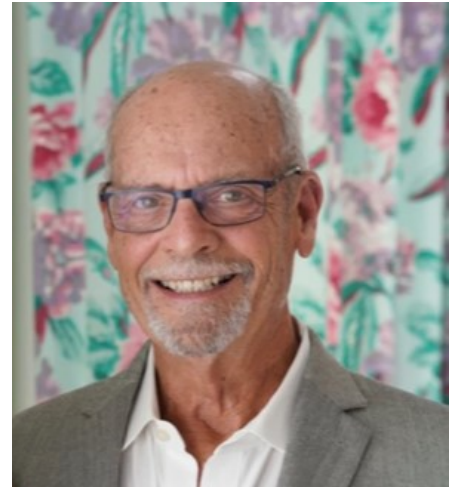




President's Message

As we move into fall, we are looking forward to all the changes in color and milder temperatures. It makes us all appreciate the beauty of the mountains in West Virginia. Hopefully, the winter will be short, mild and relatively Covid free.

Since our last meeting in July, the Board has been busy with various issues. We have worked very hard for more than 2 years, rewriting our statutes. We think the result is very good and are working for approval in legislature. Re-writing the statutes is not something we really wanted to do, but became necessary due to the many changes in our profession. We have been successful in getting some of the new statutes and rules passed, but are still working to get the remainder of the changes approved. As many of you know, this can be a very long and frustrating process.



JOHN E. BOGERS, DDS
President

We have completed our legislative audit and this has been accepted by legislature without comment. We will be making some changes as a result of the audit, but were, overall, very pleased with the report, and most of the success of this audit is the result of the diligence of our Executive Director.

We are also going through the process of receiving approval for hiring an in-house-attorney. Although the attorney will not be able to litigate cases, he or she will be able to advise on difficult cases, help the AG's office in getting cases moving more quickly, and advise on legislative issues.

After 7+ years on the Board, I would like to say that it has been a privilege to work with each of the members. They are all very dedicated to protecting the safety of the public and work diligently and fairly on each case assigned, much of which is on their own free time.

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President's Message Continued

Special thanks to Executive Director, Susan Combs and Administrative Assistant, Christina Lesko for the great work they do handling the day-to-day chores and making our job easier and more efficient. Also, special thanks to Dr Lew Gilbert, who has spent countless hours away from his practice, not only as a valued Board member, but also as Chair of the Anesthesia committee, and doing inspections of anesthesia offices. Also, a very special thanks to Mrs. Mary Beth Shea and Mrs. Beverly Stevens, who have finished two terms on the Board. They will be greatly missed.

We are looking forward to welcoming three new members to the Board this year. Mrs. Gina Sharps, MPH, BSDH will be our new hygiene representative. Ms. Kimberly A. Lowe, RDA will be our new assistant representative. Mr. Terry Coatney will be our new public representative.

Also, Dr David Edwards has been reappointed to a second term on the Board. Finally, I and the entire Board especially appreciate the tireless work of Dr. Vince Veltri, who has served as president for three very difficult years. Also, thanks to the Board for giving me the honor of serving as President this year.

We will all continue to do everything in our power to uphold our responsibility to protect the safety of the public.

Dr Jack Bogers

Board Actions

2021-DB-0005D - Consent Agreement & Order - Reprimand; Assessed costs of \$5,000 and a fine of \$5,000. **Entered July 22, 2021**

2021-DB-0006D - Board Order After Hearing - Reprimand; Assessed costs of \$3,399.43 and a fine of \$10,000; Payment of Corporation renewal fees, late fees and completion of paperwork for 2019, 2020 and 2021. Entered **December 17, 2021**

2021-DB-0006D - Order Commanding Cease & Desist - Cease & Desist until compliance with Board Order entered December 17, 2021. **Entered April 1, 2022**

WV Dental Workforce Survey

I would like to thank the West Virginia Board of Dentistry for their continued efforts in supporting and assisting The West Virginia Oral Health Program in gathering surveillance of our state's dental workforce. State surveillance activities are absolutely pivotal, as they provide updates to the oral health status of the population and the capacity of the providers who serve them. By identifying priority issues, we can shape future policy decisions and program development for oral healthcare in West Virginia. This year, for your convenience, we are adding a digital option for participation with a QR Code. This will allow you to quickly enter your responses and grant instantaneous capture and analysis. I urge you to take a few moments to provide your input and I want to thank you for your participation and continued collaboration of efforts to improve the oral health of all West Virginians.

Jason M. Roush, DDS

WV State Dental Director

Oral Health Program

Dental Recovery Network

The WV Dental Recovery Network (WVDRN) was formed in 2014 after a collaboration between the WV Board of Dentistry and the WV Pharmacists Recovery Network (WVPRN). The changes made to the statute at that time made it possible for the Dental Board to establish an alternative to discipline program for its licensees. Alternative to discipline programs like the WVDRN allow licensees a resource to contact, other than the professional board, if there is a concern about impairment due to substance use. The WVDRN provides exceptional help and support to professionals referred into the program by working with vetted treatment providers that ensure quality assessment and treatment for the affected professional. After treatment, the aftercare contracts used by the WVDRN ensure professionals compliance with the program. The WVDRN's goal is to protect the public from unsafe practice, but we strive to get all our participants back onto a path of wellness and hopefully back to practice in a timely manner. Contacting the WVDRN is completely confidential with self-reports receiving the highest degree of confidentiality. Board referred participants also enjoy complete confidentiality but unlike self-reports are already known to the Board. If you or a colleague need assistance, feel free to call the director Mike Brown at (304)533-6844 or email at mbrown@wvprn.com. There are also referral forms and additional information on the WVDRN website at www.WVDRN.com.

Mike Brown, RPH

Database Projects

Currently, the Board is working on several projects within the database. GL Solutions, in coordination with Board staff, is working to create an initial online application for Corporations and PLLCs. With recent changes to the Secretary of State's online application, this will make the process easier and quicker.

An update is being made to our initial dental, hygiene and specialty applications due to changes in the laws and rules. Pursuant to these changes, the Board will no longer require good moral character reference letters for licensure.

An online form is being created to allow a licensee to request and pay for a verification letter to be sent to another state. This will allow these letters to be sent out quicker.

Future projects include an online complaint form, online application for telehealth registration, as well as the ability to request and pay for other requests online such as rosters.

Non-Surgical Periodontal Laser Therapy

During the 2022 legislative session, the Board's rules for Expanded Duties were passed with changes to include the ability for a Dental Hygienist to obtain certification to perform non-surgical periodontal laser therapy. Below is the language from the rule.

5.1.14. Use of a laser, provided the wavelength is limited to no higher than 1064 nanometers, for laser bacterial reduction, laser assisted periodontal therapy, other non-surgical periodontal therapeutic treatments, photobiomodulation (adjunctive low level laser therapy) and treatment of herpetic lesions and aphthous ulcers after successful completion of a board-approved course and under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist.

5.1.14.a. A hygienist shall apply for a certificate from the Board to provide non-surgical periodontal treatment with the use of a laser using a form prescribed by the Board. The application fee shall be equal to the local anesthesia application fee as set forth in the Board's rule, Fees Established by the Board, 5CSR3.

The guidelines for courses, the updated statement of the use of lasers, and application for certification are located on the Board's website. To date, the Board has issued 11 certificates for these duties.



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THE BOARD'S MISSION

The West Virginia Board of Dentistry is an agency of the State mandated by legislature to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens. The Board regulates the profession of dentistry and licenses dentists and dental hygienists who have proven minimal competency standards by examination.

BOARD & STAFF

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 S. Vincent Veltri, DDS
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 Kimberly A. Lowe, RDA
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 Timothy G. Thorne, DDS
 Bryan D. Weaver, DDS

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF EXPENSES FY2022

Salaries & Employee Benefits*	\$142,455.00
Professional Services**	\$20,720.00
Contractual Services***	\$15,225.00
Association Dues	\$7,085.00
Operation/Office Expenses	<u>\$172,989.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$358,474.00

*Includes Staff Salaries, and Board and Anesthesia Committee Member per diems.

**Includes Attorney General Pay

***Includes fees paid to Dental Recovery Network

