



Alaska Board of Massage Therapists – December 5, 2024 – Regular Meeting
Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Time: December 5, 2024, 9:00 AM 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
Shane Bannarbie, Program Coordinator I
Reid Bowman, Program Coordinator II
Jennifer Summers, Senior Investigator
Chase Evans, Investigator

Public Attendance: Erin Haden (Associated Massage and Bodywork Professionals), Mai Line Petrine (Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards)

1. Roll Call - 9:05 AM

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

2. Review/Approve Agenda - 9:05

Chair Atwell asked the board to present amendments to the agenda. None were presented.

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 to disclose any ethics reports for the record. No disclosures were presented.

4. Review of Program Approval of Online Massage Therapy Accreditation Agencies 9:15

Chair Atwell initiated the discussion to respond to the question of the board approved online distance education monitoring. OLE Edwards-Smith provided the current regulation of 12.AAC.100 (d). OLE Edwards-Smith informed that the Board of Massage Therapists is on record of accepting the accreditation agencies include the following: Distance Education Accreditation Commission, Council for Higher Education Accreditation, Accreditation of High Standard Quality Education. Chair Atwell asked to contact Program Coordinator Education and Early Development Tyler Egan for additional information from the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.

5. Public Comment 9:30 AM

Mai Line Petrine of the FSMTB addressed the board and offered support to provide research regarding apprenticeship models and disciplinary matrices and information of the conditions and restrictions of online course curriculum of member states. Chair Atwell requested that this information be forwarded to OLE Edwards-Smith.

Public Comment Closed at 9:45

Break at 9:48 On Record at 9:54

Roll Call: Annetta Atwell, Julie Endle, Emily Foster

6. Review of Program Approval of Online Massage Therapy Accreditation Agencies. Continued 9:54

The Board resumes discussion of online massage curriculum that includes video instruction. Chair Atwell has informed the board that she has contacted the ACPE to determine their standards of online education curriculum. Annetta asked for feedback from Julie Endle. Ms. Endle expressed her concerns of the integrity of online learning.

Tyler Eggan joins the meeting at 10:03.

Discussion Resumes of Online Massage therapy school curriculum. Tyler Eggan answered questions describing the role of the ACPE in curriculum approval.

7. Review of Thai Bodywork Correspondence

OLE Edwards-Smith clarified that the correspondence questions of whether a massage therapy license was required to perform Thai Bodywork for compensation. The board stated that Thai Bodywork did fall within the scope of a massage therapy practice and a license would be required.

The Boards discussion turned to the question of light therapy. Chair Atwell requested that Emily Foster provide some research on the question of the use of light therapy in massage therapy.

8. 20% Practical Application Definition 12 AAC 79.140. (2) 10:21

The board reviewed the current regulations and determined that the current regulation clearly states that practical application is hands-on application of various clinical modalities dedicated to the practice of massage therapy. No amendments to the current regulation were proposed.

Senior Investigator Jenni Summer joins the meeting at 10:40.

Break at 10:43 On Record at 10:56

Roll Call: Annetta Atwell, Julie Endle, Emily Foster

9. Investigations 11:00 AM

- Investigative Report

Chace Evans presented the investigative report. There were no questions from the board.

- Case Reviews: Voluntary Surrender, Imposition of Fine and Consent Agreement

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.

Off Record at 11:02 On Record at 11:15

Roll Call: Annetta Atwell, Julie Endle, Emily Foster

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with a roll call vote; it was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the **CONSENT AGREEMENT** for case 2024-000239.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with a roll call vote; it was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the **CIVIL FINE** for case 2024-000577.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with a roll call vote; it was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER** for case 2023-000583.

10. 20% Practical Application Definition Resumes

Chair Atwell directed the discussion of the definition of practical application to focus on determining whether it is important to define in regulation both clinical practice and the practical application. No amendments to the current regulation were proposed.

Lunch: Off record at 12:09 On record 1:03

Roll Call: Annetta Atwell, Julie Endle, Emily Foster

11. Administrative Business

- 2025 Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards Annual Meeting

The Board discussed the appointment of a delegate to represent the State of Alaska Board of Massage Therapists at the 2025 FSMTB annual meeting that will take place October 5th through 7th.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with a roll call vote; it was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** Emily Foster to represent the Board of Massage Therapist as Delegate at the **2025 FSMTB annual meeting**.

- Division Financial Quarterly Report

The Board Reviewed with no questions for the DCBPL.

- Review of September Meeting Minutes

Chair Atwell asked the board for any amendments to the minutes of the September 2024 board meeting. The board did not move to amend the September minutes.

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

12. License Renewal Regulation Review – 12 AAC 79.200(d)

The board reviewed the current regulation regarding a license that expires if lapsed for more than three years. The board reviewed the current regulations of the Physical Therapy Board and Board of Chiropractic Examiners regarding the restriction of lapsed license duration to be eligible for license renewal. The board did not propose any amendments to the current regulation.

13. Massage Therapy Continued Education Acceptable List Review

Chair Atwell directed the board to review the current massage unacceptable list established in 2018 in comparison to the current National Certification Board of Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) list of unacceptable continued education. The board reviewed the current statutes to determine whether the items listed in the continued education list.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with a unanimous consent; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE to update the Unacceptable Continued Education list of 2018 to include: moxibustion and tongue reading.

14. Apprenticeship Program Review 2:54

Chair Atwell asked Program Coordinator Bannarbie to provide his feedback on the apprenticeship document drafted by the board. Program Coordinator Bannarbie asked the board to provide their current viewpoint regarding the direction of the apprenticeship program. Chair Atwell and Emily both expressed their serious concerns of an apprenticeship program as a disservice to a massage apprentice.

OLE Edwards-Smith informed Chair Atwell that the feedback that from the DCBPL that confirms that it is acceptable for apprentices to receive compensation as the statute is written.

Julie endle requested that the administration confirms the issue of paid apprentices.

A motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Emily Foster, and passed with a unanimous consent; it was RESOLVED to APPROVE to request an administrative review that can be forwarded for a legal review of 12.AAC.79.100 2(C) to determine if the board of massage therapists can undertake an unpaid unregistered apprenticeship model .Motion to request an administrative review that can be forwarded for a legal review of 12.AAC.79.100 2(C) to determine if the board of massage therapists can undertake an unpaid unregistered apprenticeship model .

Chair Atwell confirmed with the Board that the next board meeting date is scheduled for March 6,7.

Adjourn 3:36

