



State of Idaho
Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses
Idaho Board of Massage Therapy

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Board Meeting Minutes of 12/4/2023

Board Members Present: Joanna Robertson - Chair
Anna Larsen
Samantha Scholer

Division Staff: John Price, Bureau Chief, Occupational Licenses
Katie Stuart, Bureau Chief, Administration
Greg Loos, General Counsel
Skip Liddle, Investigative Supervisor
Elisabeth Kukla, Licensing Supervisor
Candace Villarreal, Licensing Specialist
Christian Runnalls, Board Support Specialist
Sarina Criswell, Board Support Specialist

Board Members Absent: Melissa Goldsmith

The meeting was called to order at 9:43 AM by Joanna Robertson.

Public Comment

Lydia Benson, American Institute of Clinical Massage, explained that effective July 1, 2024, all massage schools, nationally, must require 600 hours of instruction, and the program hours must be exactly the same as the state minimum requirements to qualify for Title IV federal funding.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 09/11/2023 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

DIVISION BUSINESS

Professional Recovery Program: Ms. Stuart presented information about the Professional Recovery Program. No action was taken.

Luma Update: Mr. Price informed the Board that all members were added to the new Luma system as employees, and as such, may receive automated email updates that can be disregarded.

Executive Agency Legislation Update: Mr. Price explained that the Division has put forth executive agency legislation for the 2024 Legislative Session that would change renewals from an annual renewal to a biennial renewal with the expiration date remaining as the licensee's date of birth.

Financial Update: Mr. Price informed the Board that an updated financial report was unavailable due to complications with the new Luma system.

BOARD BUSINESS

Online Qualifying Education: Ms. Villarreal presented information regarding an inquiry about online education standards and apprenticeships. The Board reaffirmed its stance as expressly stated in the Board's rules.

FSMTB Presentation for Idaho Massage Therapy Schools: Ms. Robertson discussed the idea of inviting the FSMTB to provide a presentation to the Board at the next quarterly meeting and coordinate a presentation offered to the schools.

Practice Act Review: Mr. Loos demonstrated where to find the Statute and Rules on the Board's website.

Illegal Massage Industry Discussion - Licensure Red Flags: Mr. Loos presented information from the last FSMTB conference, FBI resources, and information on how to identify human trafficking in the industry, as well as resources for victim advocacy programs.

Illegal Massage Industry Discussion - Board's Authority: Mr. Loos explained the Board's authority to start an investigation through the Division when there is awareness or findings of human trafficking in the industry.

Conference Attendance Requests: A motion was made and seconded to send a member of the Board to each of the relevant 2024 conferences. The motion carried unanimously.

Annual Meeting Updates: Ms. Robertson updated the Board on topics from the 2023 FSMTB Annual Meeting. Division staff will provide the FSMTB with updated Board member contact information.

Delegated Authority to Close Expungement Requests: A motion was made and seconded to delegate authority to Division staff to close expungement requests that fall under Idaho Code § 67-9413(3). The motion carried unanimously.

Delegated Authority to Close Unfounded Complaints: A motion was made and seconded to delegate authority to Division staff to close unfounded complaints. The motion carried unanimously.

Licensing Report: Ms. Kukla presented the licensing report.

2024 Goal Setting - School Presentations: Mr. Price stated that notification letters regarding student training to be offered by the Board and the Division to Idaho registered massage school students will be sent by the licensing specialist. Training materials and any responses to the letters will be reviewed at the March 2024 Board meeting.

2024 Goal Setting - Proposed Meeting Dates: The Board confirmed proposed Board meetings dates for March 18, June 17, September 23, and December 09, 2024.

Executive Session

A motion was made and seconded to enter executive session under Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under the Idaho Public Records Law, Idaho Code § 74-106(9). The purpose of the executive session was to discuss documents relating to the fitness of a licensee to obtain or retain a license or registration. The vote was: Ms. Larsen, aye; Ms. Scholer, aye; and Ms. Robertson, aye. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to exit executive session. The motion carried unanimously. No decisions were made in executive session.

Discipline

A motion was made and seconded to close case number I-MAS-2024-3. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to close case number I-MAS-2023-9 with an advisory letter. The motion carried unanimously.

Applications

Ms. Villarreal presented a brief training on what Board members should look for when reviewing applications.

A motion was made and seconded to approve application MASA-5255 pending receipt of passing results of the MBLEx examination. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.

The next meeting is on March 18, 2024.