

**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
STATE BOARD FOR MASSAGE THERAPY**

Via Zoom Meeting

March 4, 2022

Present: Kyle Hierholzer
Dale Montelione-Grust, Chair
Michele Naumann Carlstrom, Vice-Chair
Paul Pipia
Linda Toomey
Amy E. Warcup
Kiersten Fisher

Staff:	Dolores Cottrell	Acting Executive Secretary
	Carolyn Ferrick	Professional Examination Unit
	Diane Martin	Board Staff
	Kathleen Letzelter	Board Staff

Meeting Convened

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by AES Cottrell.

Minutes

Motion: To approve Minutes of the December 10, 2021 board meeting. Michele Naumann Carlstrom

Second: Amy Warcup

Vote: Unanimous approval

Resolved: The Minutes of the December 10, 2021 meeting are approved as drafted.

Acting Executive Secretary Announcements and Updates

Governor Hochul's budget includes a proposal to move 42 health professions to the Department of Health. AES Cottrell will forward to Board Members a 2-page document the Education Department produced for distribution to legislators and other stakeholders outlining reasons why regulation of the health professions should stay in the Education Department. A similar proposal was made years ago but it did not succeed.

AE Cottrell noted the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FMSTB) distributes a monthly online communication brief titled *In Touch*, and encouraged Board Members to sign up to receive it if they do not already.

The FMSTB Job Task Analysis Survey is now available for massage therapists to complete. A separate Sexual Harassment survey follows the Job Task Analysis Survey.

The FMSTB has a Virtual Membership Event Series which is held the second Wednesday each month and includes presentation on various topics. Please see their website for more information at <https://www.fsmtb.org/member-boardsagencies/member-services/member-virtual-event/>.

After 15 years, the FSMTB is modifying their exam. The exam has had multiple choice questions with 3 or 4 possible answers. Going forward, there will be 3 possible answers.

The Governor's Executive Order 11.3 declaring a disaster emergency was extended to March 16. This order has allowed us to meet online today. The Governor has been extending this order on a monthly basis, but we do not know if it will be extended again. Our next meeting may need to be in person.

Bill A8281 (2021) - An act to amend the Education Law, in relation to the unauthorized or unlicensed practice of massage therapy. The Board strongly opposes this proposed legislation. It devalues all professionals; it is not in the interest of public safety; without a license an individual could do harm. Also, consumers may be unaware a site/person is unlicensed or illegal.

Diane Martin asked Board Members for input and received responses for questions the Board office has received regarding marma therapy (a massage therapy license is required for this therapy) and pliability stretching (it may be included in continuing education). CBD oils, creams, lotions are not FDA-approved and may not be used when providing massages.

Executive Session

Motion: To end the public session and enter executive session to discuss the January 2022 and August 2022 examinations, and the Job Analysis survey and MBLEx examination. Amy Warcup

Second: Kiersten Fisher

Vote: Unanimous approval

Resolved: To enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the January 2022 and August 2022 examinations and the Job Analysis survey and MBLEx examination.

Next meeting Friday, May 6, 2022; to be determined if meeting will be in-person or via Zoom.

Adjournment

Motion: Dale Montelione-Grust

Second: Amy Warcup

Vote: Unanimous

Resolved: That the meeting be adjourned at 11:55 a.m.