



Washington State Board of Massage

Business Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.

On Friday, February 21, 2020, the Board of Massage held a board meeting at the Department of Health Town Center 2, Room 166/167, Israel Rd. S.E., Tumwater, WA 98501. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

Board Members

Heidi Williams, LMT, chair
Chelsea Giles, LMT
Anthony Sharpe, public member (absent)
Autumn Christina Straker, LMT

Staff Present

Megan Maxey, Program Manager
Renee Fullerton, Executive Director
Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General
Davis Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager
Kevin Robbins, Credentialing Supervisor
Julianne Wlazlak, Policy Analyst
Hope Kilbourne, Policy Analyst
Ty Oehrtman, C4PA

Guests

Nancy Allen, LMT	Marybeth Berney, LMT	Karen James, LMT
Robbin Blake, LMT	Stephanie Dickey, LMT	Catherine Oliver, LMT
		Diana Thompson, LMT

OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER – HEIDI WILLIAMS, LMT, CHAIR

The board meeting was called to order by Heidi Williams, LMT, chair, at 9:03 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 Agenda. The February 21, 2020 Agenda was approved as presented.
- 1.3 Approval of the September 6, 2019, Business Meeting Minutes.
MOTION: The motion was made to approve the September 6, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.
- 1.4 Approval of the November 15, 2019, Special Meeting Minutes.
MOTION: The motion was made to approve the November 15, 2019, Special Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

2. SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEWS – HEIDI WILLIAMS, LMT, CHAIR

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

- Discovery Point School of Massage

- The RBMs recommended approval. The motion was made to approve Discovery Point School of Massage. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Spectrum Center School of Massage
 - The RBMs recommended approval. A motion was made to approve Spectrum Center School of Massage. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Therapeutic Connections School of Massage
 - The RBMs recommended approval. A motion was made to approve Therapeutic Connections School of Massage. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. RULES UPDATE – MEGAN MAXEY AND RENEE FULLERTON

Ms. Maxey reported that the rules have been submitted for department review. Part of that process requires a significant analysis that documents all the proposed changes and compares the costs vs. the benefits. Ms. Fullerton noted that the review process also looks back at the initial CR-101 and revealed some of the proposed changes were outside its scope. Rules chapters that are outside the initial scope are:

- WAC 246-830-201 Examination – The proposed change is to update the names of the exams listed.
- WAC 246-830-485 Somatic education training program exception – The proposed change is to clarify language with the addition of the word “and”.
- WAC 246-830-490 Intraoral massage education and training – The proposed change is the addition of the word “caution”.
- WAC 246-830-500 Equipment and sanitation – Proposed is a significant change in language to clarify the meaning and scope of linen and the laundering of blankets.
- WAC 246-830-510 Hygiene – The proposed change adds the words “and soap.” The suggestion was made to specify soap to be unadulterated or undiluted in new rulemaking.

Ms. Maxey commented that, as part of the significant analysis, a survey was emailed to all board approved schools requesting input on the impact changes to education requirements might have. Out of 35 contacted schools six responded. Six more responses were received after a reminder email was sent. The board suggested the survey be sent by postal mail.

MOTION: The motion was made that the board endorse the draft rules proposed for WACs 246-830-005, 020, 035, 037, 420, 430, 440, 475, 550, 555, 557, 560, 565, and 570. The motion was seconded and passed.

MOTION: The motion was made that amendments to any rules not previously listed be withdrawn and included in future rulemaking. The motion was seconded and passed.

MOTION: The motion was made that the board authorize staff to file a new CR-101 for WACs 246-830-201, 485, 490, 500, and 510 once the current rules package is adopted. The motion was seconded and passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

The public offered words of appreciation for the board’s work and for the opportunity for public comment throughout the rulemaking process. The board was encouragement to continue offering remote (phone or online) board meeting attendance to the public.

5. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT (OPMA) TRAINING – LUKE EATON – AAG

Mr. Eaton provided an informative and entertaining OPMA training presentation.

6. COLLABORATION WITH THE CENTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS (C4PA) – MEGAN MAXEY, RENEE FULLERTON, AND TY OEHRTMAN

6.1 What is C4PA?

Ms. Maxey explained what the DOH C4PA service unit is and how it can help with the challenges the program is experiencing with continuing education audits and board member recruitment.

6.2 Continuing Education Outreach

Ms. Maxey explained the CE audit process noting the steps, how many staff persons are involved, and an estimate of the cost. Ms. Fullerton noted the CE audit success rate is extremely low. C4PA has been asked to help understand why. Ty Oehrtman has studied the current state of the profession's communications, reviewed CE offerings' literature, and compared the education requirements of other states, looking for best practice ideas. He also looked at DOH's massage website for content and clarity regarding continuing education. A Google search revealed inconsistencies and confusion in the public's understanding of Washington's CE requirements.

Mr. Oehrtman explained C4PA's proposal to gain demographic information and public input to help understand what barriers are preventing licensees from successfully meeting their CE requirements, and to help the board respond. To gain this information, C4PA would invite licensees to focus groups offered in three locations around the state. Insight from these meetings will be brought back to the board.

6.3 Public Member Recruitment

All health profession boards and commissions have difficulty recruiting public members. Programs are reaching out to C4PA to help. Board members and public attendees were encouraged to let people they know and are in contact with of the opportunity to serve.

7. ELECTIONS – HEIDI WILLIAMS, LMT, CHAIR

Nominations were received for election to 2020 board officer positions.

MOTION: The motion was made to elect Heidi Williams to the position of chair. The motion was seconded and passed.

MOTION: The motion was made to elect Autumn Straker to the position of vice-chair. The motion was seconded and passed.

8. 2020 MEETING DATES – MEGAN MAXEY

Due to a schedule conflict, the board has been asked to consider changing its May 15 regular meeting to a different date.

MOTION: The motion was made to change the Massage Board's May 15, 2020 regular business meeting to June 5, 2020, keeping the location in Kent, and to hold the rules hearing in conjunction with the meeting.

9. NEWSLETTER

Mr. Hylkema presented the new mobile device friendly newsletter format available through govdelivery that other boards are beginning to use. Govdelivery is able to generate reports on open

and click rates that help identify readership and what topics are being accessed. The board was in favor of using govdelivery for the next newsletter.

Ideas for article topics included:

- Successfully meet your CE requirements
- Public member recruitment
- New rules: where are we?
- Member spotlight on Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair (Meet the chair.)
- The Govt. photo I.D. requirement
- Military spouse rule
- How to access the board, and how to attend board meetings
- “We’d love to hear from you.”

10. PROGRAM REPORT – MEGAN MAXEY

10.1 Budget

Ms. Fullerton updated the board on the 2021 Biennium-to-Date, January 2020 budget report. She pointed out that a charge from the Credentialing unit, which had not billed since July 2019, had now come through. The amount is five thousand dollars under the budget allotment and not a concern. The impact of the fee increase can be seen in helping to reduce the long-standing budget deficit, which is now down to 1.3 million dollars.

10.2 HELMS Update (Healthcare Enforcement and Licensing Modernization Solution)

Ms. Fullerton reported on the projected cost of the HELMS licensure program project. HELMS will replace the current ILRS licensure program that is no longer being supported by the vendor. The anticipated sign-on date is summer of 2020 at a cost of about nineteen million dollars. Funding will be covered over an allotted amount of ten to twelve dollars per licensee per year over the course of four years. The fee will be prorated over the different licensees for those persons with multiple licenses. Rather than add a surcharge to each licensee, the allotment will be drawn from each profession’s fund balance. Depending on the health of a profession’s fund balance, the draw pay for HELMS may or may not result in a fee increase. For the Massage and Reflexology professions (which are paired) the estimate is based on 13,289 licensees resulting in a cost for fiscal year 2020 is \$43,000; \$174,000 for 2021; \$183,000 for 2022; and \$91,000.

10.3 Legislative Update

Ms. Fullerton provided updates on two bill of interest to the Massage profession:

- HB 1597 – requiring massage therapists and reflexologist to have a government issued photo ID on their person or have available for inspection by city, county, or state law enforcement or Dept. of Health personnel at all times whenever he or she practices. The name on the photo ID must match that on the credential, which must also be available upon inspection.
- SB 6626 Creating the position of military spouse liaison – Within the bill there is a waiver of Dept. of Health application fees, license fees and other fees for military spouses. It is estimated that there are 40 thousand military spouses and 30% of those are holding some credential through the Dept. of Health. Currently, the bill has moved out of the Senate and is not scheduled in the House.
- SB 2775 Colon hydrotherapy – The current version of the bill creates a sub-credential type within the Medical Assistants profession with the Board of Naturopathy to set the

provision requirements for the practice and delegation. The Secretary sets the education requirements.

It was noted that colon hydrotherapy is not within the scope of practice of massage therapy.

10.4 Credentialing Report

As of January 31, 2019, there are 13,679 active licensees and 292 pending licensure. The performance measure report shows that license processing time, from the initial application, the receipt of completed documents, to issuance, is being accomplished within 63 days.

10.5 Planning for upcoming meetings / Future meeting agenda items

It was suggested to invite the Kent Police Department to a regular board meeting in Kent to give an update report on their human trafficking efforts.

11. ADJOURNMENT – HEIDI WILLIAMS, LMT, CHAIR

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 12:22 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

Megan Maxey, Program Manager

Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair