

1 STATE OF ALASKA
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
4 BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS

5
6 MINUTES OF THE MEETING
7 June 14-15, 2021
8

9 By the authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.86.030 and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62
10 Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Massage Therapists was held via videoconference and at
11 State Office Bldg., 9th Floor, Conference Room B, June 14-15, 2021
12

13 **These are DRAFT minutes prepared by the staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and**
14 **Professional Licensing. These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the board.**
15

16 **Agenda Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call:**
17

18 The meeting of the Board of Massage Therapists was called to order by David Edwards-Smith, Chair at
19 9:29 a.m. Members present were:
20

21 **Board Members present, constituting a quorum:**
22

23 David Edwards-Smith, Board Chair, Licensed Massage Therapist
24 Jill Motz, Vice Chair, Licensed Massage Therapist
25 Kristin Tri, Licensed Massage Therapist
26 Julie Endle, Public Member
27

28 **Division Staff present:**
29

30 Emily Sullivan, Licensing Examiner
31 Cynthia Spencer, Records and Licensing Supervisor
32 Melissa Dumas, Administration Officer
33 Colleen Kautz, Program Coordinator
34

35 **Public Joining Telephonically**
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37 Ralph Hernandez, Applicant for Massage Therapist Licensure
38 Chaz Alexander, Public
39 Laura Embleton, Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals
40 Yesenia Hernandez, Applicant for Massage Therapist Licensure
41 Jean Rogan, Applicant for Massage Therapist Licensure
42 Stephanie Haseltine, Public
43 Patricia Conatser, Public
44

45 **Agenda Item 2 Review/Approve Agenda**
46

47 The board reviewed the agenda and added items to review three additional tabled applications and
48 discuss the application review process.
49

50 **In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Julie Endle, and passed with unanimous consent, it**
51 **was RESOLVED to APPROVE the agenda as amended.**

52 Agenda Item 3 Ethics Reporting

53
54 The Board reviewed the provided ethics information. There were no ethics violations reported.

55
56 Agenda Item 4 Investigations

57
58 *Shauna Muraco, Investigator and Karina Medina, Investigator, joined the meeting.*

59
60 Investigative Report

61
62 Investigator Shauna Muraco informed the board there are currently 15 open cases, since the last report
63 there have been 8 closed cases.

64
65 Probation Report

66
67 Investigator Karina Medina informed the board that there are nine licensees currently on probation with
68 all of these licensees remaining in compliance with their agreements

69
70 **In a motion duly made by Julie Endle, seconded by Jill Motz, it was RESOLVED to ENTER into**
71 **Executive Session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to**
72 **Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing “subjects that tend to prejudice the**
73 **reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion;”**
74 **All Division staff to remain during Executive Session.**

75
76 *The Board entered executive session at 9:37 a.m., and returned from executive session at 9:55 a.m.*

77
78 The board made the following motions regarding the cases they reviewed in executive session:

79
80 L.S.

81
82 **In a motion made by Julie Endle, seconded by Jill Motz, and passed unanimously with a roll**
83 **call vote, it was RESOLVED to approve the revocation of license for case #2020-000764.**

84
85 B.A.

86
87 **In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Julie Endle, and passed unanimously with a roll**
88 **call vote, it was RESOLVED to accept the consent agreement for case #2021-000191.**

89
90 H.I.

91
92 **In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, and passed unanimously with a roll call**
93 **vote, it was RESOLVED to accept the reconsideration continuing education for case #2020-**
94 **000696.**

95
96 Agenda Item 5 COVID-19 Update – Board Guidance

97
98 The board discussed the updated COVID-19 board guidance letter that is currently posted on the board’s
99 webpage. Chair Edwards-Smith read the most recent board guidance letter into the record. Chair
100 Edwards-Smith explained to the board that the updated COVID-19 board guidance letter was posted in
101 response to the CDC changing allowing vaccinated individuals to not wear masks. Chair Edwards-Smith
102 stated he would like the board to review the letter and make any necessary edits to the letter. Ms. Endle

103 stated that she was not in agreement with some of the verbiage used in the letter. Ms. Endle is
104 concerned that the first sentence in the letter that as a board it may imply that every licensee needs to
105 be vaccinated. Ms. Endle also questioned how Alaska lifting of the mask mandates affects the current
106 CDC guidelines for healthcare professionals to continue to wear masks. Chair Edwards-Smith explained
107 that the board is bound to follow CDC guidelines in accordance with the standards of practice, code of
108 ethics and regulations.

109
110 Ms. Motz and Ms. Tri agreed that the letter should be updated to clearly state that while private
111 individuals that are vaccinated may choose to not wear a mask, healthcare professionals such as
112 massage therapists must wear a mask whether or not the licensee is vaccinated as well as the patient, to
113 ensure they are following CDC guidelines.

114
115 The board agreed to continue the discussion the next day, June 15, as they needed to move on to the
116 next agenda item.

117
118 **Agenda Item 6 Application Process Review**

119
120 **Review Board Member Responsibility**

121
122 Chair Edwards-Smith explained that when the board reviews applications, it is only the responsibility of
123 the reviewing board member to conduct the transcript analysis and determine if the applicant's
124 transcript meets the board's criteria. The board discussed that a few applications were tabled due to
125 more than one board member submitting a ballot for a deficit of hours. Chair Edwards-Smith reminded
126 the board that only the reviewing board member should submit a ballot for transcript and education
127 hours requirement discrepancies or deficits.

128
129 **Requirements of a Completed Application for Board Review**

130
131 Chair Edwards-Smith asked OLE Sullivan if an application has red flags, is it still considered a complete
132 application. Ms. Spencer informed the board that when we receive an application with a "yes" answer
133 to the professional fitness questions, Ms. Sullivan reviews it, then sends a "yes" answer email to RLS
134 Spencer. If it can be reviewed and cleared by Ms. Spencer, Ms. Sullivan can proceed with the
135 application. If it cannot be reviewed and cleared by Ms. Spencer, a "yes" answer email is sent to the
136 investigative unit. Chair Edwards-Smith asked about red flags such as signatures that do not match,
137 Social Security numbers that do not match etc. Ms. Sullivan explained that the Licensing Examiners are
138 not trained to look for red flags, and they are unable to verify social security numbers as it is not in their
139 purview. Ms. Motz stated that in the past the board has sent their licensing examiner to training
140 administered by FARB and FSMTB to look for red flags and discrepancies in applications. Ms. Sullivan
141 stated that she would be open to going to trainings on red flags in applications.

142
143 **Transcript Analysis for Applicant Guidance**

144
145 Chair Edwards-Smith proposed that the board considers adding verbiage to the transcript analysis form
146 to notify the licensee that failure to clearly complete the transcript analysis form may result in
147 application processing delays or denial. RLS Spencer suggested that the board start a regulations project
148 to make the transcript analysis form a requirement to consider an application complete by adding it to
149 12 AAC 79.100(b) and 12 AAC 79.110(b).

150
151 *Recess The board recessed at 11:03a.m. for a break; reconvened at 11:10a.m. Emily Sullivan*
152 *conducted a roll call vote – all board members present.*

154 **Agenda Item 7 Division and Financial Update**

155
156 Chair Edwards-Smith welcomed Melissa Dumas, Administrative Officer, to present the Division/Financial
157 Update to the board. Ms. Dumas informed the board that SB68 has been rolled into HB69 operating
158 budget. There is a little over \$411,000 in the operating budget as supplemental to be divvied up
159 between multiple programs. The division will decide on the best way to divvy up the money between
160 the programs. Chair Edwards-Smith asked where exactly the bill is right now. Ms. Dumas reported that
161 HB69 is currently sitting with the conference committee.

162
163 Chair Edwards-Smith asked where SB15 is sitting at the moment. Ms. Dumas explained that SB15 is stuck
164 with the finance committee, and will mostly likely be addressed again next year, as she does not believe
165 it will make any progress this year.

166
167 Ms. Dumas gave a walkthrough of each of the sections of the 3rd Quarter Financial Report for the Board
168 of Massage Therapists. At the request of Ms. Endle, Ms. Dumas provided the board with a breakdown of
169 costs for the Paralegal and various staff positions. Ms. Dumas stressed that since we are about 3
170 quarters into FY21, she cannot completely compare it to FY20, but can make a good guess Ms. Dumas
171 stated that we are on track with FY20's expenditures compared to FY21.

172
173 Ms. Endle asked if the group health insurance includes all staff such as the examiner etc. Ms. Dumas
174 explained that it includes any staff that charges their time to the Massage Therapists program.

175
176 **Agenda Item 6 Application Process Review Continued**

177
178 **Notary Signature Requirements**

179
180 Chair Edwards-Smith confirmed that according to the Notary Manual for Alaska, the notary must be
181 present at the time of signing. The board discussed previous application that have the notary and
182 applicant in different states. Chair Edwards-Smith also stated that in certain states you can look up
183 notaries, however, in Alaska they do not have a database of current notaries.

184
185 Ms. Spencer updated Ms. Endle that her question about notaries is still moving up the chain and has not
186 gone to department of law. Ms. Spencer informed the board that there are online notaries services
187 available now. Ms. Spencer also explained that eventually, all of the division's applications will be
188 submitted online or through MyAlaska/MyLicense.

189
190 Ms. Endle stated she would like to see a paper trail and timeline for the questions the board asks the
191 division to find the answer to.

192
193 Ms. Sullivan stated that as of the March 1, 2021 meeting, she is tracking tasks and creating timelines for
194 the board members.

195
196 **Applicant Identification Requirement**

197
198 Chair Edwards-Smith stated he had entertained the idea of requiring applicants to submit a piece of
199 identification when applying, however, after thinking about it more, he does not believe the board
200 should consider it.

201
202 Ms. Sullivan asked the board to clarify if they would still like to see exam verification, if a license
203 verification reflects that they have passed an exam.

204 Ms. Motz stated that some states that do not require an applicant to have passed a nation exam such as
205 California and Hawaii. Ms. Motz would like to see exam verification since there are states that have their
206 own exam rather than a national exam.

207
208 Ms. Endle stated she would like to continue to see the exam verification included in the application
209 packet.

210
211 The board discussed the validity of accepting the NCBTMB as a national exam since it is no longer
212 administered. The board decided to continue this discussion the next day, June 15.

213
214 *Recess The Board recessed at 11:52 p.m. for lunch; reconvened at 1:12 pm. Emily Sullivan*
215 *conducted a roll call vote – all board members present.*

216
217 **Agenda Item 9 Public Comment**

218
219 Ms. Conatser read aloud a letter of support for applicant Jean Rogan, stating she would be an asset to
220 their rural community and is one of the only options for massage in their region.

221
222 Jean Rogan stated her background in education and interest in massage therapy for many years. Ms.
223 Rogan explained that when she went to school for massage therapy, the school's program was 600
224 hours, she passed the MBLEx exam, and is currently licensed in Montana. Ms. Rogan stated she
225 understands that she has less than the required 625 hours of education, asked the board to consider the
226 time it took for her to do the assignments. Ms. Rogan asked the board to please consider her application
227 for approval.

228
229 Stephanie Haseltine read aloud a letter of support for applicant Jean Rogan. Ms. Haseltine stated the
230 need for massage therapy in her community and neighboring communities, but due to a lack of massage
231 therapists, many cannot consider massage therapy an option. Ms. Haseltine believes that Jean would be
232 a great benefit to rural communities with her talent and skills.

233
234 There were no other attendees for public comment, so the board moved on to the next agenda item.

235
236 **Agenda Item 10 FSMTB Annual Meeting – Charlotte, NC**

237
238 The board discussed a senior board member taking a junior board member to the FSMTB annual
239 meeting October 7-9, 2021 or having two senior members attend the annual meeting. After further
240 discussion, the board decided to have Chair Edwards-Smith take the new board member that will fill the
241 currently vacant position on the board. If the new board member is unable to go, or the vacancy is not
242 filled, Ms. Tri will attend the meeting with Chair Edwards-Smith.

243
244 **In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, and passed unanimously with a roll call**
245 **vote, it was RESOLVED select David Edwards-Smith as the delegate for the FSMTB annual**
246 **meeting, with a junior board member attending the meeting with him.**

247
248 **Agenda Item 11 Board Chair Meeting Review**

249
250 Chair Edwards-Smith gave an update to the board about the last board chair meeting. Chair Edwards-
251 Smith explained that in the last meeting, they discussed vaccine distribution, board training resources,
252 which he was able to review. Chair Edwards-Smith also stated that he has been in contact with Boards
253 and Commissions and is hopeful that the vacant position on the board will be filled by the next meeting
254 in September.

Agenda Item 12 Board Training and Continuity

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Chair Edwards-Smith asked Ms. Tri what stood out to her as the newest board member in regard to training and resources.

Ms. Tri stated when she first joined the board, she felt like she was given a crash course, because she was unable to meet in person with the rest of the board members. Ms. Tri stated that she was not given a written list of board member roles or responsibilities, which she would have found very helpful. Ms. Tri believes it would be beneficial to have a job description for new board members to help them gain a better understanding of what is expected of them. Ms. Tri also suggested have a 1 to 2 day orientation for new board members with licensing examiner.

Chair Edwards-Smith asked Ms. Spencer if the Boards and Commissions has the job roles and responsibilities for the prospective board member during the interview process.

Ms. Spencer stated that the division has asked for many years for Boards and Commissions to update their information, but it has not been updated.

Ms. Spencer stated that there were trainings for board and staff that were postponed in 2020, but she is hopeful that the training will be reinstated this summer.

Ms. Motz suggested that we add an FAQ about becoming a board member and what to expect.

Ms. Spencer suggested that the board of massage therapists website is updated to include a brief synopsis of the board and what they do.

The board agreed to add a synopsis of the board massage therapists and what they do to the website, as well as information about the massage establishment registration.

Ms. Motz stated she would like to talk about board continuity. Ms. Motz stated that according the centralized statutes, a board member may only serve two terms. Ms. Motz would like to see if the board can start a regulations project to allow board members to serve 8 years instead of "2 terms". Ms. Motz explained that an example is the stale application regulation created by the board that was less stringent than the centralized statutes and regulations. Ms. Motz also stated that she had reached out to regulations specialist Jun Maiquis, to see if it can be done, but had not heard back from him yet.

Ms. Spencer stated she would reach out to him and see if he could join the meeting to talk about the possible regulations project.

Jun Maiquis joined the meeting at 2:07 p.m.

Mr. Maiquis informed the board that they do not have the authority to do a regulation change to allow board members to serve for 8 years. Mr. Maiquis explained that would require a change in statutes, or board and commission would need to change the statute.

Ms. Motz thanked Mr. Maiquis for looking into the possible project, and the board decided not to pursue the matter.

Ms. Motz asked Mr. Maiquis if a board member can continue to serve after terming out if they are willing, until a replacement is found.

305 Mr. Maiquis stated that is true, a board member can continue to serve until they are replaced. However,
306 it is ultimately at the governor's pleasure.

307
308 Ms. Endle asked how the governor's office determines when a board member is resigning or ending
309 their term.

310
311 Ms. Spencer stated that Ms. Gilmour was sent a thank you letter from the governor's office and was
312 removed from the board when she termed out. Ms. Endle asked Ms. Spencer if Ms. Gilmour was given
313 the opportunity to continue to serve until her replacement was found.

314
315 Ms. Spencer stated that since boards and commissions sent Ms. Gilmour a thank you letter, she was not
316 given the option to continue to serve. Ms. Spencer informed the board that boards and commission sets
317 the terms and after that (years of service) for board members; an appointed board may serve for up to 8
318 years with a reinstatement after their first term of four years.

319
320 The board discussed the possibility of having a former board member mentor new board members. Ms.
321 Spencer explained that once you are off a board, the governor has thanked you for your time, and you
322 are no longer affiliated with the program. However, a new board member can reach out to a previous
323 board member for questions, but it is a very fine ethical line, and you must make sure you are not
324 violating the open meetings act. Ms. Spencer went on to explain that former members of the board
325 cannot legally be involved in any board actions.

326
327 Chair Edwards-Smith clarified that they would only bring in a former board member to help with
328 orientation for new board members.

329
330 Ms. Tri suggested having a senior board member sit down with new board member and the licensing
331 examiner for orientation on roles responsibilities, and application processing. The following weeks the
332 assigned senior board member can mentor the junior board member as needed.

333
334 The board agreed that having a senior board member sit with the new board member for orientation is
335 a good idea.

336
337 The board discussed and agreed it would be a good idea to use old application that are complex or have
338 red flags to use during new board member orientation and application processing training.

339
340 Ms. Spencer recommended stating on the record the senior board member that will mentor the new
341 board member during their first meeting and scheduling trainings.

342
343 **Agenda Item 13 Administrative Business**

344
345 **Review/Approve March 2021 Meeting Minutes**

346
347 The board reviewed the meeting minutes and did not have any edits to the March 1, 2021 meeting and
348 March 15 regulations meeting.

349
350 **In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, and passed unanimously with a roll call**
351 **vote, it was RESOLVED to approve the March 1, 2021 and March 15, 2021 meeting minutes as**
352 **written.**

353

354 Previous Meeting Task List

355

356 Ms. Sullivan reviewed the March 1, 2021 meeting task list and timeline, updated the board on each task.

357 Ms. Sullivan stated that all tasks from the March 1, 2021 meeting were completed.

358

359 Correspondence

360

361 Ms. Sullivan stated another licensing examiner had received a call from an esthetician who works at a
362 spa and is planning to submerge the client in a tub of water and do a full body scrub. Based on the way
363 the esthetician described the service, the licensing examiner thought it sound like it may fall under
364 massage therapy. The caller wanted to know if she would need a professional license to provide this
365 service.

366

367 The board discussed the fact that estheticians are only allowed to work from the neck up, and massage
368 therapy student are trained in school to do body scrubs.

369

370 The board agreed that the body scrub falls under their scope of practice for massage therapy.

371

372 The board reviewed an email regarding foreign trained applicants and foreign credentials evaluation and
373 translation services. Ms. Spencer explained to the board that a credentialing agency provides an in-
374 depth review of the transcript and provides a new transcript. Ms. Spencer went on to explain that a
375 translator would only translate from the foreign language to English. The board agreed to do more
376 research on certified translating services.

377

378 The board reviewed an email From Tivity Health about working with the board to inform licensees on
379 getting credentials through their company to provide massage to veterans. Ms. Motz stated that while
380 she supports their efforts, it is not in the boards purview to delve into insurance issues. Ms. Motz
381 suggested that Tivity Health reaches out to AMTA or ABMP since they send out email updates and
382 newsletters.

383

384 Ms. Sullivan asked the board where a person can get information on opening a massage therapy school.
385 Ms. Motz stated that all the information they need can be found on our statutes and regulations, such
386 as curriculum, and requirements to obtain a license in Alaska.

387

388 Agenda Item 14 Recess until June 15, 2021

389

390 *The board recessed at 3:01 p.m. until June 15 at 10:00 a.m.*

391

392 Agenda Item 15 Call to Order/Roll Call:

393

394 The meeting of the Board of Massage Therapists was called to order by David Edwards-Smith, Chair at
395 10:09 a.m. Members present were:

396

397 **Board Members present, constituting a quorum:**

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399 David Edwards-Smith, Board Chair, Licensed Massage Therapist

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400 Jill Motz, Vice Chair, Licensed Massage Therapist

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401 Kristin Tri, Licensed Massage Therapist

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402 Julie Endle, Public Member

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404 **Division Staff present:**
405 Emily Sullivan, Licensing Examiner
406 Cynthia Spencer, Records and Licensing Supervisor
407

408 **Public Joining Telephonically**

409
410 Ralph Hernandez, Applicant for Massage Therapist Licensure
411 Chaz Alexander, Public
412 Charity Molnar, Applicant for Massage Therapist Licensure
413 Laura Embleton, Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals
414 Yesenia Hernandez, Applicant for Massage Therapist Licensure
415 Jean Rogan, Applicant for Massage Therapist Licensure
416

417 **Agenda Item 16 Tabled Applications Review:**

418
419 C.M.

420
421 *Chair Edwards-Smith stated he agreed with the board member that tabled the application due to a*
422 *deficit in education hours. Ms. Motz also stated she agreed with the board member that tabled the*
423 *application.*
424

425 **In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, and passed unanimously with a roll call**
426 **vote, it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the application by credentials for Charity Molnar,**
427 **PENDING completion of 11 hours of clinical practice, and 37 hours of ethics and law per AS**
428 **08.61.040 and 12 AAC 79.110.**
429

430 R.H.

431
432 The board reviewed and discussed the application by credentials and agreed that he did not meet the
433 education requirement.
434

435 **In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Julie Endle, and passed unanimously with a roll**
436 **call vote, it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the application by credentials for Ralph Hernandez,**
437 **PENDING completion of 18 hours of ethics and law per AS 08.61.040 and 12 AAC 79.110.**
438

439 S.R.

440
441 The board reviewed and discussed the application by credentials and found that the board was unable
442 to verify that Seung Rhim's massage school was approved.
443

444 **In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the**
445 **application by credentials for Seung Rhim.**
446

447 **Roll Call Vote**

448	NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	Not in attendance
449	Jill Motz		X		
450	David Edwards-Smith		X		
451	Kristin Tri		X		
452	Julie Endle		X		
453					
454					

THE MOTION FAILED BY A MAJORITY.

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J.R.

The board reviewed and discussed the application by credentials for Jean Rogan and found she did not meet the education requirement. The board also discussed using continuing education that is reflected in a transcript towards the education requirement. The board agreed that continuing education cannot be used to fill the education requirement regardless of it being reflected in a transcript. The board also stated that continuing education cannot be used towards the education requirement because the applicant/student must be enrolled in a massage therapy school, rather than signing up for a seminar or training to complete continuing education.

In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, and passed unanimously with a roll call vote, it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the application by credentials for Jean Rogan, PENDING completion of 24 hours of human anatomy and physiology, 13 hours of massage theory and practical application, and 40 hours of ethics and law per AS 08.61.040(a).

Y.H.

The board reviewed and discussed the application by examination for Yesenia Hernandez and found that they met the requirements per 12 AAC 79.100.

In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, and passed unanimously with a roll call vote, it was RESOLVED to APPROVE the application by examination for Yesenia Hernandez per 12 AAC 79.100.

Agenda Item 17 Annual Report

The board reviewed the narrative statement, regulatory recommendations, proposed legislative recommendations, and goals and objectives submitted by Chair Edwards-Smith.

Ms. Spencer suggested the board include verbiage in the legislative and regulatory sections which would state “the board will continue to draft X as needed to meet industry changes and needs.”. The board agreed and asked that the statement be added to the regulatory section of the annual report.

The board briefly discussed the narrative statement, regulation, and legislative recommendations. The board agreed that these submissions were acceptable for their report.

The board reviewed goals and objectives for FY2022 drafted by Chair Edwards-Smith. Ms. Spencer suggested the board add goals regarding communication with the legislative body, operating budget, national representation, and annual in-state in person meetings.

The board briefly discussed the suggested goals and objectives and agreed to include them in the annual report.

Chair Edwards-Smith stated he would email the draft language to Ms. Sullivan for addition to the annual report. Ms. Sullivan informed the board that she would complete the annual report and submit it to the board for review via OnBoard for a final review as soon as possible.

Recess The board recessed at 10:58a.m. for a break; reconvened at 11:07a.m. Emily Sullivan conducted a roll call vote – all board members present.

COVID-19 Update – Board Guidance Continued

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The board discussed using clear and concise verbiage in the currently posted COVID-19 Board Guidance Letter, to ensure licensees understand that massage therapists and their patient need to wear a mask during the massage regardless if either party is vaccinated.

Chair Edwards-Smith stated he initially did not want a hard-lined letter to ensure that if a change in CDC guidelines occurred, the board would not have to have an emergency meeting to update or amend the letter.

Ms. Motz stated that if the CDC did change their guidelines on masking, the board could simply rescind the letter.

The board discussed adding the following verbiage to the currently posted COVID-19 Board Guidance Letter dated May 19, 2021; “it will continue to be the view of this board that universal masking for therapists and clients is the minimal PPE standard for care until the CDC recommends differently.”

In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, and tied with a roll call vote, it was RESOLVED to amend the COVID-19 Board Guidance Letter dated May 19, 2021, to add “it will continue to be the view of this board that universal masking for therapists and clients is the minimal PPE standard for care until the CDC recommends differently.”.

The board briefly discussed CDC recommendations and requested the motion be made again.

In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Kristin Tri, and passed unanimously with a roll call vote, it was RESOLVED to update the COVID-19 Board Guidance Letter dated May 19, 2021, to add “it will continue to be the view of this board that universal masking for therapists and clients is the minimal PPE standard for care until the CDC recommends differently.”.

In a motion made by Julie Endle, it was RESOLVED to update the COVID-19 Board Guidance Letter dated May 19, 2021, to “The Alaska Board of Massage Therapists recognizes the unprecedented circumstances the licensees have faced and continue to face during the COVID-19 pandemic.” and delete vaccine verbiage.

No second was received on the motion; the motion failed to carry.

Agenda Item 23 Administrative Business Continued

Ms. Spencer suggested that the board schedule board meetings for 2022.

The board discussed scheduling the 2022 meetings for February 2022 in Juneau, and June 2022 in Anchorage/video conference.

In a motion made by Jill Motz, seconded by Julie Endle, and passed unanimously with a roll call vote, it was RESOLVED to schedule the 2022 board meetings for February 17-18 in Juneau and June 16-17 in Anchorage/video conference.

Ms. Sullivan asked the board to clarify whether the NCBTMB exam is still acceptable if taken before February 2015.

556 Chair Edwards-Smith confirmed that the NCBTMB is still acceptable as an exam, if taken before February
557 2015.

558

559 **Agenda Item 20** **Adjourn**

560

561 At this time, the board concluded all scheduled board business.

562

563 Hearing no further business, Chair David Edwards-Smith adjourned the meeting and the record ended at
564 12:25 p.m.

565

Respectfully submitted:

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567

Emily Sullivan, Licensing Examiner

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Approved:

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David Edwards-Smith, Chairperson
Board of Massage Therapists

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Date: _____

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