On Friday, March 9, 2018, the Board of Massage held a board meeting at the Department of Health Kent Regional Office, 20425 72nd Ave. S., Building 2, Ste. 310, Room 309, Kent, 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 (absent)
- Reynaldo Guajardo, LMT
- Meghann Lawrence, LMT, Chair
- Anthony Sharpe, Public Member, Vice-chair

**Staff Present**
- Megan Maxey, Program Manager
- Kris Waidely, Program Manager
- Blake Maresh, Executive Director
- Brandon Williams, Program Manager Associate
- Davis Hylkema, Program Support
- Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General
- Joanne Miller, Credentialing Supervisor

**Guests**
- Pat Archer, LMT
- Kim Aubuchon, LMT
- Marybeth Berney, LMT
- Robbin Blake, LMT
- MaryAnn Brathwaite, LMT
- Aubrey Lesicki, LMT
- Luata Bray, LMT
- Mandi Denning, LMT
- Allison Hanelt, LMT
- Barbara Helynn-Heard, LMT
- Karen James, LMT
- Dawn Schmidt, LMT
- Susan Sherman, LMT
- Brian Utting, LMT
- Noel Webster, MSW, CDP, MAC

**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 with the following amendment:
   - Discussion about WAC 246-830-201 Examination.

1.3 Approval of the January 12, 2018, Business Meeting Minutes. The January 12, 2018 Minutes were approved as submitted.
2. SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEWS – MEGHANN LAWRENCE, LMT, CHAIR
   The following school program requests for consideration were presented and acted on:
   • Bodymechanics School of Myotherapy and Massage – Tumwater transfer program
     o The Reviewing Board Members (RBMs) recommended approval. A motion was made to approve. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
   • Bodymechanics School of Myotherapy and Massage – Vancouver transfer program
     o The RBMs recommended approval. A motion was made to approve. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
   • Therapeutic Connections School of Massage – transfer program
     o The RBMs recommended approval. A motion was made to approve. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3. WASHINGTON RECOVERY AND MONITORING PROGRAM (WRAMP) – NOEL WEBSTER, MSW, CDP, MAC
   Noel Webster, WRAMP Case Manager, provided information about the program. WRAMP is a referral and monitoring program for credentialed healthcare professionals whose practice may be impaired by substance use. The disciplinary authority may order a practitioner into the program as part of a disciplinary order or a practitioner may voluntarily enter the program. WRAMP’s focus is on early identification and treatment of professionals experiencing substance abuse problems. Participation in the program typically lasts one to five years.

4. RULES DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP – MEGAN MAXEY
   WAC 246-830-430 Training
     • The board re-reviewed the changes made to the training rule. They concluded they were satisfied with the changes and did not make any further amendments.

   WAC 246-830-475 Continuing education
     • The board discussed the comments received regarding the continuing education (CE) rule. Highlights of the discussion included:
       o Requiring therapists to maintain CPR certification.
       o Increasing the minimum number of direct supervised training hours from eight to twelve.
       o Allowing the direct supervised training requirement to involve participation in or observation of the direct application of massage therapy.
       o Allowing in-person attendance at a board meeting to count towards a maximum of two hours of the professional ethics, communication, or Washington state massage laws and regulations requirement.
       o Changing the language of subsection two to include that CE activities must be reasonably related to massage therapy knowledge, skills, and business practice.
       o Requiring CE to be provided by an individual who has at least two years of professional experience in the subject they are instructing.

   Tools – The board considered how to allow practitioners to use tools without going beyond the scope of practice of massage therapy. They did not take any action.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public who indicated an interest in speaking shared comments during this time. The following individuals offered comments:

- Pat Archer – Ms. Archer opposes the change from eight to twelve hours. She advocates the removal of the wording “or observation of” in 246-830-475 (1) (a); that CPR training not required to be hands-on. Concerning tools she would like to see manual therapy tools be added along with a definition of a manual therapy tool.

- Barbara Helynn-Heard – Ms. Heard voiced that she is not an advocate of the CE broker tracking tool. She questioned the necessity of certified teachers for CPR training noting that there are on-line courses available.

- Mandi Denning – Ms. Denning recommended not being too specific in the requirements of pathology training. She referenced the Entry Level Analysis Project work to encourage a national standard and hopefully toward portability of licensure. She advocated that CPR courses be hands-on.

- Dawn Schmidt – Ms. Schmidt requests that CE rules be clear about the start and end dates of the two year time frame, such as a person’s birthday. She encourages that teachers have three years professional experience. She advises that electronic devices be beyond the scope of practice.

- Robbin Blake – Ms. Blake requests the WAC references be included on the DOH homepage. She would like to see clearer information about the practice on family members for those working to renew an expired license. Ms. Blake supports the requirement for instructors to have three years professional experience. She recommends making ethics training a subtopic under 246-830-475 (3) rather than a requirement.

- Allison Hanelt – Ms. Hanelt supports having board meeting attendance qualify for continuing education.

- Brian Utting – Mr. Utting voiced appreciation of the newsletter. He suggested removing the specifics on the requirements of CPR training in favor of simply stating, “…must be current in CPR and first aid.” He supports the change of the increase in hours for direct supervised training, supports attendance of board meetings counting for continuing education, and supports the increase to 650 hours for training.

- Aubrey Lesicki – Ms. Lesicki offered positive comment on the newsletter. She encourages the removal of the wording “…or observation of…” She feels that board meeting attendance should be worth two CE hours per meeting, and that the two year limit be allowed to be accrued within one year. She recommends that roles and boundaries be two separate topics. She would like to have submitted comments be made available noting that the AMTA has produced very good language. She encouraged the board to put thought into the use of bandages, particularly in care of Oedema, as there is a concern by some that the rules on use of tools might take that ability away from practitioners.

- Susan Sherman – Ms. Sherman thanked the board for referencing the work of AMTA. She supports the removal of the wording “…or observation of…” She shared the disappointment that AMTA’s comments were not acknowledged and appreciate the long standing good relation
with the board. Ms. Sherman suggested that the board revisit the content of training courses as that has not been identified noting that the required training is the cornerstone of the profession and the safety of the public.

- Maryann Brathwaite – Ms. Brathwaite feels that requiring CE instructors to have three years professional experience is critical. She supports the use of CE broker, and of online courses for continuing education. Specifically mentioned courses in Florida on Laws and Rules, the Prevention of Medical Errors, and on Human Trafficking. She appreciated the board’s work on rulemaking, and the opportunity for public comment.

- Kim Aubuchon – Ms. Aubuchon will submit her comments to the board in writing.

6. BOARD NEWSLETTER – MEGAN MAXEY
The board reviewed the draft newsletter and discussed future topics to be included as well as the frequency of publication.

MOTION: It was moved that the massage newsletter be published twice a year. The motion was seconded and approved.

7. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE
The board reviewed correspondence received regarding extending approval to out of state massage schools. The board affirmed the response provided by the program manager and the executive director and no action was taken.

8. PROGRAM REPORT – MEGAN MAXEY
8.1 Budget
Ms. Maxey presented the 2019 biennium budget-to-date (July 1, 2017 – January 31, 2018) noting that a beginning balance is still not available. Mr. Maresh updated the board on the department’s recent work to improve transparency on budget development, fee setting, and to create consistency across all boards and commissions. The board had no questions.

8.2 Legislative Update
Ms. Maxey reported that House Bill 2291 Concerning the licensure and certification of massage therapists and reflexologists had a hearing in the House Committee on Health Care and Wellness (committee) on January 10th. A substitute to the bill was passed out of the committee on January 17th. The substitute bill required the massage therapist or reflexologist to hold a valid government issued identification.

The bill did not pass out of the Senate Rules Committee in time for a third reading.

8.3 Planning for Upcoming Meetings / Future Meeting Agenda Items.
- Rules Development Workshop
  o Review changes made to the education and training hours rule.
  o Review changes made to the continuing education rule.
  o Begin rules work on breast massage and perineal massage

- Draft policy for WAC 246-830-201 regarding additional training to take the examination.
AMENDMENT ITEM TO AGENDA
DISCUSSION OF WAC 246-830-201 – EXAMINATION
Ms. Maxey shared that the examination rule states that an applicant who does not pass an examination after three attempts must provide proof to the board of having successfully completed additional clinical training or course work as determined by the board before being permitted three additional attempts to pass an exam.

She explained that currently the board does not have a procedure to implement this process and it does not identify what qualifies as proof. Mr. Eaton recommended the board, for consistency, create a policy on what it means to provide proof and what might be required of the student in order to pass the exam.

Ms. Maxey will draft a policy for the board to consider at their next meeting. In the interim, the board directed the program manager to direct the student to work with the school.

8. ADJOURNMENT – MEGHANN LAWRENCE, LMT, CHAIR
Meghann Lawrence, LMT, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:                                             Approved:

____________________________________                          _____________________________________
Megan Maxey, Program Manager                                      Meghann Lawrence, LMT, Chair