

**MINUTES**  
**TENNESSEE BOARD OF DENTISTRY**  
**ANESTHESIA COMMITTEE MEETING**

Date: June 13, 2022

Location: Iris Room  
665 Mainstream Drive  
Nashville, TN 37243

Members Present: John Werther, D.M.D  
George A. Adams, D.D.S  
Richard Gaw, D.D.S  
Robert Caldwell, D.M.D  
Katie Bradford, D.D.S

Staff Present: Ailene Macias, Board Director  
Michael Brown, Board Administrative Manager  
Paetria Morgan, Senior Associate General Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m.

Dr. Werther, Dr. Caldwell, Dr. Bradford, Dr. Gaw, Dr. Adams, and Dr. West, were all present in the board meeting room. Dr. Werther began the meeting by stating that if the members who were not present did end up calling in to join the discussion, Ms. Morgan would need to read the requirements for an electronic meeting to take place. Dr. Werther stated there were 2 courses to be discussed, the first course being the Sedation Education Academy and the second course being Stay in Box Sedation.

The first course being discussed was from “Sedation Education Academy” with the additional documentation submitted for review and reconsideration of approval. Dr. Adams began the discussion of the course, concerning the mission statement of the course being centered on access to care. He made it clear that he did not believe that access to care is something that the committee can or should be addressing, due to there being other government committees for that issue. Dr. Adams went on to state that according to the application, the didactic portion of the course would be only 18 hours but the Tennessee statute for a comprehensive permit requires 60 hours of didactic training for the dentist to qualify for the permit. Dr. Adams also suggested that the clinical component of the course which is 20 individually managed sedation cases was lacking. He would have liked there to be a breakdown in the course materials regarding how many of those cases were on pediatric patients ages 2-8. Dr. Adams voiced a concern that the course was not underneath an ADA accredited program, such as being within a CODA accredited pediatric dentistry residency program. He mentioned that within the application there were several grammatical and technical errors that were concerning to him. He discussed some issues regarding the CVs for both Dr. Bol and Dr. Davenport and said he would have liked to see additional

information for their sedation training and experience. Dr. Adams discussed the CODA requirements for a pediatric resident on rotation and the pediatric sedation training provided in residency programs. Dr. Adams stated that based off the information the course has presented both times to review, he could not in good faith recommend approval of the course.

Dr. Bradford questioned if this course was possibly meant to fulfill the requirement of obtaining a limited conscious sedation permit, based off the information they submitted being more in line with the requirements for a limited conscious sedation permit instead. She stated that although the course hours suggested it would be for a limited conscious sedation course, the board requires that dentists have a comprehensive conscious sedation permit to sedate pediatric patients. Dr. Caldwell and Dr. Gaw had no further information to add to the opinions of Dr. Adams and Dr. Caldwell for this course. Dr. Werther seconded the grammatical and technical errors within the application, stating the quality of the application suffered due to those errors being hard to overlook. Dr. Werther stated that in his opinion the course should be rejected due to not being confident in the course being able safely serve the public. Dr. Adams made the motion to reject the course, with all committee members voting in agreement to uphold that motion.

The next course discussed was from “Stay in the Box Sedation,” who submitted additional information to have their course reconsidered for approval for a limited conscious sedation permit course. Dr. Caldwell stated the emergency protocol management was the red flag he saw within in the course when reviewed at the last meeting. Dr. Adams stated the application only listed having 3-5 live patient experiences during the course, but the Tennessee statues for a limited sedation permit require 10 live patient experiences. Dr. Gaw interjected, reminding the members that in Tennessee the DOCS course was previously approved, and that course does not have any live patient experiences included. Dr. Werther added that the application stated they recommended nitrous oxide for patients who suffered a myocardial infarction, and the committee previously asked for references as to that being a viable alternative for patient care. The reference given was from 1976, which is outdated, and the treatment was no longer used in modern emergency medicine in these cases. Dr. Werther pointed out other errors contained in the course materials, that were only discovered when pointed out by the committee. He was concerned about the slides with errors not being removed or updated, then resubmitted with the additional information to be reviewed by the committee. Dr. Werther suggested the course be denied based off safety concerns. Dr. Gaw made the motion to deny the course, Dr. Adams seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Morgan asked if there were any public comments, and there were none. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 PM.