

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

**February 2, 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 February 2, 2025

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

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Valerie Smothers called the board meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

**MINUTES**

James Carpenter made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 5th, 2026, meeting. Jason Washburn seconded. The motion carried.

**DPL REPORT**

Commissioner Kristen Lawson announced that she had nothing to discuss, other than the House Bill and Senate Bill that are under New Business for today's meeting.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT**

The financial report for January 2026 was reviewed. No discussion or questions presented.

**LICENSURE STATUS REPORT**

The Licensure Status Report for February 2026 was reviewed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Board Chair, Valerie Smothers provided a proposal for the committee assignments as follows: Applications- Karen Frazier, James Carpenter & Jacob Walbourn. Complaints- Michelle Lasley, Nathan Thacker & Jacob Walbourn. Regulations- Karen Frazier, Nathan Thacker, & Jason Washburn. Karen Frazier made motion to accept the committee assignments as presented. James Carpenter seconded, motion carried. Valerie Smothers proposed as acting chair, she would be an alternate member of the committees, in the event one of the other members would be absent from the meeting for continuity for quorum and voting purposes. Karen Frazier made a motion to accept Valerie's proposal and Jason Washburn seconded. Motion carries. Commissioner, Kristen Lawson provided drafts for the new House Bill 181 (Compact), Senate Bill 132, and House Bill 66. She stated that the new House Bill 66 would affect all DPL boards with the implementation of all in-person attendance for voting purposes, no more video conferences for board business. Karen Frazier gave a Power Point presentation on 'Human Exploitation and the Illicit Massage Industry'. Karen Frazier made a motion for the board to create a training & Summit in correlation with FSMTB, inviting law enforcement agencies, health departments, schools and advocacy groups. James Carpenter seconded, and the motion did not carry. Board Chair. Valerie Smothers stated that she would like to obtain additional information before moving forward.

### **ONGOING BUSINESS**

Jessica Brown indicated that Michelle Shane, with the Veterinary Board has provided a date of March 12<sup>th</sup> for a collaborating meeting.

### **ATTORNEY REPORT**

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

### **APPLICATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Applications for February 2026 were reviewed. On behalf of the Applications Committee, Valerie Smothers made the following recommendations:

#### **February Initial and Endorsement Applications Total: (28)**

**Approved: (23):** Jessica Bush, Amber Colella, Stacy decker, Nicole Gray, Mary Beth Holbert, Marissa Jeffries, Aaron Kawaja, Michelle Kerr, Carmen Kleckner, Rebecca Luckhardt, Dessa Majors, Brian Monroe, Nathan Nordstrom, Ashlyn Patton, Travis Phelps, Christian Profitt, Kristin Richardson, John Ross, Helen Sawyers, Zelma Sikes, Meadow Smith, Andrea Southard, Cheree Knox,

**Probation: (0)**

**Deferred: (3):**

**Denied: (2)**

#### **February Certificate of Good Standing Initial Applications Total: (0)**

**Approved (0):**

**Probation: (0)**

**Deferred: (0):**

**Denied: (0)**

**February Certificate of Good Standing Renewal Applications Total: (3)**

**Approved: (1)**

**Probation: (0)**

**Deferred: (2):**

**Denied: (0)**

**February CEU Applications Total: (0)**

**Approved: (0)**

**Deferred: (0)**

**Denied: (0)**

James Carpenter made a motion to accept the applications committee report, Jacob Walbourn seconded. The motion carried.

**COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Lilly Coiner indicated that the complaints committee was not able to meet today due to quorum and had nothing to report at this time.

**REGULATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Lilly Coiner indicated that there was nothing to present at this time.

**BUSINESS REQUIRED TO BE CONDUCTED IN CLOSED SESSION**

There was no business requiring closed session.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

There was no business that occurred in closed session.

**VOTE ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

There was no business that occurred in closed session.

**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. James Carpenter seconded the motion, carried.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next board meeting will be March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026.

Board Chair, Valerie Smothers noted that we needed to update the September board meeting from the 7<sup>th</sup>, to the following Monday of September 14<sup>th</sup>, due to the Labor Day Holiday.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business brought before the Board, Karen Frazier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 PM. James Carpenter seconded the motion, carried.

VS/JLB

*Valerie Smothers*