This morning, the Legislation and Regulatory Committee considered the current status of legislation for 2025 of concern to the Board, and voted to recommend to the full Board to approve the proposed positions as follows:

Legislation	DHBC Position
<b>AB 224</b> Bonta: Health care coverage: essential health benefits.	Watch.
<b>AB 341</b> Arambula: Oral Health for People with Disabilities Technical Assistance Center Program.	Watch.
<b>AB 350</b> Bonta: Health care coverage: fluoride treatments.	Support.
<b>AB 371</b> Haney: Dental coverage.	Watch.
<b>AB 489</b> Bonta: Health care professions: deceptive terms or letters: artificial intelligence.	Watch.
<b>AB 742</b> Elhawary: Department of Consumer Affairs: licensing: applicants who are descendants of slaves.	Watch.
<b>AB 873</b> Alanis: Dentistry: dental assistants: infection control course.	Oppose.
<b>AB 966</b> Carrillo: Dental Practice Act: foreign dental schools.	Watch.
<b>AB 980</b> Arambula: Health care: medically necessary treatment.	Watch.
<b>AB 1307</b> Ávila Farías: Licensed Dentists from Mexico Pilot Program.	Watch.
<b>AB 1418</b> Schiavo: Department of Health Care Access and Information.	Watch.
<b>SB 62</b> Menjivar: Health care coverage: essential health benefits.	Watch.
<b>SB 351</b> Cabaldon: Health Facilities.	Watch.
<b>SB 386</b> Limón: Dental providers: fee-based payments.	Watch.
<b>SB 470</b> Laird: Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.	Support.
<b>SB 744</b> Cabaldon: Accrediting agencies. (NEW)	Support.
<b>SB 861</b> Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development: Committee on Business,	Support.

Legislation	DHBC Position
Professions and Economic Development. Consumer affairs (Omnibus Bill).	

**Motion:** Member Matthews moved for the Full Board to accept the Legislation and Regulatory Committee’s recommendation to approve the proposed positions as follows: AB 224 (Watch), AB 341 (Watch), AB 350 (Support), AB 371 (Watch), AB 489 (Watch), AB 742 (Watch), AB 873 (Oppose), AB 966 (Watch), AB 980 (Watch), AB 1307 (Watch), AB 1418 (Watch), SB 62 (Watch), and SB 351 (Watch), SB 386 (Watch), SB 470 (Support), SB 744 (Support), and SB 861 (Support).

**Second:** Member Long.

**Board Member discussion:** None.

**Public comment:** None.

**Vote: Motion for the Full Board to accept the Legislation and Regulatory Committee’s recommendation to approve the proposed positions as follows: AB 224 (Watch), AB 341 (Watch), AB 350 (Support), AB 371 (Watch), AB 489 (Watch), AB 742 (Watch), AB 873 (Oppose), AB 966 (Watch), AB 980 (Watch), AB 1307 (Watch), AB 1418 (Watch), SB 62 (Watch), and SB 351 (Watch), SB 386 (Watch), SB 470 (Support), SB 744 (Support), and SB 861 (Support). Passed 8:0:0.**

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala	X		
Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal	X		

**FULL Board Agenda Item 12: LEG REG Agenda Item (4): Regulatory Update: Status of Dental Hygiene Board of California Regulatory Packages, LEG REG Agenda Item (6): Future Agenda Items. (Informational Only).**

Legislation and Regulatory Committee Chair, Michael Long, reported that the Committee reviewed informational only items including **LEG REG Committee Agenda Item 4:** Regulatory Update: Status of Dental Hygiene Board of California Regulatory Packages and **LEG REG Committee Agenda Item 6:** Future Agenda Items.

Chair Long reported that Dr. Petty updated the Legislative and Regulatory Committee on **LEG REG Committee Agenda Item (4):** Regulatory Update: Status of Dental Hygiene Board of California Regulatory Packages on the status of Board Regulatory Packages, as well as provided a snapshot of timing for the regulatory package process.

There were no future agenda items suggested.

**Board Member discussion:** None.

**Public comment:** None.

**Motion:** Member Elginer moved for the Board to accept the Legislative and Regulatory Committee’s full report.

**Second:** Member Matthews.

**Board Member discussion:** None.

**Public comment:** None.

**Vote: Motion for the Board to accept the Legislative and Regulatory Committee’s full report. Passed 8:0:0.**

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala	X		
Naleni “Lolly” Agarwal	X		

### **13. FULL Board Agenda Item 13: Enforcement Update: Statistical Report. (Informational Only).**

EO Lum stated that the information for the Enforcement statistics was included in the Enforcement Statistics Addendum attachment. The statistics are current through the month of June 2025.

**Board Member comment:** None.

**Public comment:** None.

### **14. FULL Board Agenda Item 14: Licensing, Continuing Education Audits, and Examination Update: Statistical Report. (Informational Only).**

On behalf of Licensing Manager Traci Napper, EO Lum presented the statistics starting on page 485 on the number of applications and renewals issued for RDHs, RDHAPs, Fictitious Name Permits, and Military Temporary Licenses, as well as the breakdown of total licensee population for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. He reported on the passage rates for the DHBC Law and Ethics exams for RDHs and RDHAPs through FY 24/25.

EO Lum stated that there is a typo on page 488 and the total delinquent licenses should be 4,336. He also provided updates on the current failure and pass rates of the Continuing Education (CE) audits conducted for Fiscal Year 24/25.

**Board Member comment:** Member Long asked how long the canceled RDH licenses on page 487 will be represented in the data. EO Lum stated that it is the total number of canceled RDH licenses of all time since the board has started issuing licenses.

Member Elginer asked about the jump in failure rate from FY 22/23 to FY 23/24 to FY24/25 for the Law and Ethics Exam results shown on page 486. EO Lum explained that the rates could be affected by new versions of the exam being released after exam development. He also stated that students are responsible for preparing for the exam and urged the students to take the exam seriously. Member Elginer also asked if there is a threshold for which the board takes action with the educational schools for their failure rates. EO Lum stated that there is no current threshold; however, staff have taken steps to inform the program directors about their program's exam results privately. He stated that he has received positive feedback from the program directors thus far. EO Lum also stated that staff have increased the board's outreach by conducting webinars with graduating students through Webex or Microsoft Teams. President Pacheco commented that the individuals taking the exam are program graduates and are no longer students. The President notes that it would be difficult to gather data on specific sections of the exam that the students of each program are collectively not answering correctly, since the exam is administered through the PSI Test Center. Dr. Petty stated that the schools are provided the materials they need to prepare students for the exam and that it is up to the students to utilize the material.

Member Hansen asked EO Lum if a canceled license is permanent. He confirmed that a canceled license is permanent. EO Lum further explained that when a licensee does not renew their license it goes into a delinquent status, which can be rectified to current if they pay the appropriate fees to renew it. If the licensee stays in the delinquent status for over 60 months it will automatically cancel the license and it cannot be reissued, reinstated, or restored. He stated that the individual would need to reapply like a new applicant.

Member Long stated that he is concerned with the high amount of CE failure rates (40%) and that this portion of the licensee population is still practicing. EO Lum states that there are multiple different reasons that affect this failure rate, such as not completing CEs or the individual completed their CEs, but the providers were not approved or the CE hours didn't qualify to be accepted.

Member Matthews asked if there is an average fine amount for individuals who fail their audit. EO Lum stated that there is a scale used to determine fine amounts ranging from \$50.00 to \$2,500.00 and is based on the number and type of CE courses that are incomplete.

Member Agarwal requested for Dr. Petty to provide outreach for the schools regarding the Law and Ethics exam failure rates. EO Lum stated that staff have implemented a process of sending the program directors their school's individual exam results on an annual basis, in addition to the Licensing Manager, Traci Napper's efforts to conduct webinars to the students so they are ready for the application process.

**Public comment:** Jeannette Diaz from Costa Mesa asked if there are specific schools that are experiencing higher failure rates or if all the schools have similar failure rates. EO Lum commented that the board is conducting outreach to all the schools and have initiated the sharing of exam results individually. He continued that it's early to compare one school to the next until further exam reporting has been completed.

Candice Keifer from Garden Grove asked if it is possible for a preparatory course or practice exams for the students to take prior to the official exam. She also asked if there is any data to reflect test takers preferred language as she suspects that a high percentage of the failure rates may come from test takers with a preferred language other than English. She asked if that data could be collected. EO Lum stated that the board is looking into having a Spanish version of the exam, but it will take time to be implemented. He stated that in the board's regulations states that the programs require English proficiency. EO Lum stated that the programs should equip students with the materials to take the exam. He recommends that students inquire with their program to have a preparatory course.

## **15. FULL Board Agenda Item 15: Future Agenda Items.**

1. Member Elginer requested the Board to establish a committee to update the Board member manual.

2. Member Elginer requested the Board maintain the May teleconference meeting as a standard practice to review legislation changes between the regular board meetings that take place during March and July.
3. A stakeholder requested the Board to address a previous agenda item from March 2025 Board meeting regarding a specific committee motion for BPC section 1941. After the July 19, 2025, board meeting, staff researched the requested agenda item and located the motion in the Saturday, November 16, 2024, meeting minutes. The Board plans to readdress this topic at a future board meeting.

**16. FULL Board Agenda Item 16: Closed Session.**

As announced earlier in the meeting, there is no closed session for this meeting.

**17. FULL Board Agenda Item 17: Adjournment.**

President Pacheco adjourned the Full Board meeting at **2:50 p.m.**