



# State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

METRO EXECUTIVE BUILDING  
4201 PATTERSON AVENUE • SUITE 301  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215

## Open SESSION MINUTES

### Teleconference Call

January 27, 2021, 10:04 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

#### Members Present

Caitlin M. Thompson, LMT, Board Chair  
Paula K. Jilanis, LMT, Vice Chair  
Kirsten Bodnarchuk, LMT, Secretary/Treasurer  
David Cox, LMT, Board Member  
Diane Jones Richards, Consumer Member  
Margaret Hayes, Consumer Member  
Eric Newdom, LMT, Board Member

#### Non-Members Present

Sharon J. Oliver, MBA, Executive Director  
Christopher Hawkins, Licensing Unit Manager  
Grant Gerber, AAG, Board Counsel  
Pamela Alston, Admin. Specialist  
Marc Ware, Senior Investigator  
T. Nicole Cullings, Board Investigator

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#### Call to Order at 10:04 a.m. by Board Chair

The regularly scheduled Open Session meeting of the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners was held via teleconference call on January 27, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Board Chair Caitlin M. Thompson, LMT. Roll call was taken and all Board Members were present.

**Review/Approval of the Amended Open Session Agenda** - Paula Jilanis motioned to accept the agenda as amended; 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Cox. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

**Review/Approval of the Open Session Minutes for December 23, 2020** - Kirsten Bodnarchuk motioned to accept the Amended Open Session Minutes; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Margaret Hayes. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

#### OLD BUSINESS - MATTERS FOR REPORTING

#### BOARD CHAIR REPORTS

**Pearson Vue Update** – The Executive Committee met Friday, January 21, 2021 with Ms. Oliver and Debra Persinger, Executive Director of FSMTB, to discuss options to administer the Jurisprudence Examination.

**BOARD COUNSEL** - Grant Gerber will report in the Legislative Session.

**AMTA Updates – Amelia Mitchell** – The Massage Therapy Bill writing is complete. However, there were a few edits such as deleting language to replace the term “Massage Parlor”. The Bill cleans up language in the statute, adds Rap Back, COMTA endorsed curriculum for massage



training programs, and Inactive Status; removes insurance loop hole, and replaces Universal Precautions with Standard Precautions.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Sharon Oliver wished everyone a Happy New Year. She reported the Board continues to operate in accordance with Governor Hogan’s Executive Order related to the extension of license renewals. Sharon Oliver reported on the following:

**Renewal Updates**

**Renewals Updates as of 01/20/2021**

Category	Total	%
All	2,997 of 4,111	72.90
LMT	1,929 of 2,469	78.13
RMP	1,068 of 1,642	65.04

**Total Revenue - \$744,930.00**

**Staffing Update**

**Introduction of Licensing Unit Manager - Christopher Hawkins, Sr.** Christopher Hawkins, Sr. was introduced to and welcomed by the Board. He comes from the Barbers and Cosmetology Board, and has IT and licensing experience. Congratulations and welcome Christopher Hawkins, Sr. to the Board Staff!

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Licensing Committee (LRC) – Kirsten Bodnarchuk. LMT**

**RMP to LMT Conversion Recommendations -** Kirsten Bodnarchuk presented four options for RMP to LMT conversion to the Board. The first two options require additional training beyond the 600 hours initial massage school education.

- (1) Use approved CE’s to make up the additional 150 hours to satisfy the new 750 hours minimum in training.
- (2) 500 hours documented hands on experience and 120 CE credits
- (3) Legacy Status for all RMPs registered as of a certain date
- (4) 10 years + in practice automatically converts to LMT status.

The conversion process was referred back to the Advisory Committee for review and final recommendations. Board voted to table this decision.

**Single Tier: Recommendation for LMT Requirements Moving Forward -** The LRC made the following recommendations to qualify for LMT status:



- (1) New educational requirements of a 750 Hour Massage Education
- (2) Addition of research as a requirement in the educational program
- (3) CPR certification at the Basic Life Support level
- (4) Removal of College credits as a requirement.

The Board accepted all of the recommendations presented by the LRC Committee.

**Advanced Massage Course Review** – A draft list of advanced massage therapy courses has been requested. Kirsten Bodnarchuk will email the draft list of courses for Board Member review and feedback.

**Advisory Committee – Paula Jilanis, LMT**

The Advisory Committee met on Thursday, January 14, 2021 to discuss COMTA endorsed Curriculum, pass rates for schools, and reviewed regulations from other States. Many questions exist. The Advisory Committee is still gathering information. Updates to follow.

**NEW BUSINESS- MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

**BOARD CHAIR REPORTS- CAITLIN THOMPSON**

Caitlin Thompson announced that Eric Newdom has volunteered to join the CRC Committee.

**BOARD COUNSEL – NOTHING TO REPORT**

**COVID Meeting Briefing** - David Cox attended a Task Force meeting for the Get Maryland Back To Work Program. Governor Hogan discussed the 2021 Work Relief Act for business. Additional information is available at: <https://governor.maryland.gov/reliefact/>. Acting Deputy Secretary, Dr. Jinlene Chan discussed updates regarding COVID-19 vaccination schedule.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT(S) –SHARON OLIVER**

**2020 Financial Disclosure Filings due April 30, 2021** – Sharon Oliver reminded Board Members to complete their financial disclosures. Not doing so may affect reappointment to the Board.

**2021 Legislative Dates of Interest** – A schedule of important Legislative dates is included in today’s Board Packet.

**2021 Legislative Bills of Interest:**

- SB125 State Board of Chiropractic Examiners - Sunset Extension through July 1, 2032 (Support)
- SB072 (HB344) Open Meeting Act - Requirements for State Agencies Local Board of Elections (Concern) - A joint letter of concern was prepared and submitted with input from the Executive Directors.



- SB106 Licensing-Good Standing with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation-Requirements (No position)
- SB139 Interstate Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact (No position)
- SB247 State Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners-Sunset Extension (No position)
- SB262 (HB224) Department of Information Technology-Study of a Common Information Technology Platform for Health Occupations Boards (No position)
- HB028 (SB005) Public Health- Implicit Bias Training and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (No position)
- HB078 (SB052) MD Commission on Health Equity (The Shirley Nathan-Pulliam Health Equity Act of 2021) (No position)
- HB123 (SB 3) Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2021 (No position)
- HB182 Podiatric Physicians (No position)
- HB210 COVID-19 Civil Immunity (No position)
- HB309 Public Health-Data-Race and Ethnicity Information (No position)
- HB320 Maryland Longitudinal Data System- Transfer of Student Data-Modifications (No position)
- HB025 Catastrophic Health Emergencies - Health Care Providers - Definition and Immunity (Maryland Health Care Heroes Protection Act) (No position)

Lillian Reese added the following:

- HB731(SB567) Telehealth Services Expansion
- HB732(SB568) Out-of-State Health Care Practitioner to Provide Telehealth Services to a Patient

**INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT- MARC WARE – Nothing to report**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**LICENSING COMMITTEE- NOTHING to report**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE- Nothing to report**

**DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE CASES- Nothing to report**

#### **MATTERS FOR NOTATION**

**ACTIONS FROM DECEMBER 23, 2020 CLOSED SESSION-** The Board did not conduct a closed session meeting.

**PETITION(S)/PORTFOLIO REVIEWS/ PETITIONS/ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN - None**

#### **Applicant(s) Ratifications**

**Ratification of Board Issued Licenses and Registrations LMT's and RMP's – December 2020** Motion to accept the entire group of LMT's and RMP's as a whole by David Cox; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kirsten Bodnarchuk. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0. *Welcome to the State of Maryland!*

### New LMT's

License Number	Name	Original License Date
M06191	Brown, Shaneka A.	12/01/2020
M06192	Adewusi, Olutoba A.	12/01/2020
M06193	Sone, Danerys	12/03/2020
M06194	Peterson, Rachel E.	12/03/2020
M06195	Foster, Jennifer N.	12/03/2020
M06196	Isaksson, Regina E.	12/04/2020
M06197	Pletcher, Lillian M.	12/08/2020
M06198	Walker, Sabrina M.	12/09/2020
M06199	Qian, Jinhua	12/14/2020
M06200	Vane, Rachel A.	12/21/2020
M06201	Jupiter, Shelby E.	12/21/2020
M06202	Baidoo, Yaw P.	12/30/2020

### New RMP's

License Number	Name	Original License Date
R03305	Reyes-Rodriguez, Karen	12/01/2020
R03306	Lora, Esperanza M.	12/01/2020
R03307	Stringfellow, Alexandra L.	12/01/2020
R03308	Zheng, Shuxin	12/02/2020
R03309	Stanley, Elisa R.	12/03/2020
R03310	Pearson, Nichelle M.	12/03/2020
R03311	Bell, Warren T.	12/08/2020
R03312	Johnson, Darien J.	12/08/2020
R03313	Monroe, Tawana E.	12/14/2020
R03314	Wild, Byron K.	12/21/2020
R03315	Lang, Carrie E.	12/21/2020
R03316	Brodish, Amy L.	12/23/2020

### Current Licensure Statistics

#### Active and Inactive Licensees/Registrants as of 01/20/2021

Category	Status	Nov	Dec
License Massage Therapist	Active	2466	2468
License Massage Therapist	Inactive	341	343
Registered Massage Practitioner	Active	1640	1643
Registered Massage Practitioner	Inactive	124	125



**REVIEW ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN - None**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Questions submitted by the Public** (*Caitlin Thompson, Grant Gerber and Sharon Oliver*) – None

**Next Meeting – February 24, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.**

**Open Session Meeting Adjourned** – Motion to adjourn Open Session Meeting at 12:30 p.m. by Paula Jilanis; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kirsten Bodnarchuk. The motion carried. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kirsten Bodnarchuk by SSU*

Kirsten Bodnarchuk, LMT  
Secretary/Treasurer



# STATE OF MARYLAND BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS

**OPEN SESSION BOARD MEETING**  
January 27, 2021 – 10:04 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

## CALL IN PARTICIPANTS

1. Amelia Mitchell, AMTA
2. Lillian Reese, Legislative Specialist
3. Kimberly Link, MDH
4. Atilia Mooring
5. Chelsea Adams-Cook
6. Diane Kelley
7. Gabrielle Ham-Jones
8. Gwenda Harrison
9. J. Paige Szymanski
10. Janice Davis
11. Josh Lopez
12. Kelly Taylor
13. Laura Embleton
14. Lynne Brummitt
15. Michelle England
16. Philomena Queen
17. Regina Schneider
18. Sabrina Lopez
19. Shantel Lee
20. Terri Jacques
21. Tranquili Chi