



Washington State Board of Massage
Business Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2023 | 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Massage scheduled a board business meeting held in-person at Department of Health, 111 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501 and via Zoom on November 9, 2023. Notice was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Board Members

Heidi Williams, LMT, chair
Annika Samuelsen, LMT, vice chair
Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT
Lynna Fuller, LMT
Sherise Gueck, LMT, massage educator
Whitney Smith, LMT

Staff Present

James Chaney, Executive Director
Megan Maxey, Program Manager
Davis Hylkema
Alyssa Brazil, Administrative Assistant
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General
Zehra Siddiqui, Policy Analyst
Lydia Koroma, Supervising Staff Attorney
Idabelle Fosse, Equality and Social Justice Strategist

Guests

Ashley Hernandez
Alex Koryachek, LMT
Betty King, LMT
Claudia Juhrs, LMT
Darin Stumme, LMT
Hayley Aldrich, LMT
Ivy Bjornson, LMT
Jackie Guilbeault

Julie Onofrio, LMT
Karen James, LMT
Laurel Mitzel, LMT
Leslie Emerick
Louise Markham
Marybeth Berney, LMT
Patty Glenn, LMT
Rachel Phipps

Robbin Blake, LMT
Rebecca Dragseth, LMT
Rebecca West, LMT
Sean Miller, LMT
Shari Aldrich, LMT
Shannon Allen, LMT
Therese Livella, LMT
Travis Thieszen, LMT

OPEN SESSION

1. Call To Order – Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair

The board meeting was called to order by Heidi Williams, LMT, chair, at 9:02 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 November 9, 2023, agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

1.3. Approval of the September 22, 2023, Business Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the September 22, 2023, business meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

2. Public Forum

Members of the public who indicated an interest in speaking provided comments to the board.

3. School Program Reviews – Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair

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

- Therapeutic Connections School of Massage
The RBMs recommended to approve Therapeutic Connection School of Massage.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve Therapeutic Connections School of Massage. The motion to seconded and unanimously passed.

- Bodymechanics School of Myotherapy and Massage
The RBMs recommended to approve Bodymechanics School of Myotherapy and Massage.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the Bodymechanics School of Myotherapy and Massage. The motion to seconded and unanimously passed.

4. Health Equity CE Presentation - Idabelle Fosse, DOH Equity and Social Justice Strategist

Ms. Fosse gave a presentation on the work that was done to establish the model rules for health equity continuing education.

5. Health Equity in the Classroom - Shari Aldrich, LMT

Ms. Aldrich gave a presentation on incorporating health equity in a massage program.

Ms. Aldrich shared her attempt at introducing health equity in the classroom along with the challenges that the business, teachers, and students encountered.

6. Education and Training Committee Report and Rules Workshop – Sherise Gueck, LMT, Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, and Megan Maxey

6.1. Committee Report

Committee members gave a report on the committee meeting.

6.2. Public Comment

Members of the public were given the opportunity to address the board on this agenda item.

6.3. The board held a rules workshop on WAC 246-830-430, Education and training.

During the report out on health equity, the committee members recommended to postpone the workshop on this topic until they have had a chance to hold another committee meeting. They requested Shari Aldrich to be a part of that committee meeting.

During the report out on hybrid education, the committee members noted that their recommendations to the board changed subsequent to the committee meeting based on comments received from the public. The recommendations include allowing 100% of anatomy and physiology to be virtual and 100% of pathology to be virtual.

Program staff will work with committee members to create another survey for the schools regarding synchronous vs asynchronous learning in hybrid programs. Program staff will set up two more committee meetings.

MOTION: A motion was made to hold another rules workshop once the committee members have had a chance to meet again. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION (Agenda item 13)

The board went into closed session to attend to disciplinary matters.

OPEN SESSION

7. License by Endorsement Rules Workshop – Heidi Williams, LMT

7.1. Public Comment

Members of the public were given the opportunity to address the board on this agenda item.

7.2. The board held a rules workshop on WAC 246-830-035, Licensing by endorsement for out-of-state applicants.

The board decided to keep the two years of work experience as required by subsection (1)(a)(ii) unless another option is agreed upon to make up for the 125-hour difference.

The board requested to have Ms. Knieps review WSMTA's proposed language to determine if it violates the board's authority in RCWs 18.108.025 and 18.108.095.

Program staff will schedule another committee meeting for committee members to hear Ms. Knieps review and work on providing clarity to the language.

MOTION: A motion was made for program staff to schedule a committee meeting and have another rules workshop at the January board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8. Conference Reports – Megan Maxey

8.1. Ms. Maxey shared information from the FSMTB's annual conference held on September 28 and 29, 2023 in San Diego, CA. Highlights included:

- There was one proposed Resolution that was submitted by Washington state titled Successful Completion of an Approved Massage Therapy Education Program as a Prerequisite for Eligibility to Take the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination. It passed with a vote of 37 yes, 3 no, and 1 abstention.
- There were four proposed bylaw amendments, all submitted by the California Massage Therapy Council. The first three proposed amendments were not passed, and the fourth proposed amendment was withdrawn.
- There were two open positions for election. The following members were elected by the membership to serve a three-year term on the board of directors:
 - Liz Barnard, Chair of the Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy
 - Karen Frazier, Vice Chair of the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Massage Therapy

8.2. Ms. Maxey shared information from the Council of State Government's Interstate Massage Compact Legislative Summit held on October 24, 2023, in Washington, DC. Highlights included presentations on National Center for Interstate Compacts; Current State of Massage Therapy Licensure; Overview of the Interstate Massage Compact; and Compact Myth Busting

9. Elections – Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair

The board held elections for the 2024 board chair and vice-chair positions.

Ms. Samuelson nominated Ms. Figaire-Correa for the board chair position. Ms. Figaire-Correa accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made.

MOTION: A motion was made to elect Ms. Figaire-Correa to the position of chair. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Ms. Gueck nominated Ms. Samuelsen for the board vice-chair position. Ms. Samuelsen accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made.

MOTION: A motion was made to elect Ms. Samuelsen to the position of vice- chair. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

10. Newsletter – Megan Maxey

The board discussed topics to include in their next newsletter including:

- “Meet the Chair”
- Complaint Process
- Clarify in-person continuing education vs asynchronous.
- Clarify the jurisdiction of the board.
- Clarify endorsements.
- Continued Education article.
- Identify roles of the board, the associations, and the legislative body.

11. Program Report

11.1. Budget

Ms. Maxey reported that the beginning fund balances for the biennium were finalized on November 8th.

The massage budget's beginning fund balance July 1, 2023, was -\$162,164; revenue-to-date is \$526,513, and expenses-to-date are \$264,647.

11.2. Credential Counts

Credential Status	10/27/23	09/12/23	07/05/23	04/21/23	02/28/23	12/27/22
Active	11,703	11,722	11,710	11,826	11,887	11,924
Active	9,363	9,343	9,365	9,109	9,325	9,379
Active in Renewal	2,315	2,358	2,324	2,697	2,594	2,524
Active w/ Conditions or Active on Probation	21	21	21	20	20	21
Expired	26,589	26,467	26,302	26,133	25,976	25,773

Expired in Renewal	1,151	1,177	1,224	1,202	1,235	1,308
Inactive	330	326	307	307	307	307
Revoked	90	90	90	90	90	90
Summary Suspension	4	4	3	4	5	4
Surrender / Voluntary Surrender	46	45	45	43	42	42
Suspended	169	167	166	166	166	164

11.3. Future Agenda Items

- Presentation by the Workforce Training Board
- Presentation by FSMTB on the massage interstate compact
- Continue rules workshops for License by Endorsement and Education and Training
- Begin a high-level overview of the school review process
- Disciplinary counts
- Draft newsletter

12. Adjournment of Public Meeting – Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair

MOTION: A motion was made by Ms. Williams to adjourn the meeting at 2:48. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Submitted:

Approved:

Megan Maxey

Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, chair