

ADVISORY BOARD ON MASSAGE THERAPY  
BOARD MEETING AGENDA

June 20, 2019

10:00am

2401 N W 23<sup>rd</sup>, Suite 84

Testing Center

Oklahoma City, Ok. 73107

Laura Grisso, Chair – Presiding

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1. Call to order

Chair Grisso called the meeting to order. (The meeting agenda had been properly posted and agenda-ized)

2. **Roll call.** Quorum was established with roll call.

The following persons answered roll call.

1. Laura Grisso, Chair
2. Pamela Matherly, Vice Chair
3. Marilyn Ihloff
4. Robert Rowe
5. Kelly Lene

**BOARD'S LEGAL ADVISOR**

Grant Moak

**BOARD STAFF**

Sherry Lewelling, Executive Director

Janelle Hastings, Administrative Assistant

Camisha Green, Student Registrar

Holli James, Inspector/Examiner

AbbyKate Waugh, Massage Program Coordinator

**Visitors**

Mary Elizabeth LeBlanc

Rachel Adams

### **3. Discussion and possible action to approve or disapprove board meeting minutes from April 18, 2019**

A motion was made by Ms. Ihloff and seconded by Mr. Rowe to approve board meeting minutes from April 18, 2019.

**Voting:** Pamela Matherly, yes; Marilyn Ihloff, yes; Robert Rowe, yes; Kelly Lene, yes.

Motion passed.

### **4. Public Comment**

No requests were heard.

### **5. Legislative Update**

Ms. Lewelling said this was the worst legislative sessions she had dealt with in twenty-one years. The Massage therapy bill was passed back and forth and in so many directions. The Massage Therapy Association fought against the establishment authority clause in the bill we proposed. Without regulation that individual license does not mean anything, the regulation is what brings a standard to the industry. She said the main issue is that we inadvertently put at least three thousand massage therapists out of work because the original grandfather clause window was too short. This bill would have allowed them to go back to work. When we saw the entire bill was not going to move forward as written, then we pushed for repeal. If Massage Therapists were not happy then allow them to go somewhere else where they would be happy. That repeal bill passed one side then the other side decided to amend it to just include the grandfather clause, and this was looking positive.

Sen Bergstrom became so frustrated with the group that harassed him every day, he turned the bill to someone else who turned it over to Senator Scott from Duncan, who had been advocating for a young man from the United Kingdom who had only 563 hours of barber training in the U.K. It was Mr. Moak's opinion that he did not even qualify for the exam.

Sen. Scott added language that would have allowed barber reciprocity to qualify with only 300 hours of training, he reduced massage therapy from 500 hours to 300 hours, this passed thru the senate and then when it got to the house, they sat on it. Because it was not voted on, it could still be brought back next session.

Ms. Grisso said we need to be ready for this next legislative session and make sure people are educated with the facts. Ms Lewelling agreed we need to educate our legislators, saying it will take everyone pulling on the same end of the rope to get anything done. If the Massage Therapy industry really wants to move forward with setting standards and raise the bar everyone must get on the same page. Ms. Grisso said she would prefer to not propose any legislation next year instead focus on opposing any threats that may arise. Ms. Matherly thanked Ms. Lewelling for all her efforts and hard work on the behalf of Massage Therapy industry.

## **6. Rulemaking update**

Mr. Moak provided a summary of rule changes that would affect the Board:

HB 1373-affects every licensing board in Oklahoma, amended enabling act of each licensing board in state and deals with criminal history that can disqualify a person from licensure. Cosmo board will need to come up with list of specific list of crimes that substantiate relate to massage therapy, and pose a reasonable threat to public safety.

SB 670 requires expedited license for military spouses by waiving initial license fee.

**7. New business**

No new business was heard.

**8. Board Adjournment**

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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Marilyn Ihloff

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Kelly Lene Yearwood

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Robert Rowe