On Friday, January 12, 2018, the Board of Massage held a board meeting at the Department of Labor & Industries, 7273 Linderson Way SW, Room S-117, Tumwater, WA. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

### Board Members
- Teresea Carson, LMT
- Stephanie Dickey, LMT
- Reynaldo Guajardo, LMT
- Meghann Lawrence, LMT, Chair
- Anthony Sharpe, Public Member, Vice-chair

### Staff Present
- Megan Maxey, Program Manager
- Kris Waidely, Program Manager
- Brandon Williams, Program Associate
- Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General
- James Chaney, Executive Director

### Guests
- Nancy Allen, LMT
- Kim Aubuchon, LMT
- Marybeth Berney, LMT
- Robbin Blake, LMT
- MaryAnn Brathwaite, LMT
- Vickie Echols
- Coree Ferrell
- Dagmar Growe, LMT
- Allison Hanelt, LMT
- Michael LaTore

### OPEN SESSION

1. **CALL TO ORDER – MEGHANN LAWRENCE, LMT, CHAIR**
   The board meeting was called to order by Meghann Lawrence, LMT, Chair, at 9:00 a.m.
   
   1.1 Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules. The board and staff introduced themselves. Ms. Lawrence read the Meeting Ground Rules
   
   1.2 Approval of Agenda. The Agenda was approved as presented.
   
   1.3 Approval of the November 17, 2017, Business Meeting Minutes. The Minutes were approved as presented.
   
   1.4 Approval of the December 15, 2017, Conference Call Minutes. The Minutes were approved as presented.

2. **SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEWS – MEGHANN LAWRENCE, LMT, CHAIR**
   The following school program requests for consideration were presented and acted on:
   
   - Siloam School of Massage.
     - The Reviewing Board Members recommended approval. A motion was made to approve. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
3. HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASKFORCE PRESENTATION – FARSHAD TALEBI, AAG

Mr. Talebi, a member of Washington's Task Force against Trafficking of Persons, presented the work of the task force. The task force was created by RCW 7.68.350.

Its efforts in pursuing traffickers and helping victims include policy development, coordination with law enforcement and regulatory departments, prosecution, and the development of a therapeutic diversion course for victims. Mr. Talebi emphasized how extensive and complex the illicit massage business is and the reasons why it is so difficult to crack down on the traffickers.

He pointed out that legislation often focuses on the exploited, property managers and landlords rather than the trafficking exploiter. He referenced a recent report by Polaris on Massage Parlor Trafficking (https://polarisproject.org/massage-parlor-trafficking), and the National Human Trafficking Hotline (https://humantraffickinghotline.org/).

He encouraged continuing dialog and cooperation with the Board of Massage and conveyed his appreciation for the board’s commitment to protecting the legitimacy and importance of the profession and public safety.

4. RULES DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP – MEGAN MAXEY

Having decided at its November 2017 meeting to increase the required hours for education and training, the board reviewed WAC 246-830-430 Training.

The board worked on increasing the minimum number of training hours from 500 hours to 625 hours and what the training hours must consist of as follows:
- 90 hours of anatomy and physiology;
- 60 hours of kinesiology;
- 70 hours of pathology;
- 260 hours of massage theory and practice;
- 50 hours of student clinic;
- 55 hours of clinical/business practices; and
- 40 hours of ethics.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public who indicated an interest in speaking shared comments during this time.

The following individuals offered comments:

- Dawn Schmidt reminded attendees that massage therapists are health practitioners and emphasized that practitioners need to be adequately trained to do no harm and to provide safe and appropriate therapy. She advocated for more education in ethics and business basics, and for the understanding that student clinic is an educational experience, not free labor.

- Lavon Watson thanked the board for its interest in the human trafficking issue. He encouraged the board to consider the need for educating massage therapy students in the topic of their own personal safety.

- Susan Sherman spoke on behalf of Michael LaTore who thanked the board for the forthcoming newsletter and emphasized the need for education on business practices.
• Allison Hanelt supported increased training to ELAP required level, adding language to address adaptations and cautions for working with pathology, AMTA’s recommendation of sixty hours of clinic and business practices, and forty hours of ethics, boundaries and communications. She also supports making student clinic mandatory as an educational piece, and recommends referencing general body systems in the pathology section rather than listing individual pathology. Regarding human trafficking, she encouraged using the term illegitimate massage businesses to differentiate from licensed massage therapists. She appreciates the challenging work the board faces.

• Robbin Blake thanked the board for working on the educational hours and encouraged the board to considering the wording suggested by the AMTA. She advocated for 750 minimum hours with 125 hours of injury treatment, chronic conditions and pathologies. She stated her observation that there is not a shortage of massage therapists.

• MaryAnn Brathwaite spoke on Florida’s practice of countering human trafficking by requiring a massage establishment license that includes fingerprint ID, restricting the hours in the day that massage may be provided, and a requirement for schools to display safety posters. Other practices she identified were the requirement of investigation and possibly denial of licensure for anyone who has had an infraction for prostitution. She also pointed out other states’ requirements for qualification of massage school instructors, and the requirement of practical testing.

• Kim Aubuchon suggested including oncology training with perineal and breast massage as an endorsement that requires additional training hours. She also recommended having guidelines for establishing qualifications to teach those classes.

• Susan Sherman advocated consideration of ELAP’s recommendations including the 625 hour education minimum to be practicing safely. She identified 60 hours of kinesiology as a minimum, and the importance of ethics education that covers identifying predatory behavior.

• Susan Rosen spoke from her historic experience from serving on the board and encouraged the board, in its consideration of educational hours, to look at what a massage therapist needs to be safe and competent. She supports AMTA’s submission for education recommendations and advocates for 750 hours.

• Vickie Echols spoke on the topic of educators. She supports the requirement for teachers to have at least a postsecondary certificate. She also supports the requirement of fingerprint ID’s and background checks for licensure.

6. BOARD NEWSLETTER – MEGAN MAXEY AND BRANDON WILLIAMS
The board reviewed and discussed the following topics to be included in the newsletter:
• A plain language explanation of the role and limitations of the board possibly in a Q&A format.
• How the board makes decisions and what required criteria is required.
• How the board is funded.
• The makeup of the board and how to apply to serve on the board.
• Continuing education requirements and the audit process.
• Posting of scheduled board meetings and special topics to be covered at each.
• Links to helpful resources, and who to contact for what.
• What is legislation, what does it serve and how can it be changed.

Ms. Maxey and Mr. Williams will create a draft of the newsletter and present it at the next board meeting. Mr. Williams encouraged board members to email him with topic ideas. The newsletter will remain as a standing topic in future regular meeting agendas.

7. PROGRAM REPORT – MEGAN MAXEY

7.1 Budget
- Ms. Maxey presented the board’s budget for July 1, 2017 – November 30, 2017. There was no discussion.

7.2 Legislative Update
- Ms. Maxey reported that a hearing on House Bill 2291 concerning photographs on credentials was held earlier in the week and now continues in process. There was no discussion. Ms. Maxey will provide updates as needed.

7.3 Planning for Upcoming Meetings / Future Meeting Agenda Items.
- The rules topics previously determined will continue as scheduled. The next topics are tools definitions and continuing education.
- The board newsletter will be a standing agenda item.

8. ADJOURNMENT – MEGHANN LAWRENCE, LMT, CHAIR

Meghann Lawrence, LMT, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Approved:

Megan Maxey, Program Manager Meghann Lawrence, LMT, Chair