



MAURA HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIM DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ASHLEY STOLBA
INTERIM SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Occupational Licensure

One Federal Street, Suite 600
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2012

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

SARAH R. WILKINSON
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Board of Registration of Massage Therapy March 10, 2025 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, Anthony Chui arrived at approximately 10:11 a.m.

Members Absent: None

Staff: Kerry Cassidy, Executive Director, Nirit Eriksson, Board Counsel

Meeting Called to Order

Remote meeting procedures – At approximately, 10:00 AM, Paul Andrews confirmed quorum via roll call which showed the following members participating via remote means; Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, and Kimberlee Schuler; Paul Andrews called the meeting to order.

Board Business

- The Board reviewed the Public Session Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2025. Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented; So Moved by Pallas Hutchison; Seconded by Kimberlee Schuler
 - 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
- FSMTB- Q & A on IMpact and REACH-Patty Glenn from FSMTB provided a brief update on IMpact legislation. Once seven states have enacted legislation, the commission can begin to work on the rule making process. Alexei Levine inquired about possible conflicts regarding states that may not license schools and how that would affect Massachusetts. Kimberlee Schuler inquired if the home state is based on voter registration. Ms. Glenn stated that she would follow up with the Board on these questions. Anthony Chui inquired about the structure of data sharing and the potential of retrieving license information regarding someone that might be working in a temporary location. Ms. Glenn explained the primary function of the database and that specific time parameters may have to be in place.

Ellen Helmich gave a brief update on the primary function of REACH. Paul Andrews explained that it could benefit the Board as it pertains to disciplinary action that would



address informed consent, inappropriate touch, draping, and Massachusetts regulations. Alexei Levine expressed his approval for additional courses, such as, therapeutic relationship, transference, counter transference, and professional boundaries. Ms. Helmich mentioned that they are currently working on courses for human trafficking, sexual misconduct, and professional licensure. A fee is not associated with member states to create the course. However, the cost is passed along to the individuals taking the course. A remediation course is \$50.00 an hour, but a course that would be taken for license renewal is \$15.00 per hour. Anthony Chui inquired about obtaining courses in other languages.

- AMTA Input on IMpact – Mark Malloy wanted to confirm eligibility of the IMpact if the testing requirement and the continuing education requirement are not currently in place. In order to participate, the legislation would have to be enacted. Ms. Glenn also confirmed that participants that take the MBLEx and the NCBTMB exam would be accepted. Mr. Malloy stated that there is a lot of confusion surrounding the IMpact, regular licensure, and disciplinary issues.
- Vote on Draft Language Regarding CEU's for Inclusion in Consent Agreements- The Board reviewed the draft language included in the packet. Alexei Levine suggested adding in specific language to state “Board Recognized Provider”. Paul Andrews stated that the Board would dictate the subject matter, and the Board would have the option to deny any course that doesn’t qualify. Nirit Eriksson explained that it would be at the discretion of the Board staff to accept or deny any course that has been submitted. Motion was made to accept the draft language as presented; So Moved by Anthony Chui; Seconded by Kimberlee Schuler
 - Paul Andrews called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Paul Andrews, Alexei Levine, Pallas Hutchison, Kimberlee Schuler, and Anthony Chui
 - Members opposed: None; Motion passed

Other Board Business

Kerry Cassidy mentioned that DOL will be moving the weekend of March 22 & 23, 2025 to One Federal Street in Boston.

Anthony Chui left the meeting at 10:58 AM.

Curriculum Review

Tri County Vocational Technical School-The Board reviewed the curriculum that was submitted and is concerned that students under the age of 18 would be practicing hands-on massage therapy. The Board would like to have additional information on the following courses:

- Ethics should include more information on therapeutic relationships, professional boundaries, Massachusetts laws and regulations.
- Kinesiology should include more information on palpation, the origin and insertion of muscles. It should be more in line with Massachusetts curriculum guidelines.
- Clinical should be at least 60 hours hands-on. The externship should be at a licensed massage establishment under the guidance of a licensed massage therapist.
- More detail on supervision should be defined.
- Book work should be done prior to 18 and hands-on only if 18 years or older.

Paul Andrews stated that the Board may not be amenable to individuals under the age of 18 doing any hands-on work and perhaps even enrollment should be limited to those who are at least 18 years old.

Executive Director Report

Kerry Cassidy gave a report on the Subcommittee meeting on February 19, 2025. Arthur Pacheco was an applicant from the November 20, 2024 meeting and was deficient in Massage Theory & Technique. He received a certification from the Dalton Institute Freedom of Pain for 230 hours. The Subcommittee approved Mr. Pacheco's application to move forward.

Board Counsel Report

Nirit Eriksson reported that the legislative extension of the remote meetings provision has not yet been signed.

Anthony Chui returned to the meeting at 11:16 AM.

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

- No unanticipated matters were discussed.

At 11:19 AM, Kimberlee Schuler moved to exit Public Session and enter into Executive Session pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, §21(a)(1), for the purpose of reviewing reputation or character rather than professional competence and Closed Session pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §65C, for the purpose of conducting investigatory and settlement conferences and pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, § 18, ¶ 5(d), for the purpose of conducting adjudicatory conferences; 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, Kimberlee Schuler, and Anthony Chui
- Members opposed: None; Motion passed

The Board took the following actions during closed session:

- 2025-000010-IT-ENF – Refer to Prosecution
- 2024-000850-IT-ENF – Tabled
- 2024-000810-IT-ENF – Refer to Prosecution
- 2024-000619-IT-ENF – Tabled
- 2024-000935-IT-ENF – Dismissed with Advisory
- 2025-201053-FI-ENF – Refer to Prosecution

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 PM; 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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kerry Cassidy
Kerry Cassidy
Executive Director



Paul Andrews
Board Chair

List of Documents Used in the Public Meeting:

MT Public Agenda
MT Public Meeting Minutes 01.13.2025
AMTA Letter Relative to IMpact
Draft Language for Consent Agreements
Tri-County Vocational Technical School Curriculum