



State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners

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

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

HYBRID

September 25, 2024 – 10:01 a.m. to 10:49 a.m.

Members Present

Kirsten Bodnarchuk, LMT, Board Chair
Stephen Conti, LMT, Vice Chair
Margaret Hayes, MS, Secretary/Treasurer
Sabrina Lopez, LMT, Board Member
Eddie Souza, LMT, Board Member
Dynasty Crawford, LMT, Board Member
Ismael V. Canales, Consumer Board Member

Non-Members Present

Sharon Oliver, MBA, Executive Director
Tony DeFranco, AAG, Board Counsel
Charlene Faison, MFA, Licensing Unit Manager
Corinne Leith, Massage Licensing Coordinator
Pamela Alston, Admin. Specialist
Nate Mitchell, IT Programmer

Call to Order at 10:01 a.m. by Board Chair

On September 25, 2024, the Open Session of the Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners was held in room 110. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Board Chair Kirsten Bodnarchuk, LMT. Roll call was taken, and all Board Members and Staff were present. Dynasty Crawford, LMT, was present virtually.

Review/Approval of the Open Session Agenda – Ismael Canales motioned to accept the Open Session Agenda; 2nd by Margaret Hayes. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

Review/Approval of the Open Session Minutes for July 24, 2024 – Stephen Conti motioned to accept the Open Session Minutes for July 24, 2024; 2nd by Eduardo Souza. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

Board Chair's Report(s) – (*Kirsten Bodnarchuk, LMT*)

IAHTI Conference – Kirsten Bodnarchuk, Clarine Henderson, and Sharon Oliver attended the IAHTI Human Trafficking Conference in Clearwater, Florida, on September 3-5, 2024. Baltimore City and Prince George's County Law Enforcement were also in attendance. Kirsten Bodnarchuk emphasized collaborative communication with local law enforcement to prosecute illicit massage. Board Discussion.

CLEAR Conference – Kirsten Bodnarchuk, Sharon Oliver, Charlene Faison, and Clarine Henderson attended the CLEAR Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, on September 16-19, 2024. Salient topics included investigative interview techniques, the role of continuing education to ensure competency, and metrics of testing. Sharon Oliver moderated a panel discussion on risk-based and assessment of standards of practice as it relates to continuing education. Board Discussion.



CLEAR Award for Excellence – Sharon Oliver was honored with the CLEAR Award for Excellence in Regulatory Authority at the 2024 CLEAR Conference. Sharon was also nominated for the Maryland Department of Health’s Secretary’s Spotlight Award.

FSMTB 2024 Candidates: Voting at Annual Conference, October 2024 – Board Members voted for candidates for the FSMTB Board of Directors.

Question from Licensee – (*Sharon J. Oliver, MBA*)

- 1. Implicit Bias & Initial Licensure** – If you are renewing your license for the first time, you must complete the Implicit Bias Training Course. If you retake the implicit bias training course, it will count as an elective if you completed it in the previous cycle.
- 2. Receiving Credit for Open Session Board Meeting Attendance** – Licensees who attend the Open Session will receive up to (3) three CEU credits toward Jurisprudence or Ethics. Please email your name and date of attendance to the Executive Director.
- 3. Online CPR Course** – The Board prefers to accept in-person CPR Training, however, until there is an additional edict, online training will be accepted.
- 4. Question Submissions (Chat Box) During the Open Session** – The Board cannot accept questions through the chat box during the Open Session. Please submit your questions to the Executive Director at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting. This will ensure the Board has adequate time to research your questions and provide clear answers.

Executive Director’s Report – (*Sharon J. Oliver, MBA*)

Issuance of Initial Registration: Deadline, September 30, 2024 – As a reminder, per Maryland Code Ann., Health Occ. § 6-302(e), after September 30, 2024, the Board is not authorized to issue an initial registration to practice as a registered massage practitioner.

Department of Veterans Affairs: Massage Therapy Standards of Practice: Comment Period Ends September 30, 2024 – A link for comment submissions will be available on the Board website.

YTD Financial Position – The total allocation for FY2025 is \$929,002.00. The total fund balance is \$877,775.32. The year-to-date expense total is \$51,226.68. The current budget does not reflect approved salary increases negotiated by the union.

Staffing Update – Interviews for the investigator position were conducted, but no candidate was selected. The position was reposted and closed on September 24, 2024. Interviews will begin once HR provides the list of candidates.

FSMTB Candidates for Board of Directors & Nominating Committee – Kirsten Bodnarchuk announced the selected 2024 candidates for election to Board of Directors and the 2025 Nominating Committee.

FSMTB Data on Regulated States: Requirements – Sharon Oliver reviewed the FSMTB data on licensure requirements for regulated states. The board may accept applications from individuals with less than 750 hours of training if they have 1,000 hours of hands-on massage experience.



Sunset Bill Extension & Board Membership (*Effective 7/1/25*) – The Maryland Department of Health is sponsoring the Sunset Bill. The Board Membership will increase from 7 to 9 members, and the Sunset Date will be extended from 2026 to 2031.

Distribution of Ballots – Ballots were distributed to Board Members for voting.

Licensing Unit Report – (*Charlene Faison, MFA*)

Current Licensing Statistics

Active Licensees / Registrants as of September 19, 2024

Category	Status	Prior Month	Current Month	Change
Licensed Massage Therapist	Active	2344	2389	+45
Licensed Massage Therapist	Inactive	220	230	+10
Registered Massage Practitioner	Active	1396	1418	+22
Registered Massage Practitioner	Inactive	102	106	+4

Renewal Data as of September 19, 2024

Number of Renewed Licensed Massage Therapists	503
Number of Renewed Registered Massage Practitioners	197
Total Revenue Collected	\$182, 272.00

Committee Reports

Advisory Committee – (*Stephen Conti, LMT*)

The Advisory Committee continues to work on regulations regarding the use of hand-held tools. A draft will be ready for review at the next board meeting.

CEU Committee – (*Kirsten Bodnarchuk, LMT*)

Brilliance Advanced Beauty Education (BABE), Submitted by Cortney Cox. 3 Course Submissions for approval:

1. Sanitation & HIV/AIDS (4 CEUs)
2. Work Smarter, Not Harder in the Beauty Business (3 CEUs)
3. Is A Home Treatment Room Right for Me? (3 CEUs)

The board voted to accept the recommendation of the committee.

Licensing Committee – (*Kirsten Bodnarchuk, LMT*) – No report.



Nominations Committee – *(Sharon J. Oliver, MBA & Kirsten Bodnarchuk, LMT)*

Sharon Oliver announced the results of the Executive Committee:

Board Chair – Stephen Conti, LMT

Vice-Chair – Sabrina Lopez, LMT

Secretary/Treasurer – Eduardo Souza, LMT

MATTERS FOR NOTATION

Actions from July 24, 2024, Closed Session. The Board did not conduct a Closed Session.

Applicants Ratifications

Ratification of Board Issued Licenses and Registrations LMTs & RMP's – Motion to approve all new LMT's, Conversions, and new RMP's by Sabrina Lopez; 2nd by Stephen Conti. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

JULY & AUGUST 2024

NEW LMTS

LICENSE NUMBER	NAME	ORIGINAL LICENSE DATE
M06671	TEVIS, JOHN A.	07/08/2024
M06672	SCHIVER, JESSICA R.	07/08/2024
M06678	BUCKLEY-VOSHELL, JENNIFER E.	07/15/2024
M06679	RAMIREZ, ANDREW J.	07/15/2024
M06680	TORRES CERRON, JOSE D.	07/15/2024
M06682	FITE, JAMES C.	07/17/2024
M06684	JOHNSON, KEJUAN M.	07/22/2024
M06690	STIVERS, KATIE E.	07/30/2024
M06694	TWIST-RICE, MELINDA E.	08/07/2024
M06695	LEAVITT, RUTH L.	08/07/2024
M06697	SCHAFFNER, KRISTIN M.	08/08/2024
M06698	BITTINGER, MEGAN M.	08/09/2024
M06703	CUNNINGHAM, TASHA L.	08/20/2024
M06704	HAWTHORNE, JO ANN	08/20/2024
M06705	FLATELAND, ASHLEY M.	08/21/2024
M06712	AYMOLD, RACHEL E.	08/28/2024
M06713	YODER, HEATHER K.	08/28/2024
M06714	GREEN, TEONNA J.	08/30/2024

Total 18

RMP to LMT Conversion

License Number	Name	Original License Date
M06673	AYODELE, OYINTOKUNBO O.	05/24/2023
M06674	SANDERS, SEAN L.	10/12/2023
M06675	CRUMP, ASHLEY V.	10/25/2012
M06676	SHU, YINGLI	07/02/2014
M06677	KIM, JASON J.	10/31/2016
M06681	RAUDALES, TRAVIATA	08/04/2023
M06683	GUIFFRE, SUZETTE MARIE	07/30/2019
M06685	SHEATS, JR, JOHN P.	03/19/2010
M06686	WILLIAMS, DONNA J.	04/20/2016
M06687	ELLERBE, NICOLE A.	04/02/2007
M06688	FORD, SHIRLEY L.	07/06/2012
M06689	JENKINS, SHANTE JASMINE	03/10/2020
M06691	SMITH, LAUREN C.	10/17/2014
M06692	LEE, SUNG HEE	08/14/2019
M06693	PUSEY, SONYA D.	05/04/2011
M06696	KUEHNE, ANGELA	09/11/2023
M06699	DeLUNA, MARYA	12/06/2017
M06700	Muir, Brigitte M.	11/12/2021
M06701	WARNICK, MEGAN R.	06/04/2021
M06702	LIU, FENG	02/16/2011
M06706	Royalty, Wanvalee	10/09/2020
M06707	ABEBE, BISLAT T.	07/01/2014
M06708	MINCEY, ELISHA	10/11/2017
M06709	CHEN, LIRONG	10/12/2022
M06710	MAO, WENGE	06/25/2024
M06711	JAMES, PARICHAT N.	05/26/2022

Total 26

NEW RMPs

License Number	Name	Original License Date
R03757	HUI, YING	07/08/2024
R03758	WOOD, NICHOLAS P.	07/08/2024
R03759	ROYAL-JOHNSON, SKYLAR I.	07/15/2024
R03760	MOORING, AALIYAH	07/15/2024
R03761	LIU, YUHONG	07/15/2024
R03762	KIM, HEE-EUN	07/23/2024
R03763	SISTI, KAYLA B.	07/23/2024
R03764	JARVIS, ELLEN S.	07/25/2024
R03765	CAMPBELL, TRANICEIA A.	07/25/2024
R03766	DAVIS, AUSTIN J.	08/02/2024
R03767	HICKS, CARRIELENA	08/02/2024
R03768	HOU, GUOWEI	08/07/2024

R03769	JOHNSON, ALEXANDRIA O.	08/07/2024
R03770	ROJAS, SHANNON M.	08/07/2024
R03771	BRICK, JADYN M.	08/07/2024
R03772	DULL, ALEXANDRA R.	08/07/2024
R03773	MCCLAIN, NATALIE B.	08/07/2024
R03774	HERRMANN, AILEEN B.	08/07/2024
R03775	WILSON, VICTORIA	08/08/2024
R03776	HEINDEL, BETHANY J.	08/08/2024
R03777	BURKHARDT, ELIZABETH K.	08/09/2024
R03778	SMITH, SEBENE M.	08/09/2024
R03779	KIRK, TYRIVA L.	08/20/2024
R03780	BLYE, DEBRA T.	08/20/2024
R03781	OKECH, AUDREY A.	08/20/2024
R03782	ALBALUSHI, MAHDI M.	08/20/2024
R03783	ENCARNACION, GABRIELA	08/21/2024
R03784	CAVANAGH, KERRY ANNE	08/26/2024
R03785	WARNER, JEREMY K.	08/27/2024
R03786	MBOUSSI, SUZANNE O.	08/27/2024
R03787	EHRHART, ELIZABETH C.	08/28/2024
R03788	DIWA, ADOLPHINE M.M.	08/28/2024
R03789	BROGDON, LINDA E.	08/28/2024
R03790	BLAKEMORE, ERNESTINE M.	08/28/2024
R03791	LANGFORD, JULIE A.	08/29/2024

Total 35

MISCELLANEOUS

Review actions to be taken: None.

Next meeting – October 23, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. (Virtual).

Open Session Meeting Adjourned – Motion to adjourn Open Session at 10:49 a.m. by Ismael Canales; 2nd by Stephen Conti. The motion passed. Board Vote: 7/0/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Hayes by SV

Margaret Hayes, MS, Consumer Member
Secretary/Treasurer