

These minutes were approved by the Board on 12.2.2022

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**  
**October 7, 2022**

**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 9:02 a.m. in the Licensure Unit, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Conference Room H, 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 09.29.2022. The following members answered roll call:

Members Present (3):

Steven Carper, Chair  
Kristine Roberts, Member  
Mallory Carstens, Member Vice-Chair

Members Absent (1):

Michele Helaney, Secretary

Others Present (5):

Kris Chiles, Program Manager, Licensure Unit  
Mindy Lester, Assistant Attorney General  
TJ O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General  
Teresa Hampton, DHHS Attorney (on web-x)  
Public Individual

A quorum was present and the meeting convened.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**4. UPDATES AND REPORTS**

- a. Executive Order EO 22-05 Issued, Extends EO 20-12 and 20-15 until 12.31.2022  
<https://govdocs.nebraska.gov/docs/pilot/pubs/eofiles/22-05.pdf> and <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Nebraska-Guidance-Documents.aspx>

Chiles provided an update regarding the Executive Order.

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

Briana Cudly provided the following updates:

- The August National Conference held in Cleveland Ohio was an opportunity to talk about many national topics, including a Cleveland Brown's player whereby 24 massage therapist women filed lawsuits alleging sexual misconduct by the NFL player - his manager said happy endings ok as long as money not being exchanged. Public perspective of massage therapy is being questioned and there is a heightened concern for the safety of massage therapists.
- The week of October 22<sup>nd</sup> is massage therapy appreciation week. Activities planned are:
  - Gov Relations Forum Zoom TBD

- Includes special award for service to Massage Therapy and are waiting on confirmation of time of Sen. Hilkemann
  - Meet & Greet
    - Omaha Wed 10/26 4-6
    - Lincoln Oct 28 TBD
  - Massage Minds Meeting
    - Visceral Manipulation Zoom Thu 10/27 6-8
3. We have a new Membership Chair - Chrys Whitmarsh; Our membership is at 593 as of September 15
4. Holly Doring stepped down as Education Chair and we are looking for someone to replace her, Becky Ohlsen (President) is filling in for now.
5. AMTA-Ne is looking into a messaging campaign to promote massage therapy as a profession
6. IMPact - we are excited about most of the Impact and would love to be a part of it IF we can do something about the hours.
- We are interested in moving the profession forward, lowering of hours is not a positive way to do that. We should be elevating the profession
  - AZ, ND, NY AMTA chapters are not thrilled with the hours either, perhaps Steve could speak to their board representatives to create a more united front at the meeting and in conversation.

9:26am Harrison joined via phone

9:28 am Trevor Klaassen, investigations entered the room

- c. Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) <https://www.fmtb.org>

Carper provided an overview of the agenda for the annual conference Oct 18-20 in Charlotte, NC.

- Thursday 10.20.22
    - On-line massage education
    - Compact
    - Regulation of establishment
- d. Statistics: Examinations, Licensing, Administrative Penalties, Renewals, Disciplinary and Non Disciplinary Information, and School Report

Attached to the 10.07.2022 agenda.

## **5. CLOSED SESSION**

### **Investigative Reports and Other Confidential Information**

**MOTION:** Carstens moved, seconded by Roberts, to enter into closed session at 9:34 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. Carper repeated the motion and purpose. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Carper, Carstens, Roberts (3). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: Helaney (1). Abstained: (0) Motion carried

Public phone line closed

9:40 am Klaassen exited room

9:40 am Lester exited room

9:40 am O'Neill exited room

9:57 am O'Neill entered room

9:57 am Lester entered room

Members agreed to return to open session at 9:58 a.m. and public phone line opened

**6. OPEN SESSION**

**Review, Recommendations, and Report Out** (Applications, Mail Ballot Voting Results, and Reinstatements)

No applications reviewed

9:59 am Harrison exited call

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2022 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 10:03 a.m.

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Submitted by Steve Carper, Chair (Helaney Absent)  
Board of Massage Therapy

Minutes drafted by Carrie Oldehoeft, Health Licensing Coordinator