



**MAURA HEALEY**  
GOVERNOR

**KIM DRISCOLL**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**YVONNE HAO**  
SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Division of Occupational Licensure**

1000 Washington Street, Suite 710  
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

**LAYLA R. D'EMILIA**  
UNDERSECRETARY, CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS  
REGULATION

**SARAH R. WILKINSON**  
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF  
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

**Board of Registration of Massage Therapy**  
**October 16, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Massage Therapy (the Board) was held remotely via video and telephone conferencing pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2022, allowing remote participation by Board members and the public.

**Attending Members:** Paul Andrews/Chair, Alexei Levine/Vice Chair, Pallas Hutchison, Kimberlee Schuler

**Members Absent:** Ellen Walker and Sheri Miller-Bedau

**Staff:** Kerry Cassidy, Executive Director, Kristina Gasson, Board Counsel

**Meeting Called to Order**

- Remote meeting procedures – At approximately 10:02 AM, Paul Andrews confirmed quorum via roll call vote which showed the following members participating via remote means; Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, Kimberlee Schuler; Paul Andrews called the meeting to order.

**Board Business**

- The Board reviewed the Public Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2023. Motion was made to approve minutes as written; So Moved by Kimberlee Schuler; Seconded By Pallas Hutchison
  - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
  - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
  - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The Board reviewed the Executive Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2023. Motion was made to approve minutes as written; So Moved by Pallas Hutchison; Seconded By Pallas Hutchison
  - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
  - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler



- Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The Board reviewed the Public Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2023. Motion was made to approve minutes as written; So Moved by Kimberlee Schuler; Seconded By Pallas Hutchison
  - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
  - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
  - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The Board reviewed the Executive Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2023. Motion was made to approve minutes as written; So Moved by Kimberlee Schuler; Seconded By Pallas Hutchison
  - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
  - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
  - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The proposed schedule for 2024 meetings was reviewed and discussed. Motion was made to adopt the schedule as presented; So Moved by Paul Andrews; Seconded by Alexei Levine
  - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
  - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
  - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The Executive Director initiated discussion pertaining to Delegated Authority and how it relates to dismissing and/or reducing fines. A policy was suggested to allow the Executive Director and Board Counsel to offer a reduction in fines if licensure was obtained within 90 days and dismiss tickets that have been issued in error. Motion was made to delegate authority to the Executive Director and Board Counsel to offer a reduction in fines by 50% for an unlicensed establishment and otherwise was not subject to prior disciplinary action; So Moved by Kim Schuler; Seconded by Alexei Levine
  - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
  - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
  - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- The Executive Director initiated discussion regarding Policy #15-001 –Board’s Acceptance of Licensed Practice in Lieu of Clinical Supervise Practice Educational Requirements. Board Counsel is requesting clarification for the difference between “disciplinary action” and “adverse action”. Questions were also raised regarding the types of information that would be accepted as documentation for practical experience. This item was tabled until specific language can be drafted.
- FSMTB Annual Meeting - Pallas Hutchison reported on her recent attendance at the FSMTB Annual Meeting. There was a lot of information that was given on human trafficking and how to focus on supply chain issues. After speaking with other states, Pallas was very complimentary on the Board’s work. Paul Andrews added that some Board’s collaborate with the Attorney General’s Office on summary suspension or suspicion of human trafficking activities. He also mentioned that identity checks could be

used as a tool. It was also voted that a massage therapy program is required to be completed prior to sitting for the MBLEX exam.

### **Reinstatement Requests**

- 14475-MT-MT- [Weiqin Lu]-A reinstatement application was recently submitted by Weiqin Lu after her licenses were revoked following a disciplinary action before the Board. After reviewing the application and the final decision and order in the prior disciplinary action, Weiqin Lu was interviewed by the Board. Board Counsel informed the applicant that she would receive a letter detailing the reasons for denial of the reinstatement application and her rights to appeal. A motion was made to deny Weiqin Lu the reinstatement application for licensure; So Moved by Kim Schuler; Seconded by Pallas Hutchison.
  - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
  - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
  - Members opposed: None; Motion passed
- 445-MT-MT- [David Bannerman] – A reinstatement application was recently submitted by David Bannerman after he voluntarily surrendered his license to resolve a disciplinary action before the Board. The Board reviewed the application and interviewed the applicant. Motion was made to move the application forward in the application process; So Moved by Kim Schuler; Seconded by Pallas Hutchison.
  - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
  - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
  - Members opposed: None; Motion passed

### **Compliance Monitoring**

- 2019-001136-IT-ENF – [Mark Cornelius] – This item was tabled.

### **Executive Director Report**

The Executive Director did not have any updates to report.

### **Board Counsel Report**

There are no new updates on the regulations.

### **Discuss other matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting.**

- No unanticipated matters were discussed.

Motion to exit public session at 12:05 PM and enter Closed Investigative Conference followed by a Quasijudicial Session; So Moved by Alexei Levine; Seconded by Pallas Hutchison.

- Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
- Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler
- Members opposed: None; Motion passed

**Investigative Conference** [Closed session pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C]:

The Board took the following actions during the closed session:

- **Ticket Review**
  - 2023-200620-FI-ENF – Referred to Prosecutions
  - 2023-200629-FI-ENF – Referred to Prosecutions
  - 2023-200952-FI-ENF – Dismissed
  - 2023-200865-FI-ENF – Referred to Prosecutions
  - 2022-204186-FI-ENF – Dismissed
- **Settlements**
  - 2021-205618-FI-ENF – Dismissed
- **Review Matters Prior to Issuance of an Order to Show Cause**
  - 2023-000502-IT-ENF – Dismissed
  - 2023-000411-IT-ENF – Dismissed
  - 2023-000064-IT-ENF – Referred to Prosecutions
  - 2022-001070-IT-ENF – Referred to Prosecutions

**Quasijudicial Session** [Closed adjudicatory session pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, § 18, ¶ 5(d)]

- Matter of FU, Zhilan; 2020-200444-FI-ENF; 2021-000809-IT-ENF – Tabled
- Matter of LOPES, Solange; Docket Nos. 2020-001031, 1032-IT-ENF, 2021-000262-IT-ENF, 2021-000345-IT-ENF – Tabled

Motion to exit closed session and to adjourn the meeting at 12:58 PM; So Moved by Kim Schuler; Seconded by Pallas Hutchison.

- The meeting adjourned at 12:58 PM

Respectfully submitted,



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Kerry Cassidy  
Executive Director



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Paul Andrews  
Board Chair

List of Documents used in Public Session:

MT Public Agenda 10.16.2023

MT Public Meeting Minutes 03.06.2023

MT Executive Meeting Minutes 03.06.2023

MT Public Meeting Minutes 09.11.2023

MT Executive Meeting Minutes 09.11.2023

Proposed Meeting Schedule for 2024

MT Delegated Authorities

Policy #15-001 Board's Acceptance of Licensed Practice in Lieu of Clinical Supervised Practice  
Educational Requirement