

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

December 1, 2025

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 December 1, 2025

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u> Valerie Smothers, Chair Karen Frazier, Vice Chair Nathan Thacker, Secretary Michelle Lasley James Carpenter Jason Washburn Jacob Walbourn <u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING STAFF</u> Kristen Lawson, Commissioner Jeff Bardroff, Admin. Section Supervisor Jessica Brown, Administrative Specialist Senior Jenna Wells, Fiscal <u>PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET STAFF</u> Lilly Coiner, Legal Advisor <u>PUBLIC</u> Elise Baine, Ann Boone
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CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Valerie Smothers called the board meeting to order at 1:06 PM.

MINUTES

Michelle Lasley made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 3rd, 2025, meeting. Nathan Thacker seconded. The motion carried.

DPL REPORT

Commissioner Kristen Lawson stated that the department was getting recommendations into Personnel for the two supervisor positions currently open in the department. They are hoping for the start date to be December 16th or January 1st.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

The financial report for November 2025 was reviewed. Jenna Wells with Fiscal directed the board to the 3rd page of the report for review of the current amount allocated to per diem. This percentage currently exceeds the amount allocated. She suggested taking funds from another operating expenditure with excess funds and suggested the amount of \$5000.00 to cover the cost. Jacob Walbourn made a motion to move \$5000.00 in operating expenditures from code type E150 (Other Professional Services) to E114 (Per Diem). The motion was seconded by Karen Frazier and the motion carried.

LICENSURE STATUS REPORT

The Licensure Status Report for December 2025 was reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Lilly Coiner indicated that the 'Law Enforcement Referral Language' was discussed in the Complaints Committee Meeting and suggested the verbiage to be added to the website, as follows: To report a crime: Please contact your local law enforcement agency for additional information about reporting a crime. Karen Frazier made a motion for board administrator Jessica Brown to work with management to get this placed on the website. Nathan Thacker seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The 2026 FSMTB Executive Summit is scheduled for April 22-24, 2026, in Providence Rhode Island. A motion was made by Karen Frazier for Jessica Brown to attend the conference on behalf of Kentucky. The motion was seconded by Michelle Lasley and the motion carried.

The Federation of Association of Regulatory Boards (FARB) Conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN on July 23-25, 2026. This is an opportunity for regulatory boards and agencies to get together and discuss regulatory law enforcement. A motion was made by Michelle Lasley for Attorney, Lilly Coiner to attend this conference. The motion was seconded by Karen Frazier and the motion carried.

Jessica Brown discussed the option for the two new board members to set on committees. Both new members expressed interest. Board chair, Valerie Smothers asked for a poll to be generated to gather all board member's interests in their top few committee seats. This will be available at the next board meeting.

Karen Frazier attended the town meeting for Louisville City Council. This meeting was held on November 5th. The Louisville Metro Council passed an ordinance to increase restrictions for massage facilities (or massage parlors). The measure was introduced in late October with the goal of preventing commercial sex activities and human trafficking. The city has already implemented a task force to uphold the ordinance. Karen Frazier also addressed that City Councilman; Jeff Hudson had indicated he had reached out on multiple attempts to the Board of Licensure for Massage Therapy with no avail regarding concerns of possible illegal activity taking place at specific locations. Karen is seeking clarification on policy, as he was allegedly told it would go before the complaints committee rather than be an agenda item for full board review. This will be investigated further for clarity for the board.

ONGOING BUSINESS

The Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners provided their last revision review for the Veterinary Medicine Act to KBLMT and a joint meeting with KBLMT needs to be arranged. This will be reviewed and discussed further in closed session.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Lilly Coiner indicated that she had nothing to present at this time.

APPLICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Applications for December 2025 were reviewed. On behalf of the Applications Committee, Valerie Smothers made the following recommendations:

December Initial and Endorsement Applications Total: (18)

Approved: (15): Hannah Christie, Courtney Cooper, Joseph Downs, Elaine Ewertz, Valerie Gastineau, Sarah Heinrich, Aerin Howard, Brianna Isaacs, Nicole McMurphy, Sally McNally, Savannah Taylor, Danielle Theriault, Kim Waters, Ashley Wilson, Yuzhen Zhang

Deferred: (2):

Denied: (1)

December Certificate of Good Standing Initial Applications Total: (0)

Approved (0):

Probation: (0)

Deferred: (0):

Denied: (0)

December Certificate of Good Standing Renewal Applications Total: (1)

Approved: (1)

Probation: (0)

Deferred: (0):

Denied: (0)

December CEU Applications Total: (0)

Approved: (0)

Deferred: (0)

Denied: (0)

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

COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Lilly Coiner indicated there was nothing to report this month.

REGULATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Lilly Coiner indicated that there was nothing to present at this time. Karen Frazier stated that Jessica sent out a shared document of the regulations to the committee and has placed some notes on it already.

BUSINESS REQUIRED TO BE CONDUCTED IN CLOSED SESSION

Karen Frazier moved to enter closed session at 1:30 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. Michelle Lasley seconded. The motion carried.

Jacob Walbourn moved to return from closed session at 1:41 PM. Jason Washburn seconded.

The motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Board Chair Valerie Smothers announced the board was returning from closed session at 1:41 PM.

VOTE ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

James Carpenter made a motion to accept items discussed in closed session, Jacob Walbourn seconded. The motion carried.

TRAVEL AND PER DIEM

Karen Frazier made a motion to approve travel and per diem for all Board members that attended the Board meeting and committee meetings. Jacob Walbourn seconded the motion, carried.


NEXT MEETING

The next board meeting will be January 5th, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business brought before the Board, Jason Washburn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:51 PM. Nathan Thacker seconded the motion, carried.

VS/JLB

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Valerie Smothers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.