

The Advisory Board on Massage Therapy met on Thursday August 17, 2017 at 2401 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 84, Testing Center, Oklahoma City OK 73107 at 10:05 a.m. The following persons were present:

**ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

Laura Grisso , Chair

Pamela Matherly, Vice Chair

Marilyn Ihloff

Robert Rowe

Theresa SchRowe der

**BOARD'S LEGAL ADVISOR**

Grant Moak, Assistant Attorney General

**BOARD STAFF**

Sherry G. Lewelling, Executive Director

Janelle Hastings, Administrative Assistant

**VISITORS**

NOTE: some names were difficult to read.

Billie Pfeifle

Chellie Abernathy

Chuck L.

Scott Rayburn

Cynthia Atchico

Mary Elizabeth LeBlanc

Sara Christian

Laura H

Stephanie Fountain

Sara McDermitt

Deborah Billington

India Carson

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Grisso called the meeting to order.

(The meeting agenda had been properly posted and agenda-ized)

ROLL CALL

**Quorum was established with roll call. The following persons answered roll call: Grisso , Matherly, Ihloff, Rowe and Schroeder.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT-OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ADVISORY BOARD TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT, EACH SPEAKER IS LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES. COMMENTS MUST BE RELATED TO ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA.**

Stephanie Fountain national certified Massage Therapist stated she would like the Board to consider the possibilities for apprenticeship and provided research from other states such as Hawaii, Utah and Florida, that offer apprenticeship. Ms. Lewelling commented that the Board has no jurisdiction over Massage Therapy schools or the programs or curriculum. Mr. Moak said that any changes would require a change to the Massage Therapy Act. Chair Grisso stated this would be a lengthy process and recommended that Ms. Fountain submit her research to the legislative committee for research, then the committee would submit to the board for approval.

**DIRECTORS REPORT- SHERRY G LEWELLING**

**CHANGE IN STAFF** Ms Lewelling reported that Jennifer McRee had retired from her position with the agency. Also Laura Bryce who handled Massage therapy licenses, was offered another position with another company with more money and potential for growth. She was an amazing young lady and a real asset, who did her homework, if she was not processing license applications for massage therapy she was studying massage therapy. Ms Lewelling stated that a field inspector was temporarily taking over the massage therapy dept as well as the student dept but will be interviewing in the next couple weeks.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATES-** Ms. Lewelling reported she had visited with several senators recently, all are concerned about and are very supportive of massage therapy legislation this year. Also visited with Sen AJ Griffith, to discuss last year's failure and what suggestions she may have and also about carrying our bills again this year. Ms. Lewelling felt that we would have strong senate support. Ms Lewelling encouraged everyone to contact their state reps If we want to move forward and move the massage industry forward, it starts at the state capitol.

Ms. Chair Grisso also commented that the committees need representation from all over the state not just from Tulsa and Oklahoma City areas and encouraged those in the industry to reach out to their colleagues and have them contact her about serving

DISCUSSION RE: MASSAGE THERAPY LICENSING ISSUES FOR FUTURE RULE CONSIDERATION-LAURA GRISSO

Discussion concerned items that were not clear in the original statute which led to bill's failure and our main concern was correcting those items.

CHAIR APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES—

Ms. Chair Grisso stated that committee e mails were sent on Monday, August 14 and suggested that the board member representing each committee set up a meeting and elect a chair for that committee. Ms. Lewelling stated that she would need to be a part of those committee meetings and her office was always open for that.

DISCUSSION OF TIME LINE FOR LEGISLATION –

Ms. Chair Grisso stated our next meeting will be October 19 at 10 am, we will be setting meetings for rest of 2017 and all of 2018 and also would like to have committee suggestions at that time. We need to have our versions ready to OSBCB to give them time to discuss and vote on it during the November 13, 2017 OSBCB board meeting. Deadline to submit for legislation is December 8, 2017 final drafts due by January 18, 2018 as the session begins February 1, 2018.

FSMTB CONFERENCE UPDATE---Federation of State massage therapy boards, also administer the MBLEX conference September 27-30. Ms. Chair Grisso will be attending this conference in place of Ms. Lewelling who has a Barber conference the week before and will be unable to attend. Ms. Chair Grisso will bring an update of that conference to the October meeting.

**New Business Not Known Or Which Could Not Have Been Reasonably Foreseen Prior To Posting Of Meeting Agenda.**

Chair Grisso announced the meeting to be adjourned.

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**Laura Grisso , Chair**

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**Pamela Matherly, Vice Chair**

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**Marily Ihloff**

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**Robert Rowe**

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**Theresa Schroeder**

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