



# State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

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

## OPEN SESSION MINUTES TELECONFERENCE CALL

April 22, 2020, 10:04 a.m. – 11:14 a.m.

### Members Present

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

### Non-Members Present

Sharon J. Oliver, MBA, Executive Director  
Adrienne Congo, MS, Deputy Director  
Grant Gerber, AAG, Board Counsel  
Marc Ware, Investigator  
Pamela Alston, Admin. Specialist  
Lillian Reese, Legislative Specialist

\*Please see attached list of Teleconference participants

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

The regularly scheduled Open Session meeting of the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners was held via teleconference call on April 22, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Paula Jilanis, LMT and Board Chair. Roll call was taken and all Board Members were present via teleconference call.

**COVID-19 Updates** - Paula Jilanis opened the meeting by thanking the Board Staff for their hard work during the shutdown. Grant Gerber, Ms. Oliver and Ms. Jilanis have been collaborating to keep the Massage Therapy Community apprised of all COVID-19 updates.

**Review/Approval of the Open Session Agenda with additions/amendments** – Gwenda Harrison motioned to accept the agenda with additions; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Caitlin Thompson. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

**Review/Approval of the Open Session Minutes for March 25, 2020** – Margaret Hayes motioned to accept the Open Session Minutes; 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Cox. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

### BOARD CHAIR REPORTS

**Strategic Planning** – Paula Jilanis stated that the Strategic Planning Meeting is still planned for July 23, 2020 at the University Of Maryland School Of Pharmacy. However, if the COVID-19 Emergency continues, the meeting will be rescheduled. The Strategic Planning Meeting committee plans to meet via teleconference call on Friday, April 24, 2020.



**Governor Hogan's Task Force** –David Cox will participate in a task force established by Governor Hogan to plan return to work guidelines for businesses. The first meeting of the task force is scheduled for April 22, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. Future meetings are scheduled for April 23 and April 24, 2020. Gwenda Harrison reported that she was also invited by the Maryland Business of Chamber to join to the task force

#### **GENERAL COUNSEL**

Grant Gerber reported that he has been advocating for the profession and working with Paula Jilanis and Sharon Oliver, consistently communicating, to keep the massage community apprised of updates per the Governor's Executive Orders.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**2021 Legislative Concept Paper due 05/22/2020** – Sharon Oliver notified the Board of the deadline for submitting notification of the Board's intent to promulgate legislation in the 2021 Legislative Session. Working with Lillian Reese and Grant Gerber, Ms. Oliver will draft the concept paper for approved amendments to current statute.

**Impact of Governor's Hiring Freeze**– Sharon Oliver reported the hiring freeze has impacted the ability to fill the vacant positions. She expressed appreciation for the patience of the staff and Board during this hiring delay.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Advisory Committee** – Caitlin Thompson report the committee reviewed existing statute and recommended amendments. The Board approved the committee's recommendations. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

**Licensing Committee** – David Cox reported that the Licensing Committee has been meeting via teleconference to review Massage Therapy Applications.

#### **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

**Extension for CEU's** – Motion to eliminate the seventeen [17] Massage Therapy elective CEUs and retain the required CEU's (Ethics, Communicable Diseases & Cultural Competency) requirements for the 2020 renewal cycle only by Caitlin Thompson; 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Cox. The motion carried. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

**Extension for renewals** – Paula Jilanis reported that statutorily, renewal dates cannot be changed. If the state of emergency continues into the 2020 renewal cycle, deadlines are automatically extended 30 days after the emergency is lifted. Motion to eliminate \$200 late renewal fees for the upcoming 2020 renewal cycle by Kirsten Bodnarchuk; 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Cox. The motion carried. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

**Renewal Fees** –The Board deferred decisions on reducing fees. The Executive Director will meet with the fiscal officer to review projected income for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2020.



Paula Jilanis requested that the Licensing Committee and Grant Gerber, Board Counsel, review the Board’s statutory authority to transfer CEUs already completed by licensees to the 2022 renewal cycle.

**MATTERS FOR NOTATION**

**Unfinished Business – None**

**Petition(s) Applicants(s) Ratifications from March 25, 2020 Closed Session – None**

**Ratification of Board Issued Licenses and Registrations – David Cox moved to combine all LMT’s & RMP’s as a group and ratify as new licensees; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Diane Jones Richards. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0. *Welcome to the State of Maryland!***

**New LMT’s**

<b>License Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Original License Date</b>
M06156	Danielle G. Devito	03/04/2020
M06157	Cindy Nystrom	03/04/2020
M06158	Elizabeth M. Megenity	03/10/2020
M06159	Jessica Lee Mosley	03/10/2020
M06160	Joshua Goodman	03/10/2020
M06161	Lauren A. Williams	03/12/2020
M06162	Jeffrey Foster	03/26/2020

**New RMP’s**

<b>License Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Original License Date</b>
R03239	Melina Paige Gibson	03/04/2020
R03240	Walter E. Kellogg, Jr.	03/04/2020
R03241	Christiana N. Ranivondrahona	03/04/2020
R03242	Jennifer L. Smith	03/04/2020
R03243	Glen Alain Squirrel, II	03/10/2020
R03244	Shante Jasmine Jenkins	03/10/2020
R03245	Eric B. Villarreal	03/10/2020
R03246	Kinsley Anne Ross	03/10/2020
R03247	Kon Hyok Lee	03/10/2020
R03248	Jeannie M. Jameson	03/10/2020
R03249	Paisley D. Johnson	03/12/2020
R03250	Miracle D. Walker	03/31/2020



**Current Licensure Statistics**

**Active & Inactive Licensees/Registrants**

<b>Licensed Massage Therapists</b>	<b>Active</b>	<b>2535</b>
<b>Licensed Massage Therapists</b>	<b>Inactive</b>	<b>239</b>
<b>Registered Massage Practitioners</b>	<b>Active</b>	<b>1605</b>
<b>Registered Massage Practitioners</b>	<b>Inactive</b>	<b>86</b>

**Review Actions to be taken:** None

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Paula Jilanis responded to the following questions from the public:

*“Can the Board request the addition of Massage Therapy LMT’s and RMP’s to the list of essential health care workers, given the types of clients with whom we work?”*

It is outside of the Board’s authority to decide on the list of essential workers. The decision is made by the Governor of the State of Maryland, The Secretary of Health and the Federal Government.

*“Will the Board coordinate the administration of the MD Jurisprudence (JP) Exam with FSMTB and their reopening of the MBLEx through Pearson Vue?”*

Currently, the public is not allowed to enter the 4201 Patterson Avenue, Office Building to take the JP Exam. The Board’s administration of the JP examination will occur after Governor Hogan lifts the state of emergency, and after FSMTB and Pearson Vue resumes the MBLEx.

*“Is alternative instruction distance learning regarding Massage Therapy permissible?”*

There is nothing in the Massage Therapy Statues that speaks specifically to instructions or alternative learning methods. The recommendation is, if your program is accredited, contact the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) for further details.

*“What parameters are set forth by the Governor’s Office regarding re-opening schools and clinical facilities?”*

The Board has no information on the Governor’s plans to reopen. Schools and facilities are to review the Executive Orders issued by the Governor as the Massage Board does not have the authority or jurisdiction over these matters. Governor Hogan’s Return to Work Task Force will have more details regarding the reopening of Massage Therapy Schools and Facilities. .

*“Will the Board Carryover CEU’s to the next renewal cycle”?*

The Licensing Committee will review this item and make a recommendation at the next Board Meeting.

Next Meeting – May 27, 2020 10:00 A.M., Room 110 or Teleconference Call

Meeting Adjourned & Closed for Administrative Session – Motion to adjourn Open Session Meeting at



11:14 a.m. and enter Administrative Session by David Cox; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kirsten Bodnarchuk. The motion carried. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

*David Cox by sso*

David A. Cox, LMT  
Secretary/Treasurer



**Open Session Board Meeting Attendees**  
**TELECONFERENCE CALL**  
**April 22, 2020, 10:04 a.m. – 11:14 a.m.**

1. Denise Cutair	2. Shantel Lee
3. Demond McKernan	4. Tia Sherna Vinson
5. Doug Wittich	6. Taquita Johnson, RMP
7. Eric Jones Williams	8. Amelia Mitchell, LMT, AMTA
9. Gabrielle Ham-Jones	10. Sabrina Lopez, President AMTA
11. Jean Jeffreys	12. Eugenia A. Harris
13. Jessica Campbell, RMP	14. Tiah Kuniken
15. Elizabeth McGeehan	16. Douglas Wittich, LMT
17. Diane Kelley, LMT	18. Cheryl L. Hicks, LMT
19. Will Coleman, LMT & Owner - Premiere Touch Therapeutics	20. Kelly Silva, RMP
21. Robin Anderson, LMT	22. Andretta Brown
23. Kelly Taylor, RMP	24. Tara McManaway, LMT
25. Lee Anne Little	26. Denice McGarrett
27. Marcia Renne	28. Ineta M. Gordon LMT
29. Regina Schneider	30. MVM Treasurer