

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**  
**April 7, 2023**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting of the Board of Massage Therapy was called to order by Steven Carper, Chair, at 9:01 a.m. in the, State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and posted in the Licensure Unit on 3.27.2023

The following members answered roll call:

Members Present (3):

Steven Carper, Chair  
Kristine Roberts, Member  
Michele Helaney, Secretary

Members Absent (1):

Mallory Carstens, Vice-Chair

Others Present (5):

Matt Gelvin, Program Manager, Licensure Unit (on web-x)  
TJ O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General  
Teresa Hampton, DHHS Attorney (on web-x)  
Anna Harrison, Complaint Monitor, Licensure Unit (on web-x)

Public Individual

A quorum was present and the meeting convened.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Roberts moved, seconded by Helaney, to adopt the agenda. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye: Carper, Helaney, Roberts (3). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: Carstens (1). Abstained: (0) Motion carried.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Helaney moved, seconded by Roberts, to approve the minutes. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye: Carper, Helaney, Roberts (3). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: Carstens (1). Abstained: (0) Motion carried.

**4. UPDATES AND REPORTS**

- a. 2023 Legislation  
LB 78: Redefine the definition of massage therapy (hearing 2.2.2023)  
[https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view\\_bill.php?DocumentID=49963](https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=49963) LB 280: Adopt the Interstate

Gelvin reported that LB78 motions have been filed, no additional updates

LB 280 Massage Compact – IMpact (hearing 2.2.2023)

**The intent of LB280 is to allow eligible massage therapists to practice in all states that join the compact. It eliminates barriers to practice and to client care along with ensuring public protection. It enhances our state's ability to protect public safety by creating a data system of information about licensees including license status, investigative information and adverse actions.**

[https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view\\_bill.php?DocumentID=50572](https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=50572) Mpackt  
<https://compacts.csg.org/compact-updates/massage-therapy/>

Gelvin updated the bill is still in committee

- b. Nebraska Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association (NE-AMTA)  
<http://www.amtane.org>

Kim (public representing NE-AMTA) reported that LB78 has about 20 amendments and is bogging down in the system. LB280 Senator Blood not happy with NE-AMTA and bill may stay in committee

Carper reported that Senator Blood reached out to the school.  
Carper reached out to the Federation for input

9:07 am Shaneka and Sund, DHHS legal entered web-x

Kim reported that there are 612 members as of March. They will no longer be working with the Lincoln Marathon.

They will be having a live in person cadaver class in Kearney in July,

It was questions if CPR, First Aid will count as CEU's, Oldehoeft will follow up at the May meeting.

9:13 am Emily, DHHS legal entered (web-x)

- c. Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) <https://www.fsmtb.org>  
Oldehoeft handout the boards membership packets

Carper reports that the National data bank—anyone needing access has to have authority. Impact uses Matilda data bank; Nebraska doesn't report to Matilda we do report to the National Data Bank. Nebraska does a primary source verification with the state if an applicant is applying via reciprocity.

- d. Statistics: Examinations, Licensing, Administrative Penalties, Renewals, Disciplinary and Non-Disciplinary Information, and School Report (attached to agenda)

9:18am Klassen, Cue- investigations entered the room

## **5. CLOSED SESSION Investigative Reports and Other Confidential Information**

**MOTION:** Roberts moved, seconded by Helaney, to enter into closed session at 9:19 a.m. for the purpose of hearing discussions of an investigative/confidential nature and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Carper, Helaney, Roberts (3). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: Carstens (1). Abstained: (0) Motion carried. Carper repeated the motion and purpose.

Public phone line closed

9:31 am Klassen and Cue exited room

Members agreed to return to open session at 9:43 a.m. and public phone line opened

## **6. OPEN SESSION Review, Recommendations, and Report Out (Applications, Mail Ballot Voting Results, and Reinstatements)**

### **Candice Backer-Reinstatement- Massage Therapist -**

**MOTION:** Roberts moved, seconded by Helaney, to recommend deferring to next meeting for more information. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye: Carper, Helaney, Roberts (3). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: Carstens (1). Abstained: (0) Motion carried.

Mail ballot report:

Ann Penas-Issue  
Country Touch Massage-Issue  
Alicia Sifuentez-massage therapist—issue

**8. ADJOURN**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2023 and will be set as an in person meeting. There was no further business and Carper declared the meeting of the Board of Massage Therapy adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Submitted by Michele Helaney, Secretary  
Board of Massage Therapy

Minutes drafted by Carrie Oldehoeft, Health Licensing Coordinator