On Friday, January 11, 2019, the Board of Massage held a board meeting at the Department of Health, 20425 72nd Ave. S., Building 2, Suite 310, Room 309, WA 98032. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

**Board Members**
Tonya Cox, LMT (absent)
Stephanie Dickey, LMT, chair
Anthony Sharpe, public member, vice-chair
Heidi Williams, LMT

**Staff Present**
Megan Maxey, Program Manager
Kris Waidely, Program Manager
James Chaney, Executive Director
Davis Hylkema, Program Support
Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General
Kevin Robbins, Credentialing Supervisor (phone)

**Guests**
Mark Allen
Pat Archer, LMT
Kim Aubuchon, LMT
Mike Baisch
Robbin Blake, LMT
Shana Bousquet
Luata Bray, LMT
Jen Chan, LMT
Sarah DeCamello
Eric Doherty
Laura Embleton
Amanda LaShells, LMT
Aubrey Lesicki, LMT
Valerie McKay, LMT
Catherine Oliver, LMT
Travis Ramberg, LMT
Victoria Robben
Annika Samuelsen, LMT
Susan Sherman, LMT
Gabby Styles
Diana Thompson, LMT
Lavon Watson, LMT

**OPEN SESSION**

1. **CALL TO ORDER – STEPHANIE DICKEY, LMT, CHAIR**
The board meeting was called to order by Stephanie Dickey, LMT, chair, at 9:00 a.m.
1.1 Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules. The board and staff introduced themselves. Stephanie Dickey, LMT, Chair, read the Meeting Ground Rules.

1.2 Approval of Agenda. The January 11, 2019 Agenda was approved as presented.

1.3 Approval of the November 9, 2018, Business Meeting Minutes. The November 9, 2018 Minutes were approved with the following amendment to Agenda Item 9.1:

   - “It is anticipated there will be a 60% fee increase in 2019” was amended to read “In 2019 there will be a fee increase of up to 60%. Note however that the percentage of increase has not been finalized.”
2. SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEWS – STEPHANIE DICKEY, LMT, CHAIR
Reviewing Board Members (RBMs) presented the following school program requests for full board consideration and action:

- Northwest Academy of Massage and Energetic Healing
  - The RBMs recommended approval. A motion was made to approve Northwest Academy of Massage and Energetic Healing. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Pacific Northwest Massage Academy
  - The RBMs recommended approval. A motion was made to approve Pacific Northwest Massage Academy. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Therapeutic Connections School of Massage
  - The RBMs recommended approval. A motion was made to approve Therapeutic Connections School of Massage. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- West by Northwest School of Massage
  - The RBMs recommended approval. A motion was made to approve West by Northwest School of Massage. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. CITY OF KENT’S WORK ON ILLICIT MASSAGE BUSINESSES
Detective Eric Doherty with the Kent Police Department and Victoria Robben, Prosecuting Attorney for the City of Kent, presented information about the City of Kent’s efforts to combat illegitimate massage businesses.

Businesses that are presumed to be fronts for prostitution are targeted. Most of these businesses are part of very large crime ring organizations and run using common, telltale business practices. The goal of Kent’s effort is to shut down illicit businesses in the City of Kent. The project successfully shutdown 18 identified businesses within the City of Kent.

4. RULES DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP – MEGAN MAXEY – 9:05 a.m.
The board continued its work on the following rules*

**WAC 246-830-005 – Definitions**
**MOTION:** The motion was made to move the review of WAC 246-830-005 Definitions to the end of the Rules Development Workshop. The motions was seconded and passed.

**WAC 246-830-020 – Applications**
The board agreed that no change to the existing language is needed.

**WAC 246-830-035 – Licensing for out-of-state-applicants**
The following proposed changes were made:
- Change the title to read, “Licensing for out-of-state applicants by endorsement.”
- In the second sentence of (1)(a), change “five hundred hours” to read, “six hundred twenty five hours to be completed in no less than six months.”
- In (1)(c), change the word “practice” to “licensure”.
- In (1)(c), replace the words “delivery of” with “continuing education of”, and delete the word, “services”.

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Washington State Board of Massage
January 11, 2019, Business Meeting Minutes
WAC 246-830-037 – Transfer programs and transfer of prior education and clock hours
The following proposed changes were made:
  • After the first sentence in (4) add, “The transfer program’s initial approval expiration date will be aligned to the expiration date of the related massage school or massage program approval.”

The board encouraged the WSMTA to develop language for this section that supports schools and programs to determine through tests, the aptitude and skill level of incoming students. Such language might best be incorporated in (1)(c).

WAC 246-830-420 – Approval of massage school, massage program, or apprenticeship program
The following proposed changes were made:
  • Remove “but not limited to” at the end of the last sentence in (1).
  • In (1)(d)
    o Change “two years” to “three years”.
    o Change the last sentence to read, “The clinical supervisor is responsible for reviewing the health history of the student’s client or patient, reviewing and approving the student’s massage plan, and observing a reasonable portion of each massage session based on the competency of the student.”
  • Change (1)(h)(i), to read, “Verification that the school is approved to operate in the state of Washington, or has pending approval by the workforce training and education coordinating board;”
  • Remove the words “or instructors” from (5)(c).

WAC 246-830-440 – Curriculum—Academic standards—Faculty—Student clinic
The following proposed changes were made:
  • In (1), change “five hundred hours” to read “six hundred twenty five hours in no less than six months.”
  • In (3) change the second sentence to read, “An apprenticeship program educator and trainer and faculty member who teaches hands on courses must have a minimum of three years of experience in the subject matter.” And, for consistency, the following sentence will begin, “The apprenticeship program educator and trainer and faculty member…”
  • In (4), remove “(optional program),” change “two-years” to “three years,” and in the last sentence, change “ten students” to “six students.”

**MOTION:** The motion was made to move the review of WAC 246-830-005 – Definitions to the next board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

*The most up-to-date draft rule language can be found on the Massage Therapist Rules in Progress webpage (www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProfessionsNewReneworUpdate/MassageTherapist/RulesinProgress)*

5. PUBLIC COMMENT
Members of the public who indicated an interest in speaking shared comments at this time.

6. BOARD NEWSLETTER – MEGAN MAXEY
The board identified the following topics for possible inclusion in the March newsletter:
• A spotlight article on one of the new members of the board.
• Information on human trafficking including list of resources and references.
• Identifying the difference of what rules and laws can be changed or created by legislature and those that can be done by the board.
• Safety awareness and measures for the massage therapist.
• What modalities or tools massage therapists are allowed to use.
• Explanation of the CE audit, and the legal process for addressing deficiencies.
• Request for reader’s suggestions for article topics.
• Ask the readers, “What would you like to see in the FAQs?”

7. PROGRAM REPORT – MEGAN MAXEY

7.1 Budget
The balance continues in the red. Legal costs related to disciplinary cases accounts for the majority of expenses. Though there are many CE deficiency cases, they do not take a lot of time. The boundary and misconduct cases are more time consuming and the most costly.

7.2 Credentialing Report
Currently there are 13,833 active licensees and 390 pending licensure. From the time an application is received to the issuing of a license, counting time for dealing with deficiencies, is running 14 to 18 days in 91% of all applications.

7.3 Legislative Meet-Me-Calls
Teresea Carson, who had previously agreed to participate in the Meet-Me-Calls, has since resigned from the board. Stephanie Dickey volunteered to be the primary participant. Heidi Williams will provide backup.

7.4 Legislative Update
House Bill 1082 and its companion Senate Bill 5097 Concerning the licensure and certification of massage therapists and reflexologists, were prefilled for introduction on January 3, 2019. It would require licensed massage therapists and certified reflexologists to carry a government issued photo ID on their person at all times they are practicing massage or reflexology.

7.5 Planning for upcoming meetings / Future meeting agenda items
The following agenda items were identified:
• Rules workshop of WAC 246-830-005 – Definitions
• Review anticipated comments on sanitation practices with regard to linens and blankets.
• Review anticipated comments on continuing education and on pathologies.
• Review anticipated comments on testing to evaluate competency and skill level of transfer students (related to WAC 246-830-037).
• Address transfer credit for hours of training vs. years of practice (related to WAC 246-830-037).
• Review draft newsletter

The board decided to hold a Special Meeting on April 12, 2019, for the specific purpose of doing a comprehensive review of the proposed changes to chapter 246-830 WAC prior to
moving on to the next phase of rulemaking. The location will be announced with a preference for Tumwater or Kent.

8. ADJOURNMENT – STEPHANIE DICKEY, LMT
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:12 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed.

Respectfully Submitted: 
Approved:

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Megan Maxey, Program Manager 
Stephanie Dickey, LMT