



MARYLAND | State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

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

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Teleconference Call

August 26, 2020, 10:06 a.m. – 11:35 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
Marc Ware, Senior Investigator
Grant Gerber, AAG, Board Counsel
Pamela Alston, Admin. Specialist
Rachel Rotenberg, Licensing Coordinator
Lillian Reese, Legislative Specialist

*Please see attached list of call in participants

Call to Order at 10:06 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 August 26, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Paula Jilanis, LMT and Board Chair. Roll call was taken and all Board Members were present. The Chair advised the public to email her their questions and provided her email address, paula.jilanis@maryland.gov. Paula Jilanis officially welcomed Rachel Rotenberg, Licensing Coordinator to the Board.

Review/Approval of the Open Session Agenda with additions/amendments - Gwenda Harrison motioned to accept the agenda as amended; 2nd by Diane Jones Richards. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

Review/Approval of the Open Session Minutes for July 22, 2020 - Margaret Hayes motioned to accept the Open Session Minutes; 2nd by. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

MATTERS FOR REPORTING

BOARD CHAIR REPORTS- PAULA JILANIS

Franchises and School Update - Paula Jilanis advised that there are some online massage programs being offered by out of state universities with externship programs at Maryland franchises. This distance learning model was referred to the Advisory Committee for review. Board discussion followed.

CE Broker - An email offering CE tracking services was sent to Board member by CE Broker. This service is similar to Matilda offered by FSMTB. CE Broker requested an opportunity to make a presentation to the Board. Board Discussion.

BOARD COUNSEL - Grant Gerber reported that he has been working with several MDH Board's Committees.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Staffing Update - Sharon Oliver welcomed new Licensing Coordinator Rachel Rotenberg to the Board Meeting. Rachel has extensive licensing experience having worked at another state agency.

Renewals - Portal Opened August 17th - Sharon Oliver reported that renewal season opened Monday, August 17th & the process is going well. Emily Jones, former licensing coordinator, volunteered to assist with the renewal process. Sharon Oliver thanked the IT Department for their assistance with ensuring the renewal portal opened with no glitches.

2022 Budget Supplement Details - Sharon Oliver reported that the Fiscal Officer is working on closing out the 2020 Fiscal Year Budget for (16) sixteen Boards. Once this is completed, preparation will begin on the 2022 Budget. Each Board has been asked to provide supplemental expense information for the 2022 Budget.

2020 Summary of Revenue and Expenditures - Sharon Oliver previously reported there was a projected budget shortfall of \$50,000 based on income received by the Board March through May 2020. The actual income shortfall was \$51,760.00; however the Board has sufficient funds to carry over into 2021. She will continue to monitor expenditures.

Jurisprudence Examination - August 18, 25 & 27, 2020 - Last month permission was granted to begin testing for Massage Therapists and Chiropractic candidates at Patterson Avenue. Proper cleaning and sanitizing protocols were in place to ensure every candidate tested in a safe manner. Ms. Oliver thanked building security, staff and Board members who volunteered and proctored the examinations.

Upcoming Vacant Board Positions- per the Governor's Appointment Office there will be three (3) Board Member positions opening in 2021: two (2) LMT Board Member positions and one (1) Consumer Board Member. Kim Bernardi will contact those persons on the Board who are eligible for reappointment. The vacancies will be posted on the website. The deadline for nominations is Friday, October 30, 2020.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Per Diem Ad Hoc Committee - (Margaret Hayes, Gwenda Harrison, David Cox, Sharon Oliver & Grant Gerber) - Margaret Hayes reported that the Ad-Hoc Committee met to research & compare previous policies. A policy was developed & presented for discussion and approval. The revised policy will be presented at the next Board meeting. Board Discussion.

Nominating Committee - (Margaret Hayes, Nominating Chair & Sharon Oliver) - Margaret Hayes reported that the Nominating Committee will continue developing an efficient online voting system. Voting instructions will be disseminated to Board members via email prior to the September Board meeting. Votes will be sent to the Executive Director. Margaret Hayes thanked all who participated in the nomination process.

Advisory Committee - Caitlin Thompson reported that the 5th Stakeholder's Forum took place on Monday, August 10, 2020. Forums are on hold until the Licensing Committee schedules a meeting.

Licensing Committee (LRC) - David Cox reported that the LRC met Thursday, August 13, 2020 to discuss the movement from RMP to LMT. The LRC is still reviewing recommendations from the Advisory Committee as well as input from ABMP, AMTA, FSMTB and several educational entities.

COMTA Endorsed Curriculum – David Cox reported that the LRC discussed the following: (1) recommendation of COMTA as a mandatory requirement for schools (2) consideration of COMTA cost evaluation, pass & completion rates, metrics of school cogency & (3) teacher qualifications (min. B.S. education). David Cox and Gwenda Harrison suggested having COMTA representative Dawn Hogue present at the next Board meeting. Board Discussion.

RMP to LMT Requests (3) – David Cox reported that two (2) licensee requests were reviewed and approved to upgrade from RMP to LMT status. Further information is needed to determine LMT status for the third licensee.

Senior Discounts for Massage Therapists - David Cox reported that a letter requesting discounts for senior massage therapists was received. The LRC did not make a recommendation for discounts for senior massage therapists.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Selection of FSMTB Delegate - David Cox volunteered to serve as FSMTB Delegate at the Annual Meeting on October 16, 2020. Motion to have David Cox serve as FSMTB Delegate by Margaret Hayes; 2nd by Caitlin Thompson. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

MATTERS FOR NOTATION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

Petition Applicant(s) Ratifications from July 22, 2020 Administrative Session - None

Ratification of Board Issued License and Registrations - LMT's & RMP's July 2020 - None

Current Licensure Statistics

Active & Inactive Licensees/Registrants

Licensed Massage Therapists	Active	2539
Licensed Massage Therapists	Inactive	238
Registered Massage Practitioners	Active	1614
Registered Massage Practitioners	Inactive	83

REVIEW ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN - None

Miscellaneous

Maryland Personal Services Advisory Group & Maryland Department of Commerce Presentation – Gwenda Harrison and David Cox were asked to represent the Board and participate in an advisory group teleconference. Gwenda Harrison reported that LMT’s are recognized as essential healthcare workers. A series of informative webinars are available to Small Business Owners. For more information and to view the webinars, please visit the Department of Commerce website: <https://commerce.maryland.gov/commerce> .

Gwenda Harrison expressed thanks for the opportunity to serve the profession for a total of 11- year service as a Board member from 2009 – 2020.

Next Meeting – September 23, 2020 at 10:00 A.M., Room 110 or Teleconference Call.

Meeting Adjourned & Closed for Proceeding Administrative Session – Motion to adjourn Open Session Meeting at 11:35 a.m. by Diane Jones Richards; 2nd by David Cox. The motion carried. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Cox by STU

David A. Cox, LMT
Secretary/Treasurer



**STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS**

OPEN SESSION BOARD MEETING
August 26, 2020 – 10:04 A.M. TO 11:35 A.M.

CALL IN PARTICIPANTS

1. Amelia Mitchell, AMTA
2. Bryan Harris
3. Caren Clift
4. Chelsea Adams-Cook
5. Denise Cutair
6. Robin Anderson, CCBC
7. Sabrina Lopez, President AMTA
8. Michelle England
9. Miya Cooper
10. Regina Schneider
11. Lynne A. Brummitt, AACC
12. Tara McManaway.
13. Kelly Taylor
14. Sherna Vinson
15. Shantel Lee