



Washington State Board of Massage
Business Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2024 | 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 March 15, 2024. Notice was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Board Members

Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair
Heidi Williams, LMT
Lynna Fuller, LMT
Sherise Gueck, LMT
Whitney Smith, LMT

Staff Present

James Chaney, Executive Director
Devin Brooks, Program Manager
Jonathan Chamrad, Program Support
Alyssa Brazil, Administrative Assistant
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General
Stephanie Vaughn, Policy Analyst
Catharine Roner-Rieter, Staff Attorney

Guests

Amy Twigg	Julie Onofrio	Rebecca West
Annika Samuelson	Karen James	Robbin Blake
Ashley Hernandez	Kathryn	Richelle Blake
Betty	Kristine	Sean Miller
Cheree Brodrick	Kystal Shope	Shani Hue
Christina M	Laura Pettitt	Summer Meyer
Darlene Bartlett	Leslie Emerick	Suzanne Ropiequest
Deedra	Louise Markham	Therese Livella
Denise	Mai Lin Petriner	Tiffany Steele
Devin Gombosky	Nancy	Ying
Donald May	Nicki	
Huifen	Patty Glenn	

OPEN SESSION – 9:08 a.m.

1. Call To Order – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

The board meeting was called to order by Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, chair, at 9:08 a.m.

1.1. Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules.

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

1.2. Approval of the Agenda.

The board reviewed the proposed agenda.

MOTION: A motion was made to remove item number 7 and have Brandon Williams available for questions as it pertains to and supports item number 8. The motion was seconded and passed.

1.3. Approval of the January 19, 2024, Business Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the January 19, 2024, 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.

Comment shared included:

- Marybeth Berney with WSMTA brought to the attention of the board about storying historical knowledge for new board members and program staff.
- Robbin Blake with WSMTA brought to the attention of the board there wasn't a comment section following item #4, in which they would like to provide feedback to the board.

3. School Program Reviews – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

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

- Twins Rivers Therapeutic Massage Academy
The RBMs recommended to send a letter of deficiency to Twin Rivers Therapeutic Massage Academy.

MOTION: A motion was made to send a letter of deficiency to Twin Rivers Therapeutic Massage Academy. The motion to seconded and unanimously passed.

4. Somatic Education Training Program Review – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

Board members will review and discuss the application and documentation received from Heart Waves Healing Institute who is requesting to be recognized as an approved somatic education program.

MOTION: A motion was made to deny the Somatic Education Training Program. The motion to seconded and unanimously passed.

5. Overview of school review process: Sherise Gueck, LMT, Massage Educator, & Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

5.1. Ms. Sherise reviewed the school checklist and board members discussed key items.

5.2. Program staff to discuss application intake.

6. Title IV funding – Darlene Barlett, Workforce Training

Ms. Bartlett gave a report on how many schools are affected by Title IV.

6.1. Public Comment

Members of the public were given the opportunity to address the board on this agenda item. There are 15 minutes allotted for public comment.

- There was no public comment given at this time.

MOTION: A motion was made to hold a Special Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

7. Second Substitute House Bill 1724, Section 8 – Brandon Williams, Project Manager

Mr. Williams will give a brief overview of options regarding substantial equivalency.

MOTION: A motion was made to keep the Jardiance Prudence (JP) exam as a requirement. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

- **ADDITIONAL STATEMENT FOR CLARITY:** With the decision to keep the JP exam as a requirement, 1724 section 8 is not applicable for the massage program because no state is equivalent per the specific law. No changes from the current procedures have been made.

8. License by Endorsement Rules Workshop – Heidi Williams, LMT, & Sherise Gueck, LMT

8.1. Committee report

Committee members gave a report to the board on the committee meeting.

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

8.3. Committee members scheduled the next meeting to work on finalizing proposed language for licensure by endorsement.

8.4. Public Comment

Members of the public were given another opportunity to address the board on this agenda item. There were 15 minutes allotted for public comment.

- No public comment was given at this time.

9. Draft Newsletter – Lynna Fuller, LMT, Vice-Chair, & Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

- Ms. Fuller presented content and formatting ideas for the Spring Newsletter.

10. FSMTB Annual Meeting – Devin Brooks, Program Manager

Board members discussed selecting delegates to attend the FSMTB 2024 Annual Meeting, held October 3-5, 2024, in Washington D.C.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve two board members and two Department of Health staff members to attend. The motion was seconded and passed.

11. Robert’s Rules of Order & Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA) Presentation – Kristi Knieps, AAG

- Ms. Knieps shared a presentation with the board regarding Robert’s Rules of Order and board best practices.

12. Spokane Board Meeting & Retreat – Devin Brooks, Program Manager

Ms. Brooks gave details to the board regarding their retreat coming up in July 18-19, 2024.

MOTION: A motion was made to confirm a two day retreat . The motion was seconded and passed.

13. Program Report- Devin Brooks, Program Manager

- 13.1.** Budget.
- 13.2.** Legislative Update.
- 13.3.** Credential Counts.
- 13.4.** Disciplinary Counts.

Cases status	Definition	Number of cases
Adjudication	The legal process used to resolve enforcement matters. It begins with a statement of charges and includes efforts to settle a case before holding a formal hearing.	6

Case Disposition	<p>The process of evaluating evidence from an investigation and making a decision to pursue an enforcement action or to close the case.</p> <p>Of the 25 cases in case disposition status, 12 are pending service (see Pending Service cases below)</p>	25
Compliance monitoring	The process used to monitor a health care professional under a legal order. The health care professional must comply with specific conditions in order to practice. Conditions may include payment of fines, psychological evaluation and treatment, retraining, supervision, etc.	24
Investigation	A process used by trained Department of Health employees to interview people and gather facts about a complaint.	20
Pending Service	A statement of charges, statement of allegation or a notice of decision that has been authorized but no finding of unprofessional conduct has been made, no order has been issued and no sanctions have been imposed.	12
SOA served – awaiting response	<p>The Statement of Allegations (SOA) sets forth the factual allegations against the health care professional and the potential violations of the Uniform Disciplinary Act.</p> <p>The health care professional has 28 days to respond to the service.</p>	2
SOC served – awaiting response	<p>A document that is served on a health care professional notifying them of allegations of violations of the Chapter 18.130 RCW, Uniform Disciplinary Act or other laws or rules that pertain to health care professionals.</p> <p>The health care professional has 21 days to respond to the service.</p>	4

13.5. Office Reorganization Updates.

- Ms. Brooks gave an update on the Reorganization within Department of Health.

13.6. Future Agenda Items

- Special meeting update
- License by endorsement
- Education and training

14. Adjournment of Public Meeting – Chimere Figarie-Correa, LMT, Chair

MOTION: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 P.M. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Next Business Meeting

Date: May 3, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Department of Health
Town Center 2 – Room 153
111 Israel Rd. S.E.
Tumwater, WA 98501

Submitted:

Approved:

Devin Brooks, Program Manager

Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

DRAFT