

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

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting of the of the Massage Therapy Advisory Board convened at 10:00 a.m. in Board Room 3, Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

PRESIDING: Shawnté Peterson, L.M.T., Chair

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dawn Hogue, L.M.T.
P. Lisa Speller, R.N., B.S.N., M.S., Citizen Member

STAFF PARTICIPATING: Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director
Cathy Hanchey, Senior Licensing/Discipline Specialist

OTHERS PARTICIPATING: None

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

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: Ms. Peterson welcomed attendees and asked Ms. Hanchey to take a roll call of Massage Therapy Advisory Board Members present. With three (3) members present, a quorum was established.

Staff and public attendees were identified.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ms. Douglas announced that Lisa Speller was appointed as a Citizen Board Member and that Arne Owens was appointed as the Department of Health Professions' Director to replace Dr. David Brown. Christina Bargdill, Board of Nursing Deputy Executive Director for the Medication Aide, Nurse Aide and Massage Therapy, was unable to attend the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: An overview was done of the minutes from the last Massage Therapy Advisory Board meeting held on December 1, 2021. Ms. Olivieri moved that the minutes from the December 1, 2021, be corrected on page 2 under "New Business" to reflect the proper spelling of "acclamation." The motion was seconded by Ms. Osiol and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ms. Peterson opened the meeting for public comment at 10:08 a.m. No one appeared for public comment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Peterson announced that according to the By-laws, the Chair and Vice-Chair are eligible to continue serving for one consecutive year. Ms. Peterson is currently serving as Chair, and Ms. Hogue is serving as Vice-Chair. Both are willing to serve a one-year term.

Ms. Olivieri moved to nominate Ms. Peterson to continue to serve as Chair. The motion was seconded by Ms. Osiol and carried unanimously.

Ms. Olivieri moved to nominate Ms. Hogue to continue to serve as Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Ms. Osiol and carried unanimously.

Ms. Douglas reviewed the Formal Hearing schedule for January – December 2023, as well as Informal Conferences scheduled for January – June 2023. Ms. Hogue will serve for Informal Conferences on February 6, 2023; Ms. Osiol will serve for Informal Conferences on April 17, 2023, and, Ms. Peterson will serve for Informal Conferences on June 15, 2023. Advisory Board members will provide their availability for Formal Hearings for 2023.

Ms. Douglas initiated discussion concerning the Sanction Reference Points Instruction Manual that was adopted October 13, 2022. All changes recommended by the Massage Therapy Advisory Board were accepted.

Ms. Douglas addressed the development of the Interstate Massage Therapy Compact. Both Ms. Douglas and Ms. Hogue served on the Technical Assistance Group, and a copy of the draft Compact was provided for discussion. Specific discussion focused on Article 4 – Multistate License Requirements under Paragraphs A and E and Article 9 – Data System. Adoption of the Compact would require a legislative mandate. The Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) anticipates the language to be final by Summer 2023.

Comments related to current trends and issues in the massage therapy education and practice environments included discussions surrounding workforce issues (availability of jobs but limited hiring) and closure of programs and decreased enrollment.

REPORTS:

Ms. Hanchey reported on the general decline of massage therapy disciplinary cases from 2021 levels, noting that case types are comparable to those from 2021. Statistical reports provided are available in the Agenda materials.

Ms. Hanchey presented information concerning licensure of LMTs. Initial applications and current active licensees are still down, but we are seeing some increase in applications and have several months before the end of the year. This decline continues to be attributed to the impact of COVID-19. The decrease in active LMTs may also be attributed to the impact of COVID-19. Statistical reports provided are available in the Agenda materials.

Ms. Hanchey also presented verbal reports on both the FSMTB 2022 Member Board Executive Summit in Clearwater FL, attended by Christina Bargdill and the Annual Meeting conducted in Charlotte, NC, attended by Ms. Hanchey. Topics of interest

included Responding to Illicit Massage Businesses, Member Reports that noted a general increase in requirements for clock hours or desire to deregulate the profession, Sexual Misconduct Allegations Within Massage Therapy, and Massage Education and the role of FSMTB in Testing.

INFORMATION ONLY: FSMTB released “A Toolkit for Identifying Human trafficking and Fraud in Higher Education.

The Massage Therapy Advisory Board discussed Executive Order Number Seven (7) Establishing the Commission on Human Trafficking Prevention and Survivor Support and recent contact from the Commission to the Board of Nursing.

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 2023.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

for Christian Burgess
Jay Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE
Executive Director