

**KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR MASSAGE THERAPY
BOARD MEETING**

August 3, 2026

A meeting for the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Massage Therapy was held at the Department of Professional Licensing, located in Frankfort, KY, and via TEAMS, on August 3, 2026

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u> Valerie Smothers, Board Chair Karen Frazier, Vice Chair Nathan Thacker, Secretary Jacob Walbourn Michelle Lasley Jason Washburn James Carpenter	<u>DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING STAFF</u> Kristen Lawson, Commissioner Jessica Brown, Administrative Specialist Senior Jenna Wells, Fiscal Jeff Bardroff, Admin. Sect. I Supervisor <u>PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET STAFF</u> Matthew Ellison, Legal Advisor
<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>PUBLIC</u> Elise Baine (FSMTB), Ann Boone, Denise Logsdon

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Valerie Smothers called the board meeting to order at 1:02 PM. Nathan Thacker motioned to begin the board meeting. Karen Frazier seconded. The motion carried.

MINUTES

Karen Frazier made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 6th, 2026, meeting. Michelle Lasley seconded. The motion carried.

DPL REPORT

Commissioner Kristen Lawson stated she had nothing to present to the board at this time.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

The financial report for July 2026 and the fiscal year were reviewed. No discussion or questions presented.

LICENSURE STATUS REPORT

The Licensure Status Report for August 2026 was reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ONGOING BUSINESS

The Investigator Services Contract from Clinton Investigations has been signed and a copy presented for board review. Karen Frazier discussed that she just met with Michelle Shane from the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners on July 30th at the stakeholder meeting. They provided a history of why this collaboration is so important in their previses and that they will have legislative eyes on it until likely 2028. The FSMTB Annual meeting is scheduled for October 2026. Karen Frazier attends as a board member of FSMTB. Valerie stated that upon her polling, that Michelle Lasley and Jason Washburn showed interest in attending. A motion was made by Jacob Walbourn for Jason Washburn to attend as Kentucky's voting delegate and Michelle Laslet as the alternate voting delegate. Nathan Thacker seconded the motion and the motion carried. Jessica Brown, board administrator, reiterated that the members attending will need to provide a detailed itinerary for the trip to submit to the fiscal department for approval.

ATTORNEY REPORT

The board's new legal counsel, Matthew Ellison, discussed the agenda item of 'Board policy regarding law enforcement official inquiries.' He discussed inquiries on unauthorized practice and how it pertains to the board's statutes and regulations. He would like to adopt a policy with the discretion of the board to provide direction. He would not be providing legal advice but information on what the board is and is not charged to do in a matter.

APPLICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Applications for August 2026 were reviewed. On behalf of the Applications Committee, Karen Frazier made the following recommendations:

August Initial and Endorsement Applications Total: (30)

Approved: (28): Bailey Abplalp, Maria Bales, Judith Bessette, Savannah Brown, Cameron Clark, Wyonna Cline, Chelsea Coleman, Remus Crawford, Samantha Cunningham, Adriana Davis, Mary Davis, Autumn Ellis, Olivia Ellis, Kylie Gilliland, Mark Halcombe, Smanatha Hammer, Paul Houston, Andrew Little, Hannah Meade, Joshua Newton, Amber Partin, Courtney Richardson, Jonahtan Riley, Sraya Shalash, Melody Small, Jessica Watkins, Onshalique Winters-Wilson, Kimberly Young

Probation: (0)

Deferred: (1):

Denied: (1)

August Reinstatement Applications Total: (2)

Approved: (1):

Probation: (0)

Deferred: (0):

Denied: (1)

August Certificate of Good Standing Initial Applications Total: (2)

Approved (1):

Probation: (0)

Deferred: (1):

Denied: (0)

August Certificate of Good Standing Renewal Applications Total: (3)

Approved: (3)

Probation: (0)

Deferred: (0):

Denied: (0)

August CEU Applications Total: (1)

Approved: (0)

Deferred: (0)

Denied: (1)

Jacob Walbourn reported that he is on the applications committee and is aware that there is an applicant whose application will be deferred yet again for another month due to the institution not providing the required documentation that we know should be available and provided upon request.

Michelle Lasley made a motion to accept the applications committee report, Jason Washburn seconded. The motion carried.

COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE REPORT

No new discussion.

REGULATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Regulations meeting is scheduled for August 25th at 10 a.m.

BUSINESS REQUIRED TO BE CONDUCTED IN CLOSED SESSION

Jason Washburn moved to enter closed session at 1:26 PM, pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(j), for deliberations of quasi-judicial bodies regarding complaints, at which information protected by KRS 61.810(k) may be discussed. Nathan Thacker seconded. The motion carried.

Karen Frazier moved to return from closed session at 1:40 PM. Nathan Thacker seconded. The motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Chair Valerie Smothers announced the board was returning from closed session at 1:40 PM.

VOTE ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Jacob Walbourn made a motion to generally continue the matters of the complaints committee. Karen Frazier seconded the motion and the motion carried.

TRAVEL AND PER DIEM

Nathan Thacker made a motion to approve travel and per diem for all Board members that attended the Board meeting and committee meetings. Karen Frazier seconded and the motion carried. Jason Washburn did question the costs of registration for the FSMTB Annual meeting. It was noted that preregistration is available through the FSMTB link and the cost is covered through FSMTB.

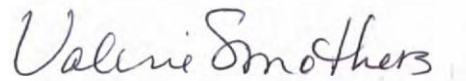
NEXT MEETING

The next board meeting will be September 14th, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business brought before the Board, Karen Frazier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:46 PM. Nathan Thacker seconded the motion, carried.

VS/JLB

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Valerie Smothers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Valerie" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "Smothers" follows in a similar but slightly smaller script. The signature is positioned on a light-colored, possibly white, background.