

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

**September 23, 2024**

A special 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 September 23, 2024

<b><u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u></b> Valerie Smothers, Chair Karen Frazier, Vice Chair Nathan Thacker, Secretary James Carpenter	<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING STAFF</u></b> Kristen Lawson, Commissioner April Alsabrook, Admin. Section Supervisor Jessica Brown, Board Specialist
<b><u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u></b> Michelle Lasley	<b><u>PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET STAFF</u></b> Daniel Leffel, Legal Advisor
	<b><u>PUBLIC</u></b>

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Valerie Smothers called the board meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The board reviewed documents submitted from the Department of Veteran Affairs and their proposal of a federal register for massage therapists. The board had previously discussed preparing a response at the September 9<sup>th</sup> board meeting date. A motion was made by Nathan Thacker to not provide a written response to the Dept. of Veteran Affairs. The motion was seconded by James Carpenter and the motion carried.

A full regulations committee was discussed at the September 9<sup>th</sup> board meeting but not voted upon. Michelle Lasley was previously on the regulations committee and the Board Chair; Valerie Smothers will be on the committee by virtue of being the Chair. Valerie Smothers recommended that Karen Frazier and Nathan Thacker be appointed to the board if interested. Both Karen and Nathan showed interest. A motion was made by James Carpenter for Nathan Thacker and Karen Frazier be appointed to the Regulations Committee. The motion was seconded by Valerie Smothers, motion carried.

Valerie Smothers stated that Board Specialist Jessica Brown was again sending out printed Certificate of Good Standings out to the schools and institutions once a COGS has been approved or renewed (as this practice had been lost through transition within the department). The certificate includes the date that their COGS expires in hopes that the establishment will post their credentials and will assist them in keeping up with their renewal date.

Board Chair Valerie Smothers stated that she had been invited to a human trafficking conference in January of 2025. She is asking if the board would reimburse her for the

expenditures incurred for attending. Karen Frazier made a motion for the board to cover the expenses for flight, travel, meals and per diem for Valerie Smothers to attend if funds permit. The motion was seconded by Nathan Thacker and the motion carried. It was discussed if a special called meeting needed to be created for October. It was determined that it was not necessary unless something changed. The FSMTB call for nominations list and resolutions & bylaws will be discussed further in closed sessions.

### **APPLICATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Applications for September 23, 2024 were reviewed. On behalf of the Applications Committee, Valerie Smothers made the following recommendations:

#### **September Special Meeting Initial and Endorsement Applications Total: (17)**

**Approved: (13):**

**Deferred: (2):**

**Denied: (2)**

#### **September Special Meeting Certificate of Good Standing Initial Applications Total: (0)**

**Approved (0):**

**Probation: (0)**

**Deferred: (0):**

**Denied: (0)**

#### **September Special Meeting Certificate of Good Standing Renewal Applications Total: (1)**

**Approved: (0)**

**Probation: (1)**

**Deferred: (0):**

**Denied: (0)**

#### **September Special Meeting CEU Applications Total: (0)**

**Approved: (0)**

**Deferred: (0)**

**Denied: (0)**

Nathan Thacker made a motion to accept the applications committee report, Karen Frazier seconded. The motion carried.

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

Valerie Smothers moved to enter closed session at 9:48 AM, 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. Karen Frazier seconded. The motion carried.

Karen Frazier moved to return from closed session at 10:28 AM. Nathan Thacker seconded. The motion carried.

### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Board Chair Valerie Smothers announced the board was returning from closed session at 10:28 AM.

### **VOTE ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

Karen Frazier made a motion to accept items discussed in closed session, Nathan Thacker 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. Nathan Thacker seconded the motion, carried.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be October 7, 2024.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business brought before the Board, Nathan Thacker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 AM. Karen Frazier seconded the motion, carried.

VS/jlb