



Washington State Department of
Health
Washington State Board of Massage

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

On Friday, August 21, 2020, the Board of Massage held a board meeting via Webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

Board Members

Heidi Williams, LMT, chair
Autumn Christina Straker, LMT, vice chair
John Cassinerio, LMT
Anthony Sharpe, public member

Staff Present

Megan Maxey, Program Manager
Renee Fullerton, Executive Director
Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General
Michelle Hartman, Administrative Assistant
Davis Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager
Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney
Julianne Wlazlak, Policy Analyst
Kevin Robbins, Credentialing Supervisor

Guests

A list of attendees is available upon request.

OPEN SESSION

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

The board meeting was called to order by Heidi Williams, LMT, chair, at 9:01 a.m.

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

1.2. Approval of the August 21, 2020 Agenda

MOTION: The motion was made to approve the August 21, 2020 business meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

1.3. Approval of the June 9, 2020, Special Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: The motion was made to approve the June 9, 2020 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

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

- Central Washington School of Massage
 - The RBMs recommended approval.

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

- Northwest Academy for the Healing Arts (Hybrid, 644 hour program, and 574 hour program)
 - The RBMs recommended approval.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve all three programs (Hybrid, 644 hour program, & 574 hour program) at the Northwest Academy for the Healing Arts. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. 2021 MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

Ms. Maxey presented potential meeting dates for 2021.

MOTION: A motion was made to accept the following meeting dates and locations for 2021, and depending on travel restrictions, meetings may continue to be held via webinar. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- January 22 – Tumwater
- March 12 – Kent
- May 07 – Spokane
- July 09 – Tumwater
- September 10 – Kent
- November 05 – Kent

4. FEDERATION OF STATE MASSAGE THERAPY BOARD'S (FSMTB) VOTING DELEGATE

The board voted for the delegate for the FSMTB's 2020 delegate assembly.

MOTION: The motion was made for Ms. Williams to be Washington's delegate for the FSMTB's 2020 delegate assembly. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

5. DISCIPLINARY REPORTS

Ms. Fullerton sought input from the board regarding which type of reports would be beneficial for the board to see. Mr. Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney, shared several reports that are available to the board. Ms. Fullerton offered to pull data on unlicensed practice issues, numbers and outcomes, giving a deeper explanation on various impacts. The data will be presented at the November 13, 2020 board meeting.

6. PROGRAM REPORT – MEGAN MAXEY AND RENEE FULLERTON

6.1. Budget.

Ms. Fullerton updated the board fiscal report as of June 30, 2020. Overall, expenses are under the allotment. Fiscal picture is improving. The negative balance is decreasing due to fee increase put in place October of last year. Reminders are being sent to those whose licenses are about to expire, or are expired, but took advantage of the extension.

6.2. Continuing Education Policy Update.

There was nothing new to report on the continuing education policy. Ms. Maxey reminded the board that they will be reviewing it at the November 13, 2020 board meeting to determine if an extension of the policy is necessary. She also shared how grateful the LMT's have been that the board adopted this policy.

6.3. HELMS Update.

Ms. Fullerton gave an update on HELMS, the new software that will replace the current licensure program, ILRS. Contract negotiations with the successful bidder are in process.

Work is planned to begin in the fall of 2020 and be completed in 2023. The cost of the project is allocated across the professions by the number of licensees and is currently estimated to be twelve to thirteen dollars per licensee per year, over the course of four years. Rather than add a surcharge to each licensee, the allotment will be drawn from each profession's fund balance.

6.4. License Renewal Extension Update.

Ms. Maxey shared that the Secretary of Health extended health profession license expiration dates for licenses up for renewal between April 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020. This extension has allowed health professionals to focus on patient care and promote continued patient safety during the COVID-19 outbreak. Because renewal payment won't be required until September 30, 2020, it will also reduce the economic burden on those providers not able to work during this emergency.

6.5. Board Member Recruitment Update.

Ms. Maxey reported that she has received 11 applications from the Governor's office, one being for the public member position. Review of the applications will take place soon and interviews to follow for qualified candidates.

6.6. Credentialing Report.

MOTION: A motion was made to move the Credentialing Report to the November 13, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7. RULES HEARING – HEIDI WILLIAMS, LMT, CHAIR

The board held a public rules hearing to take testimony related to the proposed amendments of chapter 246-830 WAC – Massage practitioners.

8. BREAK

The board took a recess for program staff to organize comments received during the rules hearing.

9. DELIBERATION AND ACTION ON RULES

The board went into deliberation and discussed all comments from the public that were submitted in writing, on the rules comments webpage, and the verbal testimony during the rules hearing.

MOTION: A motion was made that the board adopt the proposed rule language with the changes made during deliberation. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MOTION: A motion was made to set the effective date of rules for September 1, 2021. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT – HEIDI WILLIAMS, LMT, CHAIR

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:48 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

Megan Maxey, Program Manager

Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair