



Washington State Board of Massage

Business Meeting Minutes January 6, 2023 | 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Massage scheduled a board business meeting held in person at Capital Event Center and via Webinar on Friday, January 6, 2023. Notice was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Board Members

Heidi Williams, LMT, chair
Autumn Christina Straker, LMT, vice chair
Annika Samuelsen, LMT
Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT (absent)
Lynna Fuller, LMT
Sherise McKinney, LMT

Staff Present

Megan Maxey, Program Manager
Harold Wright, Jr., Executive Director
Davis Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager
Joan Simmons, Administrative Assistant
Kristi Knieps, AAG

Guests

Anna Rodzinski	Julie McNiell	Michael Noonan
Barbara May, LMT	Julie Onofrio, LMT	Rachel Bouton, LMT
Beth Drake, LMT	Karen James, LMT	Richelle McMann, LMT
Bre Jordon, LMT	Laura Embleton	Robbin Blake, LMT
Claira Young, LMT	Leslie Emerick	Rosemary Stoudt, LMT
Hunter Irons	Mary Briner, LMT	Stephanie Dickey, LMT
Jackie Guilbeault	Maryann Brathwaite, LMT	Therese Livella
Jane Garbisch-Myers, LMT	Marybeth Berney, LMT	Traci Soriano, LMT

OPEN SESSION – 9:00 a.m.

1. Call To Order

The board meeting was called to order by Heidi Williams, LMT, chair, at 9:07 a.m.

1.1. Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules.

The board and staff introduced themselves. Ms. Williams read the Meeting Ground Rules.

1.2. Approval of the January 6, 2023, Agenda

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the January 6, 2023, agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

1.3. Approval of the November 30, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the November 30, 2022, special meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. Public Forum

Members of the public who indicated an interest in speaking were offered the opportunity to provide comments to the board.

No comments were received.

3. School Program Reviews

Reviewing Board Members (RBMs) presented the following school program requests for full board consideration.

There were no school reviews presented.

4. Health Equity Continuing Education Rules Workshop

4.1. Public Comment Period

Ms. Maxey shared that by January 1, 2024, the rule-making authority for each health profession subject to continuing education requirements must adopt rules requiring a licensee to complete at least two hours of health equity continuing education training every four years, and that the rule-making authority may specify a higher number of hours.

Ms. Maxey informed the board that the department is doing work to identify free training courses to meet the minimum requirement. She also informed the board that if they want to require more than the minimum and there are not enough hours identified in the free training courses, then the board will have to find or develop training courses that meet the requirement.

Members of the public shared comments with the board on this agenda item.

4.2. The board held a rules workshop to discuss implementation of ESSB 5229 that requires the board to adopt rules requiring licensees to complete a minimum of two hours of health equity continuing education every four years. They discussed two options to meet the minimum requirement.

Option 1:

- Require two hours of health equity CE per reporting period.
- Include the training as part of the 24 hours of CE.
- Not allow the health equity CE to count for the ethics/communication requirement.

Option 2:

- Require four hours of health equity CE per reporting period.
- Include the training as part of the 24 hours of CE.
- Not allow the health equity CE to count for the ethics/communication requirement.

MOTION #1: A motion was made to include as part of the 24 hours, a minimum of two hours in health equity continuing education training per reporting period.

Voting outcome:

- Heidi Williams – In favor
- Autumn Christina Straker – Oppose
- Annika Samuelsen – In favor
- Lynna Fuller – In favor
- Sherise McKinney – Oppose

MOTION #2: After significant discussion, a motion was made to void the first motion. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MOTION #3: A motion was made to postpone this to the March meeting when all six board members are present. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

5. Jurisprudence Exam Review

The board reviewed statistics of disciplinary case violations, current Jurisprudence Exam, and the suggestions received from AMTA-WA to determine questions for the jurisprudence (JP) exam.

Ms. Maxey shared a breakdown of found disciplinary violations for the past couple of years for massage therapy as well as the suggestions for JP exam questions that was submitted by AMTA-WA. She mentioned that the JP exam is a requirement for initial licensure and gives the applicant an opportunity to learn where to find relevant laws affecting massage therapists.

The board discussed updates to the examination and voted to table further discussion to a future meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made to table this item to continue working on the questions for the next meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

6. Multicultural Health Awareness Education

The board discussed if the minimum education and training requirements for massage therapy should include anatomy, pathology, and physiology pertaining people of color; awareness surrounding racial discrimination; ethics and inclusion for LGBTQ+; and mental health issues.

Ms. Maxey shared this item was requested by board member, Ms. Mckinney, at the November meeting. The purpose of this item is to open discussion on specific topics for minimum education and training.

After much discussion, the board decided to open up the education and training rule to further discuss what could be included in initial education and training.

MOTION: A motion was made to open WAC 246-830-430 to discuss the possibility of including multicultural awareness in initial education and training. The motion was seconded and passed.

7. 2023 Meeting Dates

The board discussed rescheduling their May 19, 2023, and November 3, 2023, meeting dates due to meeting conflicts.

MOTION: A motion was made to amend the May and November meeting dates to May 5, 2023, and November 9, 2023. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8. Program Report

8.1. Budget

Ms. Maxey shared the budget status as of November 2022 and reported the budget continues to move in an upward trend despite the decline in therapists. Disciplinary costs continue to remain the highest for the profession.

There were no comments or questions.

8.2. Rules Update

Ms. Maxey provided an update on current rules projects as follows:

- The health equity CE had its first rules at this meeting.
- The CR-101 for the license by endorsement is in division review and on track to have a workshop in March.
- The CR-103 for the technical clean-ups is in division review. It will become effective 31 days after being filed with the code reviser's office.

8.3. Credential Counts

Ms. Maxey shared credential statistics as of December 27, 2022, noting that the number of active licensees has declined from 11,984 in October 2022 to 11,924 in December 2022. She also shared massage therapy program completion data from the Workforce Training Board.

8.4. Future Agenda Items

- Rules workshop for licenses by endorsement
- Rules workshop for health equity
- JP Exam

9. Adjournment

MOTION: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:37 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Submitted:

Approved:

Megan Maxey, Program Manager

Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair