



Alaska Board of Massage Therapists – June 10, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting
Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Time: June 10, 2024, 9:00AM Alaska

Attendance

Board Members:

Annetta Atwell, Licensed Massage Therapist

Kelli Shew, Licensed Massage Therapist

Julie Endle, Public Member

Emily Foster, Licensed Massage Therapist

DCBPL State of Alaska Staff:

David Edwards-Smith, Occupational Licensing Examiner

Melissa Dumas, Administrator Operations Manager

Reid Bowman, Program Coordinator II

Jennifer Summers, Senior Investigator

Chase Evans, Investigator

Public Attendance: Jill Motz, Ashley Hernandez, Michele Kirton

1. **Roll Call - 9:00 AM**

Board Members Present: Annetta Atwell, Julie Endle, Kelli Shew, Emily Foster

2. **Review/Approve Agenda - 9:05**

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with unanimous roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the agenda.

3. **Ethics Review/Disclosure**

Chair Atwell requested the board disclose any ethics concerns for the record. No disclosures were presented.

4. **Public Comment 12:35**

Michele Kirton: Inquired of the ability of the State of Alaska's ability to have a Facebook social media presence.

Ms. Kirton informed the board that lawsuits have been filed by several organizations in response to the restriction of school funding being changed to only support 625 hour schools. Michele would like a definition of what the 20% hands on rule is. Ms. Kirton pointed out that currently in

regulation it is possible for a student to attend an online school with no hands-on curriculum required.

Public comment closed at 10:06

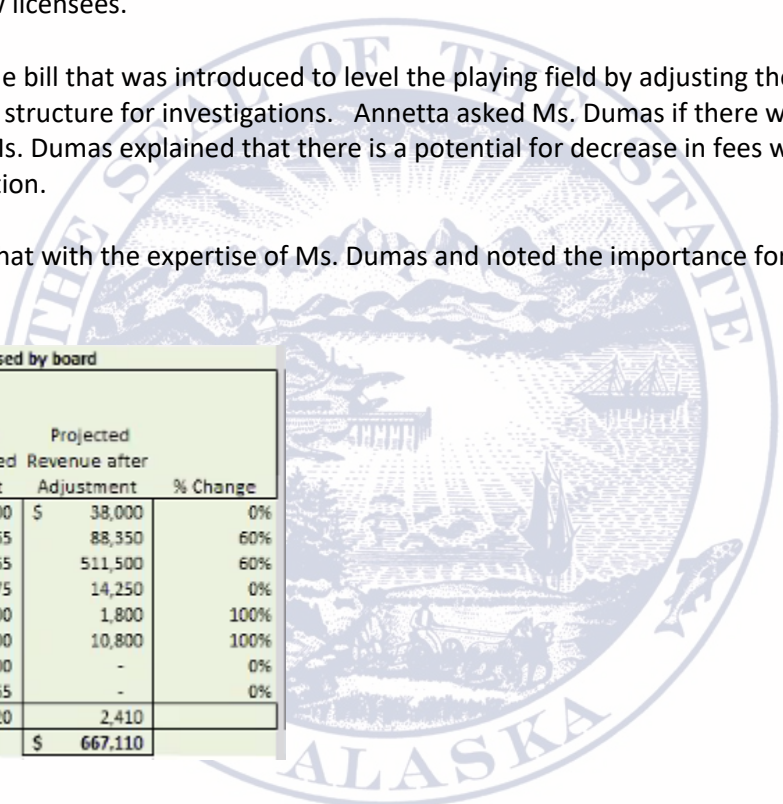
5. Administrative Business

- Division Update – 2024 Licensing Fee Analysis 10:07AM

Melissa Dumas present fee analysis with a 55% increase in renewal fees. This is the minimum amount that is possible without running into audit issues. Annetta does not want to injure the industry by burdening only new licensees.

Kelli asked about the bill that was introduced to level the playing field by adjusting the general fund to change the funding structure for investigations. Annetta asked Ms. Dumas if there will be a change to the license fees. Ms. Dumas explained that there is a potential for decrease in fees with the passage the pending legislation.

The board agreed that with the expertise of Ms. Dumas and noted the importance for maintaining the board function.



| Proposed by board | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|----------|
| Fee Adjustment | Fee with Recommended Adjustment | Projected Revenue after Adjustment | | % Change |
| | \$ 200 | \$ 38,000 | | 0% |
| 175 | 465 | 88,350 | | 60% |
| 175 | 465 | 511,500 | | 60% |
| | 75 | 14,250 | | 0% |
| 300 | 600 | 1,800 | | 100% |
| 300 | 600 | 10,800 | | 100% |
| | 2,000 | - | | 0% |
| | 65 | - | | 0% |
| | 4,820 | 2,410 | | |
| | | \$ 667,110 | | |

A motion made by Emily Foster, seconded by Kelli Shew, and passed with unanimous roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the fee schedule proposed by the board.

Off Record at 10:37 On record at 10:55

- Correspondence Review – Veterinarian Letter

Annetta asked for board review of the letter. The board discussed the letter and expressed an interest in understanding the potential of massage therapists working in conjunction with veterinarians. Program Coordinator II Bowman suggested that a massage board member join the next veterinarian meeting to pose this question. Julie Endle made the point that the statute

of the scope of practice of massage therapists specifically identify that massage therapists work on humans. She made the point that the statute would need to be amended for massage therapists to legally work with animals.

Previous Minutes

Chair Atwell asked the board for any amendments to the minutes of the March 2024 board meeting.

No amendments were proposed.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Kelli Shew, and passed with unanimous roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the agenda.

Federation of State Massage Therapy Annual Meeting Delegate

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Kelli Shew, and passed with unanimous roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE Emily Foster to represent the Alaska Board of Massage Therapists at the 2024 FSMTB annual meeting.

Board Meeting Schedule

The Board agreed to the schedule a board meeting on March 6-7, 2025.

6. Investigations

a. Investigative Report

Investigator Chase Evans presented the current investigative report that consists of a total of 11 open cases and 7 closed cases. The board did not have any questions on this report.

b. Executive Session

In a motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Kelli Shew, and passed with unanimous roll call vote, it was RESOLVED to enter EXECUTIVE SESSION in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion.

In a motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with unanimous roll call vote, it was RESOLVED to ACCEPT the CONSENT AGREEMENT for Diane case 202-000098.

Lunch Off Record at 12:06 - On Record at 1:03

7. CPR Course Requirements

The board discussed the necessity of providing clarity to the existing CPR course requirements for initial applications and renewals.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with unanimous roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to BEGIN A REGULATIONS PROJECT TO AMEND CPR REGULATIONS as drafted and approve for public comment if there are no substantial changes by law.

DRAFTED REGULATION: A current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation from the American Red Cross, American Heart Association OR American Safety and Health Institute.

Courses from other providers may be accepted by the board if they adhere to the most recent clinical guidelines recommended by the American Heart Association OR IS compliant with the current Joint Commission (JCAHO) standards.

8. Regulation Comment Review

The board reviewed the public comment on the regulations project related to online advertising, application documentation and disciplinary notification with no proposed amendments by the board.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with a roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to ADOPT the proposed regulations for file number 2023200592 as proposed and publicly noticed.

9. Application by Examination Review

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Kelli Shew, and passed with a roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the application for Deborah M Greene.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Kelli Shew, and passed with a roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the application for Amber Renea Hodge

10. Statute Review – Massage Therapist Scope of Practice

The board discussed the subject of animal massage with consensus of drafting a letter to the veterinary board to determine the scope of massage therapists working in the field of veterinary medicine.

The board discussed the term facial in massage therapy. Emily Foster makes the point that the intent is a key factor is the difference between facial services of an esthetician and a massage therapist. The board arrived at a consensus that it is allowable for massage therapist to use exfoliant and cleansers with the intent of use in soft tissue manipulation.

9. Annual Report Review

The Board reviewed the FY2024 annual report, and no amendments were proposed.

A motion made by Emily Foster, seconded by Julie Endle, and passed with a roll call vote; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the FY2024 annual report as written.

A motion made by Emily Foster, seconded by Julie Endle to adjourn the meeting at 2:58PM.

