



ALABAMA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

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MINUTES Special-Called Board Meeting

November 19, 2021

The Alabama Board of Massage Therapy met on Friday, November 19, 2021 at the Board Office located at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, Alabama. The following Board members were in attendance: Ms. Stephanie Dobbins (Board Chair), Mr. Darren Beams (member), Ms. Denise Dale (member), Ms. Stefanie Herfurth (member) and Ms. Mary Rogers (member). Board members absent were Mr. Foad Araiinejad (Board Chair) and Ms. Gina Lee (member). Others present onsite at the meeting were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Mr. Matt Bledsoe (Board Legal Counsel), Mr. Mike James (Investigator), Mr. Dennis Trammell (Investigator) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary). Ms. Dobbins, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Mr. Warren called Board roll and reported that a quorum was present to conduct Board business.

Public notice of this regularly scheduled meeting was submitted to the Secretary of State www.sos.alabama.gov in accordance with the requirements of the Alabama Open Meetings Act and published on the Board's web site at www.almtbd.alabama.gov

Ms. Dobbins reported that the purpose of the special-called meeting was to discuss proposed changes to the Board's statute. Mr. Warren presented a draft of the changes for the Board's review and discussion (copy filed with the Board's official Book of Minutes).

The Board that the following changes be the Board's statute:

- 34-43-3(5) Definitions – Examinations: expanded to include the FSMTB exam;
- 34-43-3 10) Definitions – Sexually Oriented Business: remove reference to “as its primary business.”
- 34-43-3 (12) Temporary Permit – removed.
- 34-43-3(12 renumbered) Therapeutic Massage and Related Touch Modalities: add acupressure modality.
- 34-43-6 (b) Alabama Board of Massage Therapy – remove congressional districts.
- 34-43-6 (j) Alabama Board of Massage Therapy - add approval of licenses may be granted to Executive Director.
- 34-43-7 (8) add liability insurance requirements for establishments and schools.
- 34-43-8 (d) add licensed massage therapist or establishment may not offer services nor advertise on any sexually explicit website nor online platforms that promote prostitution, sexually explicit services nor human trafficking.
- 34-43-9(a)(1) remove old course and old hours language.
- 34-43-9(a)(2) remove specific exam and replace with national standardized exam language, (3)add criminal background check and (4) license shall pay all applicable fees.
- 34-43-9(b) add applicant's licensure in another state equal to or stricter at the time of licensure in that state.
- 34-43-11(c) remove exemptions in this section.

- 34-43-11(c) renumbered requiring establishments to employ at least one LMT of this Board.
- 34-43-11(e) remove old language and add background check for non-LMT applying for establishment license.
- 34-43-11(f) add initial inspections, etc. and fee.
Discussed proper draping requirement and potential violations.
- 34-43-12 remove reference to applications completed in black ink, etc.
- 34-43-14 add increase in fees and reference an inspection fee.
- 34-43-15 add increase in administrative fines.
Discussed the responsibility of the LMT in the establishment, e.g. abiding activities in violation of the Board, etc.
Discussed sexually oriented business violations, prostitution and advertising.
- 34-43-20 increase massage therapy experience for instructors.
Discussed other requirements for instructors, e.g., specified training, etc.
Discussed evidence of certificate of insurance for schools.

Following these discussion, Ms. Dale made the motion to approve the changes as discussed and proceed with submitting proposed legislation during the 2022 Legislative Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Beams and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren explained the process to have the legislative bill drafted and inquired about sponsorship of the proposed bill. He asked members to provide him the name of legislators who may be potential sponsors of the bill.

There being no further business, Ms. Herfurth made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dale and unanimously approved by the Board. Vice Chair Dobbins adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Stephanie Dobbins
Board Chair



Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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