**Kentucky Board of Dentistry**
312 Whittington Pkwy, Ste. 101
Louisville, KY 40222

# Minutes of Meeting

July 12, 2025

This regular meeting of the Kentucky Board of Dentistry took place at the board offices. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. (EDT) by the Board's interim vice president, Dr. Kate von Lackum. A quorum was present.

## ROLL CALL

**Members Present:** Lisa Johnston Arthur, John David Bradley, Rebecca Green, Bruce Haskell, Leslie Horn, Kate von Lackum, Doug Neuman, Thadler Schroeder, Jenna Schulten, and Lory Dean Wilson

**Members Absent:** None

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Heather Cheek (BSCTC), Julie McKee (KDPH), Allison Wright (UK), and Sherrie Zaino (UofL)

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** None

**Staff/Contract Personnel Present:** Jeffrey Allen, Bailey Biggs, Brian Fingerson (KYPRN), Crystal Holloway, Kara Legg (McBrayer), and Micheal Scanlan (Scanlan Investigations)

**Also Present:** Jerry Caudill (Avesis) and Jill Keaton (UPike)

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## BOARD OPERATIONS

Dr. von Lackum welcomed Drs. Neuman and Schulten as new dentist members of the board, as well as Ms. Cheek as the ex-officio member representing Kentucky's dental hygiene programs. Following introductions by the new members, Mr. Allen administered the oath of office.

Dr. von Lackum also announced the need to elect board officers. Mr. Allen discussed the process for electing a new president and vice president.

*Motion: Nominate Kate von Lackum as a candidate for board president. Introduced by Rebecca Green; seconded by Lory Dean Wilson. Without objection, the motion was approved.*

*Motion: Nominate Thadler Schroeder as a candidate for board president. Introduced by Kate von Lackum; seconded by Bruce Haskell. Without objection, the motion was approved.*

*Motion: Nominate Kate von Lackum as a candidate for board vice president. Introduced by Thadler Schroeder; seconded by Bruce Haskell. Without objection, the motion was approved.*

Dr. von Lackum declined the nomination for president but accepted the nomination for vice president. Dr. Schroeder accepted the nomination for president. There being only one nominee for each position, Drs. Schroeder and von Lackum were declared the winners by acclamation and installed as president and vice president, respectively.

With new members sworn in and officers elected, Mr. Allen asked the board to determine a meeting schedule for the 2025-26 term.

*Motion: Convene a meeting of the Board of Dentistry at 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of every odd-numbered month through July 2026. Introduced by Kate von Lackum; seconded by Thad Schroeder. Without objection, the motion was approved.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Allen presented the draft minutes of the May 10, 2025 meeting.

*Motion: Approve the minutes of the 05/10/2025 Board of Dentistry meeting. Introduced by Thadler Schroeder; seconded by Rebecca Green. Without objection, the motion was approved.*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Personnel Introductions:** Mr. Allen asked each of the board's staff members and contract personnel to discuss their roles and responsibilities with the board.

Ms. Holloway introduced herself and discussed her duties as fiscal officer, including human resources, procurement, and financial management.

Ms. Biggs introduced herself as the board's licensing specialist and described her role in managing the board's various license application processes.

Mr. Fingerson of the Kentucky Professionals Recovery Network provided an overview of the Well-being Committee's work, which his company does for the board on a contract basis.

Mr. Scanlan discussed his role as the board's contract investigator and reviewed the Law Enforcement Committee's investigatory process.

Ms. Legg introduced herself as the board's new legal counsel, a role provided on a contract basis through the McBrayer law firm.

**Admin. & Financial:** Mr. Allen reported that Fiscal Year 2025 ended on June 30 with total revenues of approximately $507 thousand compared to expenses of approximately $783 thousand. This leaves a year-end deficit of about $276 thousand and a cash balance of $1.75 million. He noted that this deficit is in line with expectations and will be made up in the early months of Fiscal Year 2026 once dentist license renewal begins.

Mr. Allen also indicated that staff is currently working with the Office of State Budget Director to develop a biennial budget proposal for the 2027 and 2028 fiscal years. This will become part of the overall state budget that will need to be approved during the 2026 General Assembly.

**Legislative & Legal:** Mr. Allen reported that Louisiana recently passed the interstate dental and dental hygiene compact legislation supported by the American Association of Dental Boards, making it the first state to do so. Four more states will need to pass this version for it to take effect. Meanwhile, the compact proposal backed by the Council of State Governments has already been enacted by twelve states and is currently in the rulemaking stage of implementation.

He also reported that CDCA-WREB-CITA has announced a merger with the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX), which will bring ADEX exam development and administration together under a single organization. Mr. Allen will invite a representative from CDCA-WREB-CITA to speak on the merger at the next meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Law Enforcement Committee:** On the committee are Thadler Schroeder and Kate von Lackum. Dr. von Lackum reported that at its July 8 meeting, ten complaints were reviewed. Of those, eight were dismissed, one is still under investigation, and was held in abeyance. Additionally, three National Practitioner Databank reports were reviewed, two of which are being investigated further. One incident of a patient hospitalization was reviewed but with no action taken. Finally, the Well-Being Committee reported that all five well-being program participants were compliant with their agreements.

Dr. von Lackum also announced that the committee is in need of an additional member and that interested individuals should reach out to her.

**Expanded Duties Committee:** On the committee are Rebecca Green, Thadler Schroeder, and Lory Dean Wilson. Mr. Allen reported that the proposed public health hygiene revisions to 201 KAR 8:563 that were approved at the May meeting had been filed with the Legislative Research Commission. The public hearing is scheduled for Sept. 24 at 4:00 p.m. Written comments on the amendment will also be accepted through Sept.30.

**EXTERNAL REPORTS**

**Big Sandy Community and Technical College:** Heather Cheek gave a presentation on the school's new Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC) program. The program has a one-year, 17-credit-hour online curriculum. CDHCs act as a bridge between the community and the clinical care team to deliver prevention strategies in oral and overall health.

**Kentucky Dental Association:** Dr. von Lackum provided an update on behalf of the KDA. She reported that the organization is evaluating potential mental health support pathways for practitioners similar to those for substance abuse. She also indicated that the KDA was looking into the possibility of Oral Preventive Assistants. Finally, Dr. von Lackum noted the group's upcoming annual meeting.

**Department for Public Health:** Dr. McKee reviewed the department's progress toward updating Kentucky's Strategic Plan on Oral Health. She also discussed the impact of the shuttering of the CDC's Division of Oral Health.

**University of Pikeville:** Jill Keaton provided an update on the Tanner College of Dental Medicine. She noted that construction of the college's main building is in its early stages and that the first site visit from the Council on Dental Accreditation was a success. The first applications will be accepted later this year, with classes expected to begin in June 2026. Dr. Keaton also requested an ex-officio seat on the Board of Dentistry be created for the school.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Advisory Opinion Request:** Mr. Allen directed the board to the advisory opinion request in the meeting packet. Dr. Schroeder said he would appoint a committee to consider it and develop a draft opinion for the board's consideration at the next meeting.

**Other New Business:** Dr. Horn expressed concern about the lack of available options to complete the board's continuing education requirement for sedation permit renewal. Dr. Schroeder indicated he would investigate the issue with Dr. von Lackum and Mr. Allen.

*Motion: Move to adjourn. Introduced by Jenna Schulten; seconded by Leslie Horn. Without objection, the motion was approved.*

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

**APPROVED 09/13/2025:**

*Jeffrey Allen, Executive Director*