

BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
Professional & Vocational Licensing Division
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: May 7, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

In-Person Meeting Location: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room
HRH King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, First Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Virtual: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

Members Present: Olivia Nagashima, Massage Therapist, Chair
Jayce Arakaki, Public Member, Vice Chair
Darci Frankel, Massage Therapist
Shanon Skoog, Public Member

Excused: Sean St. Louis, Public Member

Zoom Recording Link: <https://youtu.be/5ObBY2A3ixM?si=cjAE2Y7XfvEjdBjB>

Staff Present: Risé Doi, Executive Officer (“EO”)
Christopher Leong, Deputy Attorney General (“DAG”)
Juliet Kalilikane, Secretary
Mia Hoang, Tech Support
Johnny Li, Tech Support
Candace Ito, Supervising EO

Guest(s): FSMTB; Debra Persinger- Executive Director, Craig Knowles - President, Keith Warren, Elisabeth Barnard, Foad Araiinejad, Victoria Drago, Caroline Guerin, Karen Frazier

Agenda: The agenda for this meeting was posted on the State electronic calendar as required by HRS section 92-7(b).

A short video regarding virtual meetings was played to explain procedures for the virtual meeting and how members of the public can participate and interact with the Board during the meeting.

Call to Order: In accordance with Act 220, SLH 2021, all Board members attending virtually confirmed that they were alone in their nonpublic location. After taking roll, a quorum was established, and Chair Nagashima called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

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Approval of
Minutes of the
March 5, 2024
Meeting:

Chair Nagashima asked if any members of the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item. There were none.

Ms. Skoog suggested to strike the following:

~~[Ms. Skoog noted that some students need additional help with studying anatomy to pass the state exam and that some students shared concerns about increasing the number of required hours for anatomy.]~~

Upon a motion by Ms. Skoog, second by Ms. Frankel, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the open session and executive session minutes of March 5, 2024, meeting as amended.

Executive Officer's
Report:

a. Massage therapy examination statistics

EO Doi presented the Board with the massage therapy examination statistics for March 2024. The Board received the invitation for a follow up meeting with PSI.

b. Update on Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 16 Chapter 84

EO Doi noted that the next step of the administrative rules process is to send the rules draft to the Small Business Regulatory Review Board ("SBRRB"). EO Doi said she is working on the paperwork and will let the Board members know when the rules are on the SBRRB agenda.

Applications:

Chair Nagashima asked if any members from the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item. There were none.

Ratification List (see attached list):

Upon a motion by Chair Nagashima, seconded by Ms. Frankel, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the attached list of individuals for licensure.

Executive
Session:

It was moved by Chair Nagashima, seconded by Ms. Frankel, and unanimously carried to enter executive session at 9:17 a.m., in accordance with HRS §92-5(a)(1), to consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for professional licenses cited in HRS §26-9 and, pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(4), to consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities.

At 9:41 a.m., it was moved by Vice Chair Arakaki, seconded by Ms. Skoog, and unanimously carried to move out of executive session.

Applications:

1) Thanista Chirapantipa

Upon a motion by Chair Nagashima, seconded by Ms. Skoog, it was unanimously carried that the Board approve the agreement between DCCA and Ms. Chirapantipa, in which the applicant must pass the massage exam by June 30, 2024.

New Business:

a. Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards ("FSMTB") presentation

Debra Persinger from the Federation of State Massage Therapy Board introduced Craig Knowles, chair of FSMTB.

Ms. Persinger and Mr. Knowles explained that Hawaii is the only regulatory state that has not joined FSMTB. FSMTB offers services such as monthly newsletters regarding regulatory updates, monthly virtual member events via Zoom, topical discussions, legislative support, continuing education, and MATILDA, a massage therapy licensing database that allows states to share licensing information and disciplinary action across state lines. MATILDA only works in states that are registered in the database. FSMTB has a review panel to check for fraudulent documents. FSMTB also has an in-person annual meeting each year for a board member from each licensing board to attend.

The first year to join FSMTB is free. After the first year, there is a \$500 base fee and \$0.40 per applicant/active licensee, however, the cost caps at \$2,800.

Ms. Persinger explained that the Council of State Governments is partnering with the Department of Defense and FSMTB to support an interstate massage compact. The purpose of the compact is to support professional mobility and help solve the ongoing workforce shortages in massage therapy. The compact is now available for adoption. Each state has the prerogative to adopt the compact. Mr. Knowles explained that if somebody with a compact license is practicing in Hawaii, they must abide by Hawaii's rules even if their home license is in another state. To qualify for a compact license, the massage therapist needs at least 625 hours of education, and a background check is required. The home state license must stay in good standing. For any infractions outside of the home state of licensure, any state can contact the Commission, which takes the burden of finding the licensee and notifying the home state for sanctioning. Any crimes committed by a licensee is an automatic revocation of compact for all states. It will need a minimum of seven states. Current legislation is moving forward in Alabama, Alaska, Wisconsin, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, Georgia, Washington, and New York. Live information is available on the website: massagecompact.org. The first seven states to adopt the compact get a seat on the Commission to regulate it.

Mr. Knowles noted that FSMTB administers the MBLEX, a national exam. Hawaii and New York are the two states that do not accept MBLEX for licensure. Mr. Knowles noted that there is no cost to the state to use the MBLEX if the state is a member of FSMTB. The MBLEX would be an additional option for Hawaii licensee applicants, not

instead of the state exam, and meets the requirement for the multistate license through the compact.

Chair Nagashima stated that joining FSMTB would ultimately be up to DCCA. Ms. Skoog expressed support for trying out the FSMTB for one year and expressed concerns regarding the interstate compact. She noted that there may be limited jobs and housing for local massage therapists who are affected by the high costs of living in Hawaii, those who are local should have priority to housing and jobs before someone who is traveling with an interstate compact license. Ms. Frankel expressed concerns about joining FSMTB.

Chair Nagashima made a motion to join FSMTB for one year. Ms. Skoog seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion did not pass. Chair Nagashima and Ms. Skoog voted yes, and Ms. Frankel voted no. Chair Nagashima recommended putting this item on the next agenda for the other Board members who were not present to consider at the next meeting.

Vice Chair Jayce Arakaki joined the meeting virtually at 10:54 a.m.

- b. United States Department of Education gainful employment rules that may affect hours-based school programs and financing

This item was brought into the discussion during "Ongoing Business" item b.

- c. Continuing Education Renewal Requirements

The Board reviewed an inquiry regarding whether licensees are allowed take an online only CPR course. EO Doi explained that some licensees have concerns completing an in-person class when they are immunocompromised or living with immunocompromised household members. EO Doi noted that during the COVID-19 pandemic, at the June 18, 2020, meeting, the Board required applicants to complete a CPR course with a hands-on component for initial licensure.

Chair Nagashima noted that it is important to stay up to date with CPR guidelines. There are online asynchronous CPR courses and that in 2015, the American Heart Association changed their guidelines resulting in 38 percent more saved lives. Chair Nagashima also noted that there are hybrid CPR courses, where the participant completes the training online and goes in-person to complete the hands-on portion. EO Doi and DAG Leong stated that the rules are still in the process of being promulgated and that the Board could allow for online CPR only for the June 2024 renewal cycle. Ms. Candace Ito asked the Board for clarification if they would accept online-only CPR, first aid, or other emergency related course for the June 2024 renewal cycle.

Upon a motion by Chair Nagashima, seconded by Ms. Skoog, it was voted on and unanimously carried by the majority to allow licensees to complete an online-only CPR, first aid, or emergency related course only for the June 2024 renewal cycle. Mr. Arakaki abstained from voting on this item.

Ongoing
Business:

a. Interstate Massage Therapy Licensure Compact update

The Board covered this item during the FSTMB discussion. Chair Nagashima mentioned that she has been involved in the legislative discussions on a national level and will be attending another meeting in September. She noted that there have been some reservations regarding the compact as it is relatively still new, although discussions started back in 2016.

b. Rule Revisions – Title 16, Chapter 84, Hawaii Administrative Rule

The Board continued discussion regarding increasing the number of hours required for licensure. Chair Nagashima proposed increasing the number from 570 to 625 to align with national standards and the U.S. Department of Education gainful employment rules, where federal financial assistance will only be available for schools with programs of 600 hours or more. Ms. Skoog, Ms. Frankel, and Mr. Arakaki agreed with increasing the requirement to 625 hours. Board members expressed concern on how the curriculum is being taught. Chair Nagashima noted it is the responsibility of instructors to have quality course preparation for students regarding state exam materials. EO Doi stated it is within the purview of the board members is to set the requirement, not directly advise the school or instructors how to present the material in a classroom setting.

Chair Nagashima stated that drafting the rules has taken many years and asked Board members to come to the next meeting prepared to discuss how to allocate the 625 hours for education and training.

EO Doi noted that the current draft of rules contains revisions relating to the sanitation of massage establishments and CE, and that the current package needs to go through the administrative process and be adopted since the statutes require the Board to promulgate these rules. EO Doi said that the Board can keep the above item on future agendas for ongoing discussion for when a new rules package is filed.

Next Meeting:

July 2, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

and

In-Person Meeting Location: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room
HRH King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, Chair Nagashima adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

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Taken by:

/s/ Juliet Kalilikane

Juliet Kalilikane
Secretary

Reviewed by:

/s/ Risé Doi

Risé Doi
Executive Officer

06/14/2024

- Minutes approved as is.
- Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of _____

DRAFT

BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA

March 5, 2024

MASSAGE THERAPIST

MAT-17725-0	Kimberly Marie Ramirez
MAT-17726-0	LYNDA SIEMON
MAT-17727-0	SHAUNTE GOUVEIA
MAT-17728-0	Jerika J Bangal
MAT-17731-0	RENEE PARKER DOUCETTE
MAT-17732-0	Jessamina Keomailani Eseta Moeoge
MAT-17733-0	James S Myers
MAT-17734-0	MAYA KEALOHA TAKABAYASHI
MAT-17735-0	Christof Gazov
MAT-17737-0	Mark Riccio
MAT-17740-0	Hasse Carlo Ratz
MAT-17742-0	Alta Mari Neerings
MAT-17743-0	SIMONE BEUMER
MAT-17744-0	Sierra Felice Norman
MAT-17746-0	ERI MAKIHARA
MAT-17747-0	JUNKO TANAKA
MAT-17748-0	Catherine Evans-Bautista
MAT-17749-0	Courtney Jean Bauman-Godsil
MAT-17750-0	Jessamy Joy Cacciatore
MAT-17752-0	Rissiena C Quiazon
MAT-17753-0	Devon M Kikukawa
MAT-17755-0	Chie Oyama
MAT-17756-0	MIHOKO KANAI
MAT-17757-0	COURTNEY E WEXLER
MAT-17758-0	Monique Veronica Anderson
MAT-17760-0	Diana Ho
MAT-17764-0	Jaclyn N Peene
MAT-17765-0	FUKA KAWASE
MAT-17766-0	SERAFIMA M Maile CARLSON
MAT-17767-0	MAIKO WATANABE
MAT-17768-0	Sky A Trapella
MAT-17769-0	Eri Sato Murakami

MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENT

MAE-17729-0	WELLNESS MASSAGE GENERATOR LLC
MAE-17730-0	HAWAII CHOI SPA LLC
MAE-17736-0	Fire Palace Inc
MAE-17738-0	My Hawaii Ai LLC
MAE-17741-0	SUNRISE MASSAGE & SPA LLC
MAE-17745-0	123 Spa LLC
MAE-17751-0	OMAJ PARTNERS LLC
MAE-17754-0	Mau Life Shala Inc
MAE-17761-0	Earth Body Balance
MAE-17762-0	KI THERAPY INC
MAE-17763-0	SOL SPA KAUA'I LLC
MAE-17771-0	THAI BANYAN MASSAGE AND SPA LLC
MAE-17729-0	WELLNESS MASSAGE GENERATOR LLC
MAE-17730-0	HAWAII CHOI SPA LLC
MAE-17736-0	Fire Palace Inc
MAE-17738-0	My Hawaii Ai LLC

MASSAGE THERAPY WORKSHOP

N/A
