



## Washington State Board of Massage

Business Meeting Minutes  
March 10, 2023 | 9:00 a.m.

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The Board of Massage scheduled a board business meeting held in person at Capital Event Center and via Webinar on Friday, March 10, 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  
Lynna Fuller, LMT  
Sherise Gueck-McKinney, LMT

### Staff Present

Megan Maxey, Program Manager  
Harold Wright, Jr., Executive Director  
Davis Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager  
Joan Simmons, Administrative Assistant  
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General  
Heidi Hughes, Policy Analyst  
Stephanie Vaughn, Rules Manager

### Guests

Amy Twigg, LMT	Kanako Rosso	Shani Hue
Ann Mateo, LMT	Karen James, LMT	Shannon Allen, LMT
Anne Nutwell	Karyl Taylor, LMT	Stephanie Dickey, LMT
Bre Jordon, LMT	Leslie Emerick	Stephanie Rodriguez
Diana Kincaid, LMT	Lise Waugh, LMT	Summer Meyer, LMT
Diana Thompson, LMT	Maryann Brathwaite, LMT	Therese Livella
Jackie Guilbeault	Marybeth Berney, LMT	Tracy LeMoine, LMT
Julie Onofrio, LMT	Robbin Blake, LMT	Yuki Strube, LMT

### OPEN SESSION – 9:00 a.m.

#### 1. Call To Order

The board meeting was called to order by Heidi Williams, LMT, chair, at 9:05 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 Agenda.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the March 10, 2023, agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

1.3. Approval of the January 6, 2023, Business Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the January 6, 2023, business 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. Robert's Rules of Order Presentation – Kristie Knieps, AAG**

Ms. Knieps shared a presentation to the board regarding Robert's Rules of Order and board best practices.

## **5. Health Equity Continuing Education (CE) Rules Workshop**

### **5.1. Public Comment Period**

Ms. Maxey shared that by January 1, 2024, the rule-making authority for each health profession subject to CE requirements must adopt rules requiring a licensee to complete at least two hours of health equity CE training once every four years unless the rule-making authority specifies 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 shared that if the board wants 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, so licensees do not have to bear the expense.

Ms. Maxey opened the floor for public comment.

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

5.2. The board held a rules workshop to discuss implementation of ESSB 5229 that requires the board to adopt rules requiring licensees to complete health equity continuing education.

Ms. Maxey provided a brief summary that at the January board meeting, the board discussed requiring two hours per reporting period versus four hours per reporting period and decided to wait until all board members were present to make a final decision.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to add the health equity continuing education at 4 hours every reporting period. This motion was seconded and passed.

Yeas: 4, Nays: 2, Abstain: 0

**Voting Yea:** Sherise Gueck-McKinney, Chimere Figaire-Correa, Autumn Straker, Heidi Williams.

**Voting Nay:** Lynna Fuller and Annika Samuelsen

## 6. Licensure by Endorsement Presentation

Ms. Maxey gave a presentation on licensure by endorsement. She will send the presentation to board members via email as requested.

## 7. Education and Training Rules Discussion

The board discussed adding limitations to online and virtual education as part of opening up the education and training rule.

Ms. Maxey shared at the January meeting, the board made a motion to open WAC 246-830-430 to discuss inclusion of multicultural awareness in initial education and training. She requested the board to consider amending the motion to also include parameters around online and virtual education and training for initial licensure adding that the hybrid world has become a reality due to COVID and currently there are no guidelines or consistency for schools or for board members about what a school may allow to occur virtually versus what must be in person.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to amend the CR101 for education to include virtual and online education and training and health equity. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

## 8. Rules Petition

8.1. Public Comment – Members of the public were given the opportunity to address the board on this agenda item.

Ms. Maxey mentioned an email was provided in the meeting packet petitioning the board to remove some or all of CE for practitioners who have been in practice for twenty-five or more years. She opened the floor for public comment prior to the board making a decision.

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

8.2. The board reviewed a rules petition requesting the board to consider exempting all or portions of CE for massage therapists who have been practicing full-time for at least 25 years.

Ms. Maxey referenced the SBAR report in the meeting packet which outlined the petition with a background assessment for the board to consider while discussing the rules petition.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to deny the petition. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

## 9. Program Report

### 9.1. Budget

Ms. Maxey shared the budget status as of January 2023 and reported the budget continues to move in an upward. Disciplinary costs continue to remain the highest for the profession.

### 9.2. Rules Update

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

- Health Equity CE rules package – was discussed today and will move forward to the next step.
- Licensure by endorsement rules package – a workshop will take place at the next meeting.
- Education and training rules package - is in progress of being opened and a workshop will take place at the next meeting if time allows.

### 9.3. Legislative Update

Ms. Maxey shared HB 1437 concerning the interstate massage compact died in the house on January 31, 2023.

### 9.4. Credential Counts

Ms. Maxey shared credential statistics as of February 28, 2023, noting that the number of active licensees has declined from 11,924 in December 2022 to 11,887 in February 2023.

### 9.5. Future Agenda Items

- JP Exam
- Rules workshop for licenses by endorsement
- Rules workshop for education and training
- Add CE requirements in newsletter and/or board's website
- Accommodations for disabilities and ESL for the MBLEX exam
- Presentation on the MBLEX from FSBMT
- Military Presentation

## 10. Adjournment

**MOTION:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1:12 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed.

Submitted:

Approved:

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Megan Maxey, Program Manager

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Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair