DENTAL BOARD MEETING
Open Session Minutes

January 23, 2026| 9:30 a.m.

Board Members present for all or part of the meeting:

James Nemmers, D.D.S.	Present
Jonathan DeJong, D.D.S.	Present
Bill Strohman, D.D.S.	Present
Stephanie Turner, D.D.S.	Present
Thomas Peek, D.D.S.	Present
Megan Clatt, R.D.H. (virtual)	Present
Jillian Travis, R.D.H. (virtual)	Present
Candace Bradley, Public Member	Present
Carly Ross, Public Member	Present

Staff present:
Jessica O'Brien, Executive Director
Tamika McPherson, DIAL Staff
Katrina Phillips, AAG
Andrew Werning, DIAL Investigations
Emily DeRonde, DIAL Counsel
Lacy Hepp, DIAL Staff
Jessica Chandler, AAG
Sue Mears, DIAL Investigations

Public present:
Amy Throgmartin
Melissa Woodhouse
Jonathan Karch, DDS
Greg Ceraso, DDS
Mariam Mikhail, DDS
Shawn Hedlund, IDA
Denise Moran, Affiliated Monitors
Stephen Prisby, ADEX

Ammon Anderson, IDA
Ryan Hajek, DDS, IDA
Hannah McDowell, Delta Dental
Adam Freed, IDA
Mary Kelly, RDH, IPCA
Lindsey Meyer, DDS
Alex Vandiver, ADEX
Tim DeStigter, DDS, IDA
Laurie Traetow, IDA
Andy S.
Shanna Lally, ADEX
Josh Carpenter, IDA
Kecia Leary, DDS, University of Iowa – College of Dental
Steph Beeler, ADEX
Kathleen Gradoville
Kara Bylund, IDA
Melissa Woodhouse, HHS

Call Meeting to Order

Nemmers called the meeting of the Iowa Dental Board to order at 9:31 a.m. on Friday, January 23, 2026.

Roll Call:

Member	*Nemmers*	*DeJong*	*Strohman*	*Turner*	*Peek*	*Clatt*	*Travis*	*Bradley*	*Ross*
Present	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Absent									

A quorum was established with nine members present.

Announcements

- No announcements today.

Opportunity for Public Comment

- Ryan Hajek, D.D.S., IDA- He is advocating for dentists and public health in and around the state of Iowa. He thanks the Board for their advocacy for dentistry and the work on the dental assistant rules. Dr. Hajek voiced his concerns regarding traditional dental practices serving as a public health setting and believes this may change protections in place. He would like clarification on the adult waiver.
- Josh Carpenter, IDA- He would like to comment regarding the addition to the NOIA regarding preventing someone with previous discipline to be an unregistered discipline. They do believe that this addition may make more sense in 481-574.14 instead as the Board has jurisdiction over the dentists, but cannot regulate unregistered assistants. With regard to public health settings, 231.d under administrative code has a definition regarding adult centers and would like to make sure that definition is clear if the Board would like to make rule changes.

Discussion and Vote on Affiliated Monitors – Denise Moran

Moran presented information regarding board monitoring for licensees. They help monitor the practice and help the dentists move forward to address regulation issues and concerns. They have provided reports for the Board to review. Moran clarifies that their agency uses a dentist monitor, hopefully licensed in Iowa or previous board members to monitor the standard of care concerns. Staff listed are the case managers for the monitoring and help coordinate the monitoring.

Motion by Nemmers to approve Affiliated Monitors as a monitor for Iowa licensees.

Seconded by Travis.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Discussion on Organizational Report & Selection of Council Representation – Alex Vandiver, ADEX

Vandiver gave a presentation on national exam standards and exam administration. He discussed the merger of CDCA-WREB-CITA and ADEX. State boards appoint two representatives from each board, to include one dentist and one hygienist. They must be an active member of the board or served on the board within the five years prior to the appointment and be an active member of ADEX. Dentists serve on the Dental Exam Committee and hygienists serve on the Dental Hygiene Exam Committee. Vandiver provided information on schools that offer ADEX and the number of candidates. He also provided more specific information on the exams themselves. They do some exams in Iowa at the University of Iowa and Kirkwood. Iowa needs to appoint both positions.

Dr. Ceraso also shared his experience as an examiner and the benefits to the state. He encouraged board members to become examiners. There is not a limit on the number of examiners.

Discussion and Vote on Council Representation- ADEX

Board consensus was to nominate Dr. Ceraso as the dentist committee member. The board will notify Alex with a hygienist name at a later time.

Motion by DeJong to nominate Dr. Ceraso as the dentist committee member for ADEX.

Seconded by Strohman.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Petition for Rule Waiver 481-572.4(1)a for foreign-trained dentists

A. Mariam Mikhail, D.D.S.

Dr. Mikhail's education was completed in Egypt. An ECE evaluation has been done, but it is not equivalent to a DDS or DMD. She has held an active license since 2003 in Egypt. Dr. Mikhail provided additional information regarding her request including that she has been offered a position at a health center. The Board has historically denied these requests without a residency or board examination. Board consensus is to deny.

Motion by DeJong to deny the rule waiver for Mariam Mikhail, D.D.S.

Seconded by Strohman.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Discussion and Vote on Meeting Meetings

Motion by Ross to approve meeting minutes from November 7, 20, 24, 2025 as amended.

Seconded by Strohman.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Reports

A. **Executive Report** – O'Brien had nothing new to report.
B. **Anesthesia Credentials Committee** – O'Brien provided an update on applications and the approved sedation training from the previous two meetings. The committee is in need of two board members and at least one licensee with a moderate sedation permit.
C. **Dental Hygiene Committee** – Travis reported that there were several colleges that spoke during the public comment section of the meeting. Nemmers recommended job shadowing for students that are interested in the profession, but it has been reported they are being turned down by dental offices. He encourages more dental offices to offer this opportunity. IDA has provided a spreadsheet of the different hygiene schools, but does not have the board exam pass rates. O'Brien will attempt to gather information on the pass rates for board exams from the schools and add that information.

Legislative Update

DeRonde presented the DIAL bill that is currently in legislature. This bill is created to standardize and streamline all license types and fees. Dental licensees will have a three-year renewal cycle on their date of birth. This allows board staff an opportunity to spread license types out throughout the year. Implementation will depend on the passage of the bill and the completion of the new database.

Discussion on Public Health Settings

Amy Throgmartin reported she currently works with adults with disabilities in the Cedar Rapids area. Throgmartin is requesting a change to public health settings allowing public health services to be provided in adult day facilities. A formal waiver petition has not been requested and will need to be completed if she would like public health services to be provided at the facilities she has requested. Board consensus is to review rules as the Board is open to this type of facility being included in public health settings

The board also received a request from Becky McCarl, that her dental office be considered a public health setting. A formal waiver petition was not received for the meeting. Board consensus is to pend this request until a waiver petition has been received.

Out of State Expanded Function Request: Dawn Gulbrandson

Gulbrandson is asking for approval of her level one and level two expanded functions for whish she has provided verification of education and training. Board consensus was to approve this request.

Motion by DeJong to approve the expanded function request for Dawn Gulbrandson.

Seconded by: Strohman.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Expanded Function Training Request: Becky McCarl

McCarl has submitted a request to be an approved training provider. Additional amendments to outdated information need to be made. The Board has questions on the amount of CEU being offered, course objectives that are not expanded functions, qualifications to teach expanded functions and the location of classes and clinical training. Board consensus is to pend this request until this information has been provided.

Discussion and Vote on Unlicensed Complaint: 25-0062

Motion by DeJong to close case 25-0062.

Seconded by Turner.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Discussion and Vote to File Amended Notice of Intended Action – IAC 481

The Board had discussion regarding licensees who have been disciplined being ineligible to work as unregistered assistants. That information was added to both 574 and 575.

Motion by Strohman to approve Chapters 570, 572, 573, 574, 575, 577 and 581 amended as discussed.

Seconded by Turner.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Closed Session

Motion by DeJong to enter into closed session, pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(a) to review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential; Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(d) to discuss whether to initiate licensee disciplinary investigations or proceedings; Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(f) to discuss the decision to be rendered in a contested case conduction according to the provisions of chapter 17A; and Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(h) to avoid disclosure of specific law enforcement matters, such as allowable tolerances or criteria for the selection, prosecution, or settlement of cases, which if disclosed would facilitate disregard of requirements imposed by law.

Seconded by Nemmers.

Roll call taken.

Motion passed.

The Board entered closed session at 11:25 a.m.

Members of the public were placed into a waiting room.

Motion by Turner to return to open session.

Seconded by DeJong.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None.

Motion passed.

Action on Closed Session

Motion by Travis to approve closed session minutes from November 7, 20 and 24, 2025 .

Seconded by Ross.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None. Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Complaints and Investigative Reports

- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #24-0085. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #24-0125. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #24-0201. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0012. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0017. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0035. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0036. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0053. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0094. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0099. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0101. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0105. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close #25-0108. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0118. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close #25-0120. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close #25-0123. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close #25-0132. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close #25-0133. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0134. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0153. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0154. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0155. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0160. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0162. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0171. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0181. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0184. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0196. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0199. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #25-0207. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to close case #25-0216. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by DeJong, seconded by Strohman, to keep open case #26-0003. Motion approved unanimously.

Additional Information for Review

- Moved by Nemmers, seconded by Turner, to keep open case #24-0032. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Nemmers, seconded by Turner, to close case #24-0093. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Nemmers, seconded by Turner, to keep open case #24-0177. Motion approved unanimously.

- Moved by Nemmers, seconded by Turner, to keep open case #24-0210, 25-0004 and 25-0008. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Nemmers, seconded by Turner, to close case #24-0230. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Nemmers, seconded by Turner, to close case #25-0024. Motion approved unanimously.

Consideration of Board Orders

- Moved by Bradley, seconded by Peek, to approve case #22-0080 and 24-0122. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Bradley, seconded by Peek, to approve case #22-0013 and 22-0074. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Bradley, seconded by Peek, to approve case #24-0087. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Bradley, seconded by Peek, to approve case #24-0088. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Bradley, seconded by Peek, to approve case #24-0089. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Bradley, seconded by Peek, to approve case #24-0090. Motion approved unanimously.

Confidential Licensure Review

- Moved by Ross, seconded by Bradley, to deny application for VL. Motion approved unanimously.

Screening Committee Recommendations

- Moved by Ross, seconded by Bradley, to close case #25-0051, 25-0187, 25-0190, 25-0193, 25-0198, 25-0020, 25-0213, 25-0221 and 25-0224. Motion approved unanimously.

Dental Hygienists

- Moved by Travis, seconded by Clatt, to keep open case #25-0089. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Travis, seconded by Clatt, to keep open case #25-0179. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Travis, seconded by Clatt, to close case #25-0191. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Travis, seconded by Clatt, to close case #25-0218. Motion approved unanimously.

Remediation Course Approval

- Moved by Travis, seconded by Bradley, to deny the request for case #23-0034, 23-0162 and 23-0164. Motion approved unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion by Nemmers to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Strohman.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:13 p.m.