



Washington State Board of Massage

Business Meeting Minutes May 7, 2021 | 9:00 a.m.

On Friday, May 7, 2021, 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
Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT

Staff Present

Megan Maxey, Program Manager
Renee Fullerton, Executive Director
Lilia Lopez, Assistant Attorney General
Bill Kellington, Staff Supervising Attorney
Michelle Hartman, Administrative Assistant
Davis Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager
Julianne Kolln, Policy Analyst

GUEST SPEAKER:

Lorena Haynes, Director of Government Relations for the FSMTB

Guests

Mark Allen, LMT	Julie Dubravetz	Annika Samuelsen
Marybeth Berney, LMT	Christine Hooper	Zefire Skoczen
Robbin Blake, LMT	Karen James, LMT	Yuki Strube
Maryann Brathwaite	Gail McGaffick, JD	Diana Thompson, LMT
Stephanie Dickey, LMT	David Phillips	

OPEN SESSION – 9:00 a.m.

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

The board meeting was called to order by Heidi Williams, LMT, chair, at 9:00 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 May 7, 2021 Agenda

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the May 7, 2021, business meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

1.3. Approval of the March 12, 2021, Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the March 12, 2021 meeting 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:

- Carrington College
 - The RBMs recommended sending a deficiency letter.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve staff sending a deficiency letter to Carrington College’s massage program to meet the education and training standards that go into effect on September 1, 2021. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

After subsequent discussion, the RBMs withdrew their original recommendation and recommended approval.

MOTION: A second motion was made to approve the Carrington College’s massage program as meeting the education and training standards that go into effect on September 1, 2021. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Renton Technical College
 - The RBMs recommended sending a deficiency letter.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve staff sending a deficiency letter to Renton Technical College’s massage program to meet the education and training standards that go into effect on September 1, 2021. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Soma Institute – transfer program
 - The RBMs recommended approval.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the Soma Institute’s massage program as meeting the education and training standards that go into effect on September 1, 2021. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public shared the following comments/suggestions with the board:

- Gail McGaffick – Shared her appreciation to the board for including the CE Policy on the agenda and suggested the board consider extending the policy for a full year, due to current state of the pandemic. She explained to the board how the Governor has lifted the CE requirement for some health professions, however, Massage is not one of those. She then thanked the board for hosting a special meeting on Health Equity and asked if the slide show presented can be shared with others.
- Stephanie Dickey - Thanked the board members for all they do. She appreciated the FSTMB presentation being on the agenda and would like to request the opportunity to have a public comment after the presentation. Appreciates all the work done on Health Equity.

- Maryann Brathwaite - Shared an update on federal legislative actions that may impact the schools. Announced that Northwest Career Colleges Federation will be having their 52nd annual conference, May 13-14, and extended the invite to all.
- Zefire Skoczen - Shared her concerns about the school review process and standards on what is to be submitted and how.
- Robbin Blake - Extended thanks to the board for reviewing the CE requirements and suggested the extension reviews be done on a 6-month increment.
- Diana Thompson - Extended concerns about the CE requirements and the need to be considerate of all fields in the Massage profession and for the board to consider all the challenges in acquiring the COVID-19 vaccination.

4. CULTURAL COMPETENCY AND HEALTH EQUITY COMMITTEE REPORT

The sub-committee members, Ms. Straker and Ms. Figaire-Correa provided an overview on the health equity presentation they attended on April 27, 2021. Mr. Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney, discussed the disciplinary actions on complaints received regarding health equity. The sub-committee members asked about specifics of the data on discipline which Mr. Kellington will inquire about obtaining through the Human Rights Commission.

Ms. Fullerton and Ms. Maxey will be looking into what other agencies are doing and what the Workforce board has in place around requirements for discrimination. Ms. Fullerton explained that the department is looking at going through the rule making process to make Health Equity CE rules but advised the board that it would not be able to take place until after September 1, 2021. Ms. Straker asked to be included in any meetings the department may have and for staff to follow-up with the Human Rights Commission as well as the Workforce Board. Maybe looking at ways to have discussion on teacher evaluation and how to implements schools offering them on health equity. Also expressed interest in developing training materials to distribute to the schools.

The board opened it up for public comment. There were no comments.

5. HANDS ON CE POLICY

Board members reviewed Policy Statement BOM 20-01.1, Continuing Education Requirements During the COVID-19 Response, to determine if they want to extend or amend the policy's expiration date. Ms. Maxey advised the board of how other boards have decided to extend their policy to December 31, 2021, or until the declared state of emergency is rescinded, whichever is later.

MOTION: A motion was made to extend the CE Policy statement until December 31, 2021, or until the declared state of emergency is rescinded, whichever is later. They will review the policy at the November board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

6. SIGNATURE DELEGATION

Ms. Maxey reviewed the Delegation of Signature Authority for the 2021-2023 biennium with the board and explained how the delegation does not replace the board's decision making, but rather it delegates the Executive Director of the Department of Health to sign documents that the board has jurisdiction over.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the Delegation of Signature Authority for the 2021-2023 biennium. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7. SPECIAL MEETING DATES

The Board discussed the need to add two special meetings, one in June and another in August, for the purpose of school reviews.

MOTION: A motion was made to schedule a special meeting for school reviews on June 3, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MOTION: A motion was made to schedule a special meeting for school reviews on August 12, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8. FEDERATION OF STATE MASSAGE THERAPY BOARDS' (FSMTB) PRESENTATION – LORENA HAYNES

Ms. Haynes, Director of Government Relations for the FSMTB gave a presentation on the FSMTB's work with member boards and services offered by the FSMTB.

The board opened it to the public for questions and comments.

9. FSMTB ANNUAL MEETING – MEGAN MAXEY

Board members voted on a delegate and alternate delegate to attend the FSMTB 2021 Annual Meeting scheduled to be held October 7-9, 2021. Ms. Fullerton reminded the board of the state travel restrictions. If not lifted by this date, and the meeting is held virtually, there may be a way to send both the delegate and alternative delegate.

MOTION: A motion was made to appoint Ms. Figaire-Correa as a delegate and Mr. Cassinerio as the alternative delegate to attend the FSMTB 2021 Annual Meeting, October 7-9, 2021. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

10. PROGRAM REPORT – RENEE FULLERTON AND MEGAN MAXEY

10.1 Budget

Ms. Fullerton presented the board with the budget status report from July 1, 2019 – March 31, 2021. Non-travel cost and previous fee increase has helped the budget move out of the negative. The overall trend remains the same with movement being in a positive direction. Disciplinary expenditures remain the largest cost.

10.2 Credentialing Report

Ms. Maxey reviewed the credential status from January 2021 to April 30, 2021. She provided the board with a comparison breakdown of each status. Currently there are 12,456 in active status.

10.3 Disciplinary Report

Mr. Kellington, Staff Supervising Attorney, presented the board with information on discipline trends regarding complaints received and the legal actions authorized. He

explained that unlicensed practice is where they spend most of their time for disciplinary complaints. Overall, complaints have gone down, and most recent complaints received were for CE requirements, mostly Covid related. The board reviewed the information and asked questions about increases amongst all professions over 2019 to present. The board also inquired about receiving a sample of 2018 outstanding complaints. Mr. Kellington will investigate options of gathering the information for the board.

10.4 Rules Update

Ms. Maxey provided a rules update to the board. On April 13, 2021, a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) was filed with the Office of the Code Reviser, notifying the public of its intent to consider revisions to sections of the massage therapist rules, chapter 246-830 WAC. The CR-101 document was filed under WSR #21-09-038. The goal is to do one rules workshop at the July 9, 2021 board meeting.

10.5 Legislative Update

Ms. Maxey provided a legislative update to the board advising that by January 1, 2023, the Department of Health (DOH), in consultation with the boards and commissions, shall adopt model rules establishing the minimum standards for continuing education programs meeting the requirements of this section. And by January 1, 2024, health care professions that are subject to continuing education requirements must adopt rules requiring licensees to complete health equity continuing education training at least once every four years. It was delivered to the Governor on April 26th and will be effective 90 days after session was adjourned.

Ms. Fullerton advised the board that a package was put forth last year to look at increasing the board size from five members to seven. It also included changes to the public membership requirement which may help with recruitment. As of now, it is still in consideration. If approved, it could reclass the boards pay as well.

10.6 Update on Training for Board Approved Schools Applying to Meet the New Education and Training Rule

Ms. Maxey, Program Manager, and Mr. Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager shared with the board about they have put together a guidance document and will be offering a webinar to present to the schools who are applying for the updated hours. This will provide guidance of how to put binders together as well as the process of submitting them. The anticipated timeline to present both will be within two weeks and they plan to provide a recording of the webinar for those unable to attend.

10.7 Future Agenda Items

The board discussed adding the following items to the next board meeting's agenda.

- Rules workshop
- Discussion on Newsletter topics.
- Ms. Fullerton and Ms. Maxey will report back on what they found out from the Human Rights Commission office regarding Multicultural Health.

- Mr. Kellington will research getting disciplinary data from the Human Rights Commission.
- School program reviews; Discussion on standards and policies of what to submit.

11. ADJOURNMENT – HEIDI WILLIAMS, LMT, CHAIR

A motion was made at 1:02 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

Megan Maxey, Program Manager

Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair