

**KENTUCKY DENTAL ASSOCIATION  
HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
SECOND SESSION**

French Lick Resort  
French Lick, IN  
August 27, 2017

**Dr. H. Fred Howard**, Speaker of the House

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** **Dr. Fred Howard, Speaker of the House**, called the House of Delegates to order at 10:35 AM.
2. **QUORUM STATEMENT.** **Dr. Barry Curry** announced that a quorum was present.
3. **INVOCATION.** **Dr. Mike Johnson** gave the invocation.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA.** The agenda for the second session of the House of Delegates was approved.
5. **INTRODUCTIONS.** **Dr. Fred Howard** introduced those seated at the head table.
6. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REMARKS.** **Mr. Richard A. Whitehouse** presented the following address to the House of Delegates.

Congratulations, Dr. Collins, as you complete the longest presidency in KDA history!

Dr. Collins is a great fan of rock & roll – and he also enjoys a good quote. So, I know when thinking of these last 17 months, he must be reminded of the line from the song *Truckn'* by the Grateful Dead which goes...“lately it occurs to me what a long, strange trip it’s been.” He often reminds me that Kentucky politics is unique. However, while there are undoubtedly idiosyncrasies to the practice of politics in the commonwealth, one thing remains constant (besides money). It’s about people.

Along with building a team of good people, you also need a good plan and the opportunity to execute it. This is not always easy. It can get messy. And, it doesn’t always work.

But, whether your view of the political process is sausage factory or swamp to be drained, it is the only path to address the many issues impacting organized dentistry.

Groucho Marx famously defined politics as the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies. But, in our political undertakings, I would rather believe that we might actually accomplish something working together and within the tri-partite structure of our association. I think we have made progress when we have clearly identified our challenges and taken steps to address them as a team focused on our collective mission and goals.

In my initial conversations with Dr. Collins, he shared his thoughts on pursuing our strategic plan by increasing the involvement of officers and others advocating for KDA in Frankfort.

Involving people in their profession and the political process often requires them to make sacrifices in terms of time away from their practice and family. We are a volunteer organization and depend upon our officers and members to make these sacrifices in order to give back to their profession and ultimately turn it over to a new generation. This is one of the hallmarks of any profession and I thank all of you who have provided valuable leadership to your local societies and the KDA. Another challenge for any volunteer organization is setting unrealistic expectations. I believe we must always aim high. But, we must also remember that when we delve into politics and policy, we are not dealing in an exact science. This challenge can frustrate volunteers and leaders who sacrifice their time without immediate return and sometimes an unexpected outcome.

When I try to explain this to members who have been trained in the hard sciences, I harken back to my days of teaching graduate students organizational ethics and constitutional law. Rather than being a scientific world of “diagnose and treat,” the political world is often made up of “tragic choices” and “wicked problems.” Tragic choices are those in which one goal may actually conflict with another. Wicked problems are ones that resist quick or easy resolution and may never be completely eliminated. My point in reducing a semester of lectures to a few lines here is to say simply that we must not be frustrated when it seems we are not making a difference. We must continue to work toward our goals even when we don’t see immediate results.

After all, politics is a soft science and a long game.

While Frankfort has promised systemic changes that will lessen the adverse impact of Medicaid issues on providers, we have been unable to generate meaningful support for a fee floor or prior-authorization reform. We have not been granted our request for improved data collection on provider workforce, or language to protect providers in case of MCO bankruptcy. Most of these decisions were based upon a lack of state resources, MCO contractual relationships, and federal law.

Nonetheless, we have successfully advanced legislation enhancing the notice provisions of MCO’s making material changes to their contracts with providers as well as expanding appeals provisions for denial of claims. From denturists to mid-level providers, we have held off attempts of unskilled or uneducated groups to place our fellow citizens at risk in the name of increasing access to care. We have worked to actually expand access to care by supporting the introduction of collaborative initiatives such as community dental health coordinators and public health registered dental hygienists. We have also seen the generosity of the profession demonstrated through its many charitable efforts. Much remains to be done to see improvement in oral health outcomes around the commonwealth. But, we know any solution requires the involvement of organized dentistry.

We continue to work for providers to level an uneven playing field with the insurance industry through support of the McCarran-Ferguson Act that would remove the industry’s exemption from federal anti-trust law. We also support federal legislation to address the challenge our members face regarding the issue of non-covered services. And, we strive to give our members timely and relevant information through various channels in order to assist them in their business and practice decisions.

What a long, strange trip it has been.

Dr. Collins, everyone at the KDA wishes you success in your future endeavors,. We have all gained a better understanding of the dental profession and Kentucky through your leadership and tenure on the board. And, we thank you for your service to organized dentistry as the work continues.

We must continue to strengthen our relationships with the dental schools and students, young dentists, and those who practice in all business settings and specialties. We need to be open to working with partners with whom we may not always agree, but share a mutual interest in the overall health of Kentucky citizens. And, as an organization, we must strengthen the connection between Kentucky dentists and their local societies. This may require our association to recognize that the profession itself is changing and, to be relevant, we too must change.

The coming months will see board reorganization as a result of the US Supreme Court case involving the North Carolina Board of Dentistry. We have been at the table with the administration to discuss the concerns of our members in order to fashion a plan that serves the members of the dental profession and the patients they serve.

We'll see both a special session of the legislature on tax reform and a general session in 2018 that will include many issues of interest to our membership, the profession, and patients. Medicaid remains a prominent part of the political dialog and policy discussion as we anticipate approval of the governor's 1115 waiver. As the next legislative session begins, we will have in place an agenda continuing much of the work we have begun in the last few years as well as responding to new issues that always arise.

In doing so, we serve under a new president, but with the same strategic goals of:

- advocating for dentistry in the commonwealth,
- serving and supporting the needs and success of members,
- promoting oral health through community service and public relations,
- leading the profession through the ADA tri-partite structure.

In addition to our volunteer leaders, we are fortunate to have a small but mighty professional staff that helps execute the vision of our governing board and works with our volunteer members to deliver tangible results. Todd, Melissa, and Janet deserve great praise for their ability to get the job done. We should thank them for their hard work.

On behalf of the KDA staff, we have enjoyed the opportunity to work with you, Dr. Collins.

We welcome our new president, Dr. Ansley Depp and look forward to her presidency. She will no doubt bring her own ideas and energy to organized dentistry and build upon the foundation that has been laid through passage of our KDA strategic plan.

We're anxious to continue the KDA journey with her

**7. REPORTS OF REFERENCE COMMITTEES.**

**REFERENCE COMMITTEE #1**  
**BUDGET & ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS**  
**Dr. O. Andy Elliott – Chairman**

Reference Committee #1, Budget & Administrative Affairs, met Saturday, August 25 at 3:30 in the Erwin Room of French Lick Springs Hotel. Much discussion was received and considered.

**RESOLUTION 2017-101**  
**ORIGINATOR: KDA EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**BACKGROUND:** The KDA Executive Board reviewed and approved the 2018 Budget as developed by the Budget and Finance Committee. Therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that the proposed 2018 Revenue and Expenditure Budget be approved.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

**RESOLUTION 2017-102**  
**ORIGINATOR: COUNCIL ON ETHICS, BYLAWS AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS**

**BACKGROUND:** As a constituent of the ADA, the KDA is required to conform to the ADA Bylaws as amended in Res. 79H-2016 that takes effect in 2018. Therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that the KDA Bylaws, Chapter I - Membership, Section 2. Qualifications. A. Active Members be amended by deletion in line one by striking, "and licensed."

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

**RESOLUTION 2017-103**  
**ORIGINATOR: DR. MIKE JOHNSON**

**BACKGROUND:** It has been the trend of state associations to have shorter terms and limit terms in their state officers. In so doing it has increased membership involvement in the governing process and helped stimulate new thoughts in the process. Also these changes help in the budgeting process and maximizing the revenues of the association. Finally due to electronic communication the need for someone being in house is not necessary. Therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** Chapter IV General Assembly, Section 8 D. Secretary-Treasurer be amended by deletion of number 1 and replacing with a new number 1. "To serve for a term of three (3) years and not more than two (2) consecutive terms."

To amend by deletion number 12 and replacing it with a new number 12. "To represent this Association at the American Dental Association annual session only when serving as the Sixth (6) District of the American Dental Association Sec/Treas. Expenses are to be borne by the association."

To amend by deletion number 16 and re number subsequent duties.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

**RESOLUTION 2017-RC104**  
**ORIGINATOR: KDA EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**BACKGROUND:** Term limits have been debated and discussed for a long time in leadership. While someone in a position for a long period of time may bring maturity, knowledge and leadership, someone else may be stagnant and non-contributive. Establishing ROTATIONAL term limits gives more opportunities for others to step up into the delegate position, while not completely eliminating someone that might potentially serve the KDA well at the ADA level. Shortening the alternate delegate position to 2 years allows for younger leaders to step into the position, see and understand the big picture of organized dentistry at our national level and then begin to contribute at our state level. Keeping the delegate position at 3 years allows for our more mature dentists to represent us as voting members. Allowing someone to rotate back on after a time period of sitting out allows for the leadership of the KDA to identify someone that might represent Kentucky well as a Trustee and put them in that position when the time comes. (Kentucky has a representative as Trustee every 16 years) The hope is that by speeding up the rotation we encourage interaction with potential leaders that may have been sitting on the sidelines. Therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** Chapter IV, General Assembly, Section 9, Delegates and Alternates Delegates to the American Dental Association, B, be amended by deleting the current language and replacing with,

Each year the appropriate number of delegates and alternate delegates (equal number of each) shall be elected by the General Assembly. The alternate delegate elected term shall be 2 years with a two term limit. An alternate delegate who has served two terms will be eligible to run again after 2 years sitting out of the rotation. An alternate delegate is not required to sit out if choosing to run for the delegate position. The delegate elected term shall be 3 years with a two term limit. A delegate who has served two terms will be eligible to run again after 3 years sitting out of the rotation. A senior member of the delegates shall be designated as Chairperson by the Executive Board. The President, First Vice President and Speaker of the House of Delegates shall serve as alternate delegates to the American Dental Association.

Mr. Speaker, I move for adoption of Resolution 2017-RC104 in lieu of 2017-104.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

This concludes the report of Reference Committee #1.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. O. Andy Elliott, Chairman

**REFERENCE COMMITTEE #2**  
**MISCELLANEOUS AFFAIRS**  
**Dr. Darren Greenwell – Chairman**

Reference Committee #2, Miscellaneous Affairs, met Saturday, August 25 at 3:45 in the Fairbanks Room of French Lick Springs Hotel. There was discussion about the Medicaid Waiver and the “My Rewards” program. There was also discussion about the McCann Ferguson Act. The report was informational only and no action is needed by the House. The next meeting for the Kentucky Oral Health Strategic Plan will be Thursday, September 21, 2017.

**REFERENCE COMMITTEE #3**  
**WORK GROUPS**  
**Dr. Matt Johnson – Chairman**

Reference Committee #3, Work Groups, met Saturday, August 25 at 3:45 in the Kruetzing Room of French Lick Springs Hotel.

**RESOLUTION 2017-301**  
**ORIGINATOR: DR LAURA HANCOCK JONES**

**BACKGROUND:** Due to the advancement of Health Information Technology, teledentistry as a treatment modality is presenting as a viable means to expand dental access into dental homes and to reduce wait times to address oral health treatment needs. Teledentistry will for the first time be included in the ADA's Code on Dental Procedures and Nomenclature (CDT Code) in January 2018. The ADA House of Delegates Resolution 45H-2015, Comprehensive ADA Policy Statement on Teledentistry, was approved during the November 2015 ADA Meeting. Therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that the KDA shall endorse the ADA Comprehensive Policy Statement on Teledentistry (45H-2015) and continue to be an active participant in the development of statewide policy to ensure that dentists remain the leaders of the dental home with the advantages of the Health IT and corresponding reimbursement for oral health services which lead to improved quality patient care.

**ACTION:ADOPTED**

This concludes the report of Reference Committee #3.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Matthew Johnson, Chairman

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS.** There was no unfinished business.
9. **NEW BUSINESS.** There was no new business.

10. **INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.** **Dr. Bill Collins** officially installed the new officers of the Kentucky Dental Association. They are as follows:

**President – Dr. Ansley Depp**  
**First Vice President – Dr. Bill Lee**  
**Second Vice President – Dr. Mark Moats**  
**Secretary/Treasurer – Sharon Turner**  
**ADA Delegate – Dr. Bill Lee**  
**ADA Delegate – Dr. Dennis Price**  
**ADA Delegate – Dr. Kevin Wall (2018)**  
**ADA Alternate Delegate – Dr. Jonathan Rich (2018)**  
**Speaker of the House – Dr. H. Fred Howard**

11. **PRESIDENTIAL RECOGNITION.** **Dr. Ansley Depp** presented the KDA President’s Plaque, Past President’s Pin and the President’s Gavel to **Dr. Bill Collins**.

12. **COMMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE KDA.** **Dr. Ansley Depp** presented the following address to the House of Delegates.

Good Morning Delegates and Alternate Delegates!

First I would like to say thank you to Dr. Collins, for his leadership over the past year. Dr. Collins is a quiet leader. But don’t ever underestimate him. Bill was always looking out for the KDA. He followed Bill Watch online to see what bills were being filed. He was always the first to know when something was happening. His relationship with legislators helped us in many ways over the last year and a half. I want to thank Bill and present him with this small gift of some engraved bourbon glasses. I’m sure over the last year he has put quite a bit of bourbon away while dealing with the KDA!

I’m excited about this next year. Dentistry has many challenges. And organized dentistry has just as many. People ask me “why would you take this on?” So, I want to share a story and why I am taking the role of President.

In early 2014, a 3-year-old girl died in Hawaii at the dental office. The girl was under sedation and was scheduled for procedures on 10 teeth including root canals on four teeth and fillings in the others. Unfortunately, the dentist overmedicated the young girl and a tragedy occurred. Now, I don’t know about you, but I can’t resist scrolling down and reading the comments and I was particularly interested in these comments because it was dental related. So, I read the first one....

“Who does root canals (much less multiple root canals) on a 3-year-old child? Who allows root canals to be done on a 3-year-old child? “

In my infinite wisdom, I decided to reply to this commenter. I laid out the facts of why you would do a root canal on a child. Explained why a sedation would be done in the office to avoid hospital charges and explained why things would be done at one visit rather than spread out. I also expressed that all that dentistry could have been avoided with prevention and seeing the dentist early. Of course, I expressed that this did not excuse what happened, but I wanted the facts to be out there for why the child would need those procedures done.

Wow, did I open the flood gates! I would advise not to do this online! I had commenter after commenter attacking me. Several visited my office website and then proceeded to judge me in the comment section. Other dentists and commenters backed me up and supported what I had said. But most of the commenters continued the “who does a root canal” and “dentists are just there to make money off the child”. “thank God you’re not my child’s dentist. They are primary teeth. They are all

going to fall out eventually”. And finally,” Dr. Depp, thanks for commenting. I will remember your name and no child or grandchild of mine will ever grace your office. You dentists need to get over yourselves.” Over 150 comments, most of them negative.

This shook me up and I realized that dentistry as a profession has reached a cross roads. When did we stop being a profession that garnered respect? When did it become a shame to be a dentist? Why do we have to feel so guilty for charging for work we have done on a patient? And more importantly, what do we say to the young dentists that are just starting in this profession?

I have come to realize that many dentists feel this way. But many seem to stick their head in the sand and ignore the challenges that are coming our way. I just couldn’t stick my head in the sand any longer. It is difficult to face the students in school, accumulating 200 plus thousand dollars in debt and look away. If we all ignore these challenges what is left of our noble profession?

This is the time to fight harder. This is the time to fight united. We are at the crossroads in dentistry. In the next 10 years, so many issues could test us.

The challenge of mid-level providers

The daily challenges of insurance and decreased reimbursement

The decline of solo practitioners

The possibility of social medicine and dentistry

The unrelenting cost of education

However, I believe in this profession so much, that I committed to taking the helm this year. I believe in the goodness of 99% of dentists. I believe that each person has a right to practice how they want, in a solo or group practice. I believe that it isn’t the cost of dentistry that is out of hand, but the failure of insurance to keep up with inflation. I believe that dentists are best trained to do irreversible surgical procedures and I want to believe that the students are entering one of the greatest professions.

I want to spend this year investing in the dentists of the future. I want to look at the ways our component societies meet. Are we meeting the needs of younger practitioners? Or even our seasoned dentists?

I would like to look at our bylaws. Could they be holding us back from the ability to change quickly?

I want to begin the process of taking a stronger stance with insurance companies, like the way the KDA has fought for Medicaid changes. And I want to continue the investment in our governmental affairs committee that Dr. Collins, Narramore and Brobowski have made so that when appearances in Frankfort are needed the Kentucky dentists are ready.

So, I ask for your help this year. We need volunteers. We need committee members. We need leaders! We need to come together. And I ask you to do this for the same reason I am taking on the presidency. For the pride of this great profession.

Thank you

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- House of Delegates Meeting  
**Speaker Howard** announced that the next meetings of the House of Delegates will be Saturday August 25, 2018 at 2:30 PM and Sunday, August 26, 2018 at 10:30 AM.

14. **ADJOURNMENT.** **Dr. Barry Curry** moved to adjourn. **Dr. Fred Howard** adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mike Johnson  
Secretary-Treasurer