

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING
MASSAGE THERAPY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting of the of the Massage Therapy Advisory Board convened at 2:00 p.m. in Training Room 2, Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia..

PRESIDING: Jermaine Mincey, Citizen Member, Chair

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Hogue, L.M.T.
Erin Claire Osborn Osiol, M.S.W., L.M.T.
María Mercedes Olivieri, L.M.T.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shawnté Peterson, L.M.T., Vice Chair – **joined at 2:10 P.M.**

STAFF

PARTICIPATING: Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director **left at 3:50 pm**
Christina Bargdill, B.S.N., R.N., M.H.S., Deputy Executive Director
Cathy Hanchey, Senior Licensing/Discipline Specialist

OTHERS

PARTICIPATING: Kim Small, Visual Research – **joined at 2:30 p.m.**

PUBLIC

PARTICIPATING: Becky Bowers-Lanier, American Massage Therapy Association-VA Chapter

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A
QUORUM:**

Mr. Mincey welcomed attendees and asked Ms. Hanchey to take a roll call of Massage Therapy Advisory Board Members present. With five (5) members present, a quorum was established.

Staff and public attendees were identified.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Mincey welcomed Christina Bargdill to her position as Deputy Executive Director for the Medication Aide, Nurse Aide and Massage Therapy program position.

OLD BUSINESS: An overview was done of the minutes from the last Massage Therapy Advisory Board meeting held on November 2, 2020. Ms. Hogue moved that the minutes from the November 2, 2020, meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Olivieri and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Mincey opened the meeting for public comment. No one appeared for public comment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Bargdill reviewed the Formal Hearing schedule for January – December 2022, and covered dates for January 2022 Formal Hearings, and Informal Conferences for December 2021, as well as January – June 2022. Ms. Bargdill advised an email would be forthcoming for an additional Formal Hearing date.

Ms. Douglas initiated discussion concerning the emergence of online programs during COVID-19. Concerns during the discussion were standards for online programs including: adequate training for faculty; content area and amount of time spent in online learning vs. in-person learning; mode of delivery (live virtual); and, apprenticeship as a pathway to licensure.

Mr. Mincey announced that according to the By-laws, elections for both Chair and Vice-Chair must be held. Mr. Mincey is currently serving as Chair, and Ms. Peterson is serving as Vice-Chair.

Mr. Mincey moved to nominate Ms. Peterson as Chair, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Hogue. With no other nominees for Chair, Ms. Peterson was elected Chair by acclamation.

Mr. Mincey moved to nominate Ms. Hogue for Vice-Chair, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Osiol. With no other nominees for Vice-Chair, Ms. Hogue was elected Vice-Chair by acclamation.

Kim Small, Visual Research, presented information regarding the Sanction Reference Point (SRP) worksheet development specifically for Licensed Massage Therapists (LMTs) for use under Guidance Document 90-7. After discussion, it was the Advisory Board's recommendation that the Board of Nursing add a Case Type for "Standard of Care." The Advisory Board recommended that the category of Stand of Care should be ranked above that of Unlicensed Activity and that the scoring of points should be determined by Visual Research staff in consideration of the existing offense scores. Additionally, the Advisory Board recommended that a category for "Patient Physical Injury" for 10 points be included under Offense and Respondent Score. These recommendations should be incorporated into the SRP worksheet for LMTs and presented to the full Board of Nursing for approval.

Comments related to current trends and issues in the massage therapy education and practice environments included discussions surrounding online education delivery, human trafficking and education, COVID-19 vaccination status of educators/students, increased number of available positions, and a request for an update on recommendations of COVID-19 practices for LMTs as health care practitioners, including a determination of where LMTs fit into the recommendations.

REPORTS:

Ms. Hogue provided an update on the Massage Therapy Compact Development as a member of the Technical Assistance Group. There are issues related to navigating between the ease for legitimate LMTs and provide protection from human trafficking. Ms. Hogue outlined the steps in development of the Compact, with a goal of providing recommendations to the drafting team by the summer of 2022 and seven states participating in the Compact to make it active.

Ms. Hanchey noted that case types are comparable to those from 2020, noting that the drop in Fraud, Non-Patient Care cases are related to fewer MBLEx invalidations by the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards. Statistical reports provided are incorporated and attached to these minutes.

Ms. Hanchey presented information concerning LMTs. There is a significant decrease in new licenses issued, and this decrease is attributed to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions. The decrease in active LMTs may also be attributed to the impact of COVID-19. Statistical reports provided are incorporated and attached to these minutes.

INFORMATION ONLY: Ms. Hanchey provided information concerning the outcome of the virtual elections for the 2021 FSMTB Annual Meeting, as well as additional information provided by FSMTB in the areas of massage therapy programs, fraud in education, and the Compact.

DISCUSSION OF
FUTURE MEETINGS: Board staff will coordinate with the Massage Therapy Advisory Board on Massage Therapy members on availability for a meeting in late-October/early-November 2022.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.



Christina Bargdill, B.S.N., M.H.S., R.N.
Deputy Executive Director