



# MARYLAND | State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

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

## OPEN SESSION MINUTES

November 28, 2018; 10:22 a.m. – 11:16 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  
Kim Lang, Director Boards & Commissions  
Lillian Reese, Leg. & Regulations Coord.  
Robin Anderson, Program Dir. CCBC  
Sabrina Lopez, LMT, President AMTA  
Brenda Baltimore, LMT  
Regina Schneider, Spa Adagio, LLC  
Lynne Brummitt, Massage Coord, AACC  
Hillary Pokrywka, Spa Adagio, LLC

### **Call to Order & 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 November 28, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m. and the Board's Mission Statement was read by *Paula K. Jilanis, LMT, and Board Chair*. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

### **Board Members / Staff / Audience**

Board members and staff were introduced, followed by introductions from the audience.

### **Review/Approval of Open Session Agenda**

The agenda was approved with the additional items: (1) MD Attorney General Consumer Protection Division – Overview of MDH meeting – *Marc Ware, Investigator III*.

*Moved to accept by David Cox; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Caitlin Thompson. The motion carried.*

### **Review/Approval of October 24, 2018 Open Session Minutes**

The Board discussed corrections to the October 24, 2018 meeting minutes. Margaret Haynes provided the specific correction which was item #8, CAC Annual Meeting report, regarding sentences 1-4. This section was confirmed to have been given by Gloria Boddie-Epps. *Chair called for motion from the floor. " Moved to approve minutes as amended by Gwenda Harrison; 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Cox. The motion carried.*

### **Actions – (Future Minutes)**

Chair recommends that going forward that the minutes reflect "Actions" to be taken, followed up on or tabled to ensure that we address those pending action items from each meeting.

For this month, the Board had two Matters Arising/Action List items as follows:

## **Actions – Website Update** (from October 24, 2018)

**Massage Website Links Update:** (FSMTB link, Member Associations and Resources) - *Adrienne Congo* reports that since the State branding of all state websites for uniformity, those links somehow got removed by the IT department in the transferring over of information. Currently she is working diligently with IT to replace those links.

**Massage Website Update:** (All Information) - *Adrienne Congo* reports that she is diligently working with IT Department to ensure the Massage Therapy website is not only up to date; but also that the resource links are in working order. In addition, additional action warranting removal of old information not applicable to the new board, ensuring archived information and to make the website more user friendly in accessing information for the consumer public, licensees and registrants.

## **Matters for Discussion – Board Separation**

### **Board Chair Report(s) – Paula Jilanis, Chair**

**Current Significant Issues** – the Maryland State Board of Chiropractic Examiners is exploring their options regarding going fully independent with regard to separation of all staffing. This potential separation would affect all Board staff. *Gwenda Harrison* inquired about the previously announced “Task Force” requested between the two boards. *Ms. Jilanis* responded that the task force is on hold for right now. *Caitlin Thompson* inquired as to what would be the next step. *Grant Gerber* – Interposes that the Boards have been separated and as part of the hold over that there are shared staffing per the statute for both boards. This was determined by the legislature that they share staffing and an Executive Director. The Chiropractic Board is exploring all options and possibly legislatively for a complete separation. The boards may feel that the demands of each board would be better met if each Board had exclusive staff members working for the most part. Basically the Chiropractic Board is looking at the feasibility of that at this juncture to which may yield changes to the statute.

*Ms. Harrison* seeking further clarification as to whether it will occur exclusive of the executive staff of this Board and staff of this Board. *Ms. Jilanis* responded that it will probably be discussed by both Chair/President first and then the general Board. *Ms. Harrison*, stipulated she would like to request that the original constructed committee (task force) have an active role in the process as it will provide an opportunity to fully examine what would be presented. In addition, it would make a more collective consideration from this Board in full body and help to consider additional obstacles or consideration that this full body would need to take into consideration.

*Ms. Jilanis*, further clarifies, “What the Chiropractic Board is exploring at this point is something that will impact their Board.” The way it will impact our Board will be the separating of staff. But at this point it currently is only affecting the Chiropractic Board. *Ms. Thompson* also indicated that she would like to see that “Task Force” employed as soon as possible. *Ms. Jilanis* asked David Cox as to who would be activating it as this was started in his tenure as Board Chair. He provided that if the task force was to be activated, that activation would be at the request of the Chiropractic Board President, Robert Frieman.

### **Action – Chair’s Meeting and ED Meeting**

*Paula Jilanis, Chair* will be attending and representing the Board at the upcoming scheduled meeting January 3, 2019.

### **Matters for Discussion – Strategic Plan Implementation - Paula Jilanis, Chair**

**Action - Update on Strategic Plan Implementation** – *Ms. Jilanis* reports in Open Session that the Board has a “Strategic Plan” however there are some administrative components that need to be addressed in the Executive Session of the Board. When those administrative components are set in place; the Board will be providing information in the upcoming Open Sessions.

### **Board Counsel - Grant Gerber**

**Legislative Session is forthcoming (February 2019).** *Grant Gerber* - There are no major legislative initiatives at this point. *Ms. Jilanis* asks about the status of the Rapback or the omnibus bill (omnibus bill suggestion made prior at a meeting regarding boards who did not currently have criminal history records check legislation or had it but not the Rapback to which they could get criminal history updates). *Grant Gerber* indicated he did not have any update but there was discussion or debate regarding whether Federal Law in terms of requiring the Rapback. There is no Federal law or mandate that we are trying to meet. *Lillian Reese* added that when the Board did its original concept paper and submission back in June; we included the Rapback criminal history records check in with the establishment. When that concept paper did not go forward, it also took along that part. In summary, we can take the original language regarding the Rapback from the June 2018 concept paper and resubmit the Rapback if we want to try to pursue it.

There's no guarantee that it will go forward but we can certainly give it a try.

**Action – Advisory Committee (Rapback).** Grant Gerber suggests turning this into an agenda item for next Board meeting to ensure follow up/ update. (Ms. Reese injected that no additional language would be added to what was already generated and voted on about the Rapback in June.)

*Gwenda Harrison moved to amend the concept draft legislation for massage and Rapback to delete the establishment and submit to the Secretary's Office for approval, consideration of the Rapback Program for FY 2020; 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Paige Szymanski. The motion carried.*

### **Acting Executive Director's Report**

**Massage Therapy Renewal Update - Adrienne Congo** reports that this is the last week of the 2018 massage therapy renewals. The extension given to December 1, 2018 due to a "Google" interruption stated by the IT which was directly associated with a Google access certificate expiration. **Stats:** Out of 4,584 licensees, 64 licensee/registrants who have logged into the system that have not completed renewal which are of great concern, and of that 548 whom still had not renewed. These licensees and registrants have been notified via GovDelivery email blast of their status, the remaining timeframe, their current options and the applicable fees associated. Late renewals are still being processed.

*Adrienne Congo* reported many licensees and registrants had not provided the Board with current addresses within the regulatory window and some had not corrected their address on the online renewal application despite instructions and a "radio button" to click and change the address. The results had been far too numerous returned licenses and registrations, far too numerous submissions of change of address forms by mail which occurred after the individuals renewed with the "bad address". Ms. Congo suggested for future online renewal applications that in addition to the "radio button" to click for changing ones' address; that the licensee and registrant would also need to answer an acknowledgement stipulating that the licensee/registrant had reviewed the address listed in the box and it is accurate before they can continue to the next section of the renewal application. This would potentially eliminate licenses/registrations circulating back to the Board, therapists and practitioners working without a license or registration, unclaimed licenses and registrations getting into the wrong hands. *Regina Schneider* of Spa Adagio, LLC asked if there are alternatives to completing the application online. *Adrienne Congo* advised that the Board at the request of the initiative to "Go Green"; has been doing online renewals since 2010. There is a small sector of licensees/registrants that contact the Board every renewal for help and complete their process over the phone. In addition, an individual can contact the Board for an appointment for help.

**Updated Regulations – Adrienne Congo** provided an update to the Proposal listed below which was printed in the October 26, 2018 Maryland Register with the Comment Period ending on November 26, 2018. No comments were submitted or directed to the Board. It is anticipated that the Secretary will sign off on the proposal in December.

**Proposal – Maryland Register – Issue Date: October 26, 2018 Volume 45 • Issue 22 • Page 1031 -1033**

**Background -** The purpose of the action was to: (1) Amend the educational requirements to qualify for a license to practice massage therapy; (2) Amend the educational requirements to qualify to be registered to practice massage therapy; (3) Require that each holder of a license or registration to practice massage therapy to display the license or registration conspicuously where the holder is engaged in practice; and (4) Set standards for Board approval of programs licensing massage therapists or registered massage practitioners at educational institutions in the State.

**Action - Board Schedules (2019) – Adrienne Congo** - Will be posted by Friday, November 30, 2018. The Massage Therapy Jurisprudence (JP) Exam will be held on Tuesdays instead of Mondays. The new schedule will be contained in the massage application packet and on the Board's website.

### **Health Education & Advocacy Unit Meeting Report (HEAU) - Marc Ware, Investigator III**

Marc Ware attended the HEAU meeting presentation on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 hosted by Kim Cammarata, AAG. The HEAU mission is to assist consumers with health care related matters & billing disputes. Last year they assisted 2,000 consumers with various matters including free mediation. The HEAU includes an investigative unit and disseminates press releases to inform the public of pertinent information. For more information please visit the website: [www.marylandcares.org](http://www.marylandcares.org). The HEAU will also be posted on the Board's website as a resource to the public, licensees and registrants.

### **Committee Report- Advisory Committee**

**Human Trafficking and Establishments- Caitlin Thompson, Vice-Chair (Committee Chair)** The Advisory Committee deals with ways of advancing the massage profession through legislation and keeping the consumer public safe. The Advisory Committee will continue to explore legislative options; more updates to come.

**Committee Report-Rehabilitation Committee- Caitlin Thompson, Vice-Chair (Committee Chair)**

**Action - Update on Status** - The Rehabilitation Committee is continuing to work on their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU or contract of agreement for services) with the University of Maryland. Catlin Thompson reports that updates will be announced in December's Board Meeting.

**Ratification of New Licensees & Registrants- Congratulations!**

David Cox moved to accept; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Margaret Hayes. The motion carried.

LICENSE #	NAME	ORIG. DATE	REG. #	NAME	ORIG. DATE
M05971	CURRY, LAYNEA	10/01/2018	R02963	STARK, SUSAN	10/01/2018
M05972	PAN, YUYUN	10/02/2018	R02964	MILLER, WENDY L.	10/10/2018
M05973	FORMAN, JOANNE L.	10/03/2018	R02965	ROBERTS, TITILAYO A	10/17/2018
M05974	FREED, DIANE J.	10/05/2018	R02966	LUPO, KATIE, J	10/19/2018
M05975	HOOPE, TIMOTHY C.	10/10/2018	R02967	HANFORD, JAMES	10/19/2018
M05976	CARSCALLEN, KIA M.	10/10/2018	R02968	LOPEZ JOSE R.	10/19/2018
M05977	ROLLMAN, ELLEN R.	10/10/2018	R02969	JACOBSEN, SONIA S.	10/22/2018
M05978	FLANIGAN, SARA D.	10/11/2018	R02970	DICKERSON, JULIA R.	10/22/2018
M05979	HANFMAN, DANIELLE N.	10/11/2018	R02971	STETSON, MICHAEL T.	10/22/2018
M05980	VASSALLO, MEG E.	10/12/2018	R02972	CHUKWU-OBI, NANCY N.	10/22/2018
M05982	LENNON, KRISTEN J.	10/15/2018	R02973	SAUNDERS, PAUL A.	10/22/2018
M05983	SIBLEY, KELLY D.	10/19/2018	R02974	GUFFEY, ELIZABETH N.	10/22/2018
M05984	SCHADT, EMILY N.	10/19/2018	R02975	GRIFFIN, MEGHAN T.	10/22/2018
M05985	TRUMP, SUSAN M.	10/19/2018	R02976	ALLEN, TRANISE J.	10/25/2018
M05986	VALENTINE, LOUISE C.	10/22/2018			
M05987	SOLLOWAY, MICHELLE R	10/22/2018			

KEY: License = LMT  
 Registration = RMP  
 COS = Change of Status from RMP to LMT

**Current Licensure Statistics**

Active & Inactive Licensees/Registrants

Licensed Massage Therapist	Active	2601
Licensed Massage Therapist	Inactive	326
Registered Massage Practitioner	Active	1560
Registered Massage Practitioner	Inactive	127

**Meeting Finalization**

**Committee Assignments-** Adrienne Congo informed Board Members individual Committee Assignments are saved on their thumb drives.

**Review actions to be taken**

**Next meeting- December 19, 2018 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)**

**Meeting Adjourned & Closed for proceeding Executive Session**

Motion to close General Session & Move to Executive Session by David Cox; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gloria Boddie-Epps at 11:16 a.m. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



David A. Cox,  
 Secretary/Treasurer