



# MARYLAND | State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

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

## OPEN SESSION MINUTES

May 22, 2019; 10:00 a.m. – 10:32 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  
Gloria Boddie-Epps, Consumer Member  
Margaret Hayes, Consumer Member  
J. Paige Szymanski, LMT, Board Member

### NON MEMBERS PRESENT

Adrienne Congo, Acting Executive Director  
Grant Gerber, AAG, Board Counsel  
Marc Ware, Investigator III  
Pamela Alston, Admin Specialist II  
Lillian Reese, Leg. & Regulations Coord.  
Damian Achambeau, CSM  
Tara McManaway, CSM  
Sabina Lopez, AMTA  
Kim Bennardi, MDH  
Lauren Ellison

---

### Call to Order at 10:00 a.m. & Opening Remarks by Board Chair

The regularly scheduled Open Session meeting of the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners was held at the Metro Executive Building, Conference Room 110 on May 22, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by *Paula K. Jilanis, LMT and Board Chair*. Roll call was taken and all Board Members were present.

### Review/Approval of the Open Session Agenda

*Adrienne Congo* requested to table the *Pearson VUE- Procurement Process Update* under Action Items. The agenda was approved as amended- *Moved to accept by David Cox, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Margaret Hayes; The motion carried.*

### Review/Approval of the Closed Session Minutes- for April 24, 2019

The Board's Closed Session Minutes for **April 24, 2019** were approved. *Motion to accept by Caitlin Thompson; 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Cox. The motion carried.*

### Action Item(s)

**Pearson VUE- Procurement Process Update - Tabled**

### Matters for Discussion/Decision - *Paula K. Jilanis, LMT, Board Chair*

**Official Transcripts Received to the Board** – *Adrienne Congo* reported that we are currently in the process of receiving electronic transcripts to facilitate the application process. Three administrative staff has been assigned to download the password – protected documents in an effort to facilitate this process versus receiving transcripts via U.S. mail.

## **Board Chair Report(s)**

New Massage School – *Paula Jilanis* reported that there are rumors regarding new massage school programs connected with franchises; however this is not part of the mission of the franchises; some massage schools have candidates that will begin in June. Paula Jilanis mentioned that exploration of this matter will be forthcoming regarding this matter. The approval process is as follows: the new school will submit their application to MHEC The Maryland Higher Education Commission [MHEC] forwards the application to the board; licensing committee reviews to determine the curriculum matches the requirements of the regulation and in turn gets forwarded to MHEC.

**ED Recruitment** –*Paula Jilanis* reported that Adrienne Congo has done an outstanding job since last August 2018 covering the job of the Executive Director as well her position of Deputy Director. Executive Director Interviews will take place on Monday, June 17, 2019.

**Board Counsel** –*Grant Gerber* stated that he will continue to work with the Human Trafficking Task Force & Law Clerk Internships will commence at the Attorney General's Office this Summer.

### **Acting Executive Director's Report – *Adrienne Congo***

Fingerlakes School- The Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training (ACCET) is a voluntary group of educational organizations affiliated for the purpose of improving continuing education and training. ACCET pulled the accreditation from the Fingerlakes School; which is also the main campus and headquarters for the Central Maryland School of Massage (CMSM). Major issues are connected to the New York Campus and are currently in an appeal phase; Campuses affected are the Frederick, Maryland School as well as the 2 other campuses. Current enrolled students will be able to complete their coursework however, new students will not recommended to be accepted (at the Frederick, Maryland location) until the accreditation issue is resolved. Inherent issues include: inadequate records; incomplete evaluations, missing minutes, lack of documentation & improperly classified classroom observations. A list has been provided to the Massage Board of the current students (called the Teach Out Plan). Students who complete their studies will still receive their licenses as long as they meet the requirements such as passing the Maryland Jurisprudence Exam. There will be a devaluation of the Maryland campus of Fingerlakes School since they are in the recertification phase. Fingerlakes is still considered accredited even during the appeal phase.

## **Committee Report(s)**

**Advisory Committee – Concept Paper(s)** – (*Caitlin Thompson, Chair*) Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> is the last day for the Bill signing and HB 554 will be on the docket in the morning, for signature. The Concept papers are regarding the Rap Back and Massage Establishment. Grant Gerber stated that requests must be put in; procedurally and potentially to change the current Rap Back Program. It is still not entirely functional but the Board will be apprised of an applicant's background status during the licensing renewal period. *Gwenda Harrison* moves to approve the Concept Paper for the Rap Back Program; 2<sup>nd</sup> by *J. Paige Szymanski*. Motion carried. Approximately 2000 individuals that have not been fingerprinted because of the policy that changed in 2014. The focus is on business establishments and we have agreed on an expected list of exemptions and the concept paper has been modified. *Gwenda Harrison* moved to approve the Massage Establishment Concept Paper; 2<sup>nd</sup> by *Margaret Hayes*.

### **Old Business**

**Non – Renewed Licensees and Registrations** – *Adrienne Congo* reported that she is continually reaching out to licensees with a (license) expiration date of 10/31/18. Approximately one to two persons are responding to renew their license.

**Ratification of Board Issued Licenses and Registrations (April 2019)**

**LICENSE NUMBER NAME (S) ORIGINAL LICENSE DATE(S)**

M06045	BOEHMAN, JESSICA	04/05/2019
M06046	MOUSSA, SHAWNTEL N.	04/05/2019
M06047	DIACONT, CHERRIE M.	04/12/2019
M06048	MILLETTE, JULIANA M.	04/12/2019
M06049	SCHAEFFER, CALEB S.	04/12/2019
M06050	MARKOVITZ, ANNA V.	04/12/2019
M06051	OHIMOR, ARIENE E.	04/18/2019
M06054	WHITE, WENDY E.	04/18/2019

**REGISTRATIONS NAMES (S) ORIGINAL REGISTRATION DATE(S)**

R03063	TOWNSEL, LAKEISHA D.	04/04/2019
R03064	LARSH, JOHN A.	04/05/2019
R03065	ARIKIAN, KRISTIN A.	04/12/2019
R03066	WITHERSPOON, TAMMY L.	04/12/2019
R03067	FRIEDER, NANCY E.	04/12/2019
R03069	COLEIN, JOHN T.	04/12/2019
R03070	FRAZIER, JENNA E.	04/12/2019
R03071	RETTALIATA, ANTHONY J.	04/12/2019
R03072	DEAL, THERESA L.	04/16/2019
R03073	SAUNDERS, CARRINGTON	04/16/2019
R03074	COLINDRES, MARIELA E.	04/16/2019
R03075	VEII, KETOVENI J.	04/24/2019

**Meeting Finalization -**

**Current Licensure Statistics**

**Active & Inactive Licensees/Registrants**

<b>Licensed Massage Therapists</b>	<b>Active</b>	<b>2426</b>
<b>Licensed Massage Therapists</b>	<b>Inactive</b>	<b>242</b>
<b>Registered Massage Practitioners</b>	<b>Active</b>	<b>1440</b>
<b>Registered Massage Practitioners</b>	<b>Inactive</b>	<b>90</b>

**Review Actions to be taken:**

**Next Meeting – June 26, 2019 10:00 A.M., Room 110**

**Meeting Adjourned & Closed for Proceeding Executive Session – Motion to adjourn by David Cox; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Caitlin Thompson. The motion carried.**

*Respectfully Submitted,*



*David A. Cox, LMT  
Secretary/Treasurer*

*With appreciation to Pamela Alston for the minutes.*