



ALABAMA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

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MINUTES Board Meeting July 14, 2017

The Alabama Board of Massage Therapy met on Friday, July 14, 2017 at the Board Office located at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, Alabama, to conduct regular business. The following Board members were in attendance: Mr. Michael Stephens (Chair), Mr. Lance Gilliland (Vice-Chair), Mr. Willie DeVold (member), Mr. Foad Araiinejad (member) and Ms. Gwen Motley (member). Member not in attendance was Mr. Lemar Storey. Also in attendance were Keith Warren (Executive Director), Mr. Randy Barrows (Administrator), Mr. Bill Garrett (Legal Counsel), Mr. Mike James (Investigator/Inspector), Jennifer Love (Legal Assistant) and Ms. Renee' Reames (Executive Secretary to Mr. Warren, and serving as recording secretary). Guests were also in attendance to address the Board. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order by Mr. Stephens at 10:04 a.m.

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.

The minutes from the April 14, 2017 Board meeting were presented to the Board members for their approval. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Gilliland made a motion to approve the April minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Motley and unanimously approved by the Board (available for viewing in the Board's Official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director's Report, to include the FY 2017 Financial Report as of June 30, 2017 (detailed report on file in the Board's Official Book of Minutes.). Also reported was the current number of licensees and number of complaints received to-date in FY 2017. Mr. DeVold made a motion to approve the Financial Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gilliland and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren also presented the Administrator's Report containing a list of administrative activities accomplished since the last Board meeting, along with a list of FY 2017 inspections conducted by Mr. Mike James (available for viewing in the Board's Official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Warren presented a renewal application for a special review by the Board and the applicant was present at the meeting to request the Board's approval of his renewal application. The Board discussed with the applicant his Georgia criminal background and reference to violations and criminal history that were not disclosed on his application. He explained that he was legally blind and the application was completed on his behalf and he did not know that the questions were not marked correctly. The Board also inquired about the recent legal case where he was defendant in Alabama courts and acquitted. The Board discussed at length with the applicant about his

knowledge and techniques in massage therapy. The Board thanked the applicant for appearing before the Board and agreed to further consider the renewal application.

Mr. Bledsoe presented the Legal Counsel Report, which included a Consent Agreement (Case #2017-004) that had been modified that included terms approved by the Board at their April Board meeting. Mr. DeVold made the motion to approve the Consent Agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gilliland and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board discussed the use of TCH substance being added to oil and cream products and sold for use in massage therapy. Ms. Karen Vaughn, Government Relations Chairperson for the AMTA Alabama Chapter, presented information on the harmful use of these products and advocated against its use in massage therapy. Mr. Warren reported that THC was illegal in Alabama and the Board members indicated further interest in reviewing the findings by Dr. Oi Lin and Fei Fu Chen with Sunrider International on this matter and thanked Ms. Vaughn for her presentation.

The Board discussed the renewal application presented for special review. Mr. Gilliland made the motion to enter into an Executive Session for approximately 20 minutes to discuss the good name and character of the applicant. The motion was seconded by Ms. Motley and the members voted as follows: Ms. Motely, aye; Mr. Araiinejad, aye; Mr. DeVold, aye; and Mr. Gilliland, aye. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Garrett, Board Legal Counsel, concurred with the purpose of the Executive Session. The Board requested that Mr. Warren, Mr. James and Ms. Reames participate in the Session. Mr. Stephens convened the Executive Session at 10:40 a.m.

The Executive Session concluded at 10:57 a.m. and Mr. Stephens reconvened the regular meeting.

Mr. Gilliland made the motion to deny the renewal application based on not providing full disclosure and answering all questions appropriately on the renewal application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Araiinejad and the following roll call vote was unanimous: Ms. Motely, aye; Mr. Araiinejad, aye; Mr. DeVold, aye; and Mr. Gilliland, aye.

Mr. Warren reported that the annual FSMTB conference was scheduled to be held in September in Tampa, Florida. Mr. Warren reported that he would be attending the meeting as the Board's delegate and Mr. Gilliland indicated that he was interested in attending as well. It was the consensus of the Board to approve the FSMTB attendance by these individuals.

Mr. Warren presented an email concerning Massage Therapy School licensure and accreditations. He indicated that some of these recommendations had been addressed by the Board in proposed changes to the Board's statute and a proposed bill would be presented in the upcoming Legislative Session. It was the consensus of the Board to review and discuss the full contents of the email at a future Board meeting.

Ms. Motely made the motion to ratify the Executive Director's approval of massage therapist applications. The motion was seconded by Mr. Araiinejad and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Araiinejad made the motion to approve the instructor applications as presented by Mr. Barrows (a list of the approved applications is available in the Board's Official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Gilliland and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Gilliland made a motion to approve the school renewal application submitted by Gadsden State with the stipulation that Gadsden State submit a CPR curriculum in accordance with Board Rules and Regulations (a list of the approved renewal applications is available in the Board's Official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Arainejad and unanimously approved by the Board.

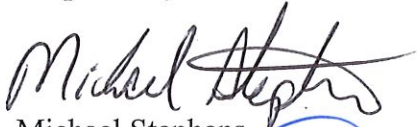
Mr. Barrows reported that there were no new CE Provider applications for the Board's consideration.

The Board reviewed the massage therapist applications submitted by individuals who had attended out-of-state schools, etc. Following a review, Mr. Gilliland made a motion to approve the applications (a list available in the Board's Official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. DeVold and unanimously approved by the Board.

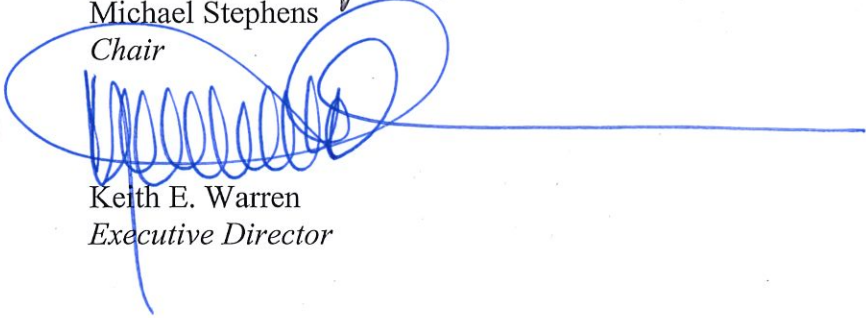
The next Board meeting is scheduled on Friday, October 13, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business, Mr. Stephens adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael Stephens
Chair



Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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