

These minutes have been approved by the Board of Massage Therapy.

Board of Massage Therapy Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2025

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Steven Carper, Chair, called the meeting of the Board of Massage Therapy to order at 9:01 a.m. on March 28, 2025, in the Lower-Level Goldenrod Conference Room at the Nebraska State Office Building located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. Pursuant to 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 website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx> on March 13, 2025, and posted in the Nebraska State Office Building East Vestibule on March 13, 2025.

Carper announced that this is an open meeting and the Open Meetings Act is posted.

Members Present:

The following members answered roll call:

Steven Carper, Chair
Holly Doring, Vice Chair
Elizabeth Bailey, Public Member
Michele Helaney, Secretary

Staff Present:

Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager
Kim Hitzel, Board Coordinator
Abby Hoy-Nissen, Assistant Attorney General
Mark Meyerson, Investigator
Dennis Scott, Investigator
Katherine Amyot, DHHS Legal Attorney

Members of the Public Addressing the Board

Briana Cudly, American Massage Therapy Association Nebraska Chapter, gr@amtane.org

2. Adoption of Agenda

Doring moved, seconded by Bailey, to adopt the agenda. Voting aye: Bailey, Carper, Helaney, Doring. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

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3. Reaffirmation of the Minutes

The meeting minutes of February 6, 2025, were approved February 20, 2024. Voting aye: Bailey, Carper, Doring, Helaney. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

4. Closed Session

Doring moved, seconded by Bailey, to move into closed session at 9:03 a.m. to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals named or referenced in such discussions. Voting aye: Bailey, Carper, Helaney, Doring. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Board returned to open session at 10:24 a.m.

5. Board Recommendations on Applications

In the matter of the application for a massage therapy school submitted by Nebraska School of Massage- Grand Island the Board tabled the decision until more information has been provided. Doring moved, seconded by Helaney. Voting aye, Doring, Carper, Helaney, and Bailey. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

6. Nebraska Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association Report Out

Cudly reported that AMTA-NE is monitoring the progress of LB169. The convention for the NE AMTA will be held in York, NE April 11 – 12, 2025.

7. Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards Report Out

Covert-ByBee will be attending the Massage Board Executive Summit meeting in Scottsdale, AZ April 2- 4, 2025.

The FSMTB 2025 annual meeting will be held October 5- 7, 2025 in Kansas City, MO. Doring and Carper plan to attend the meeting.

8. Legislative Update

Covert-ByBee had nothing to report from the Department's perspective.

9. Licensure Application Processing Report

The Application Processing Report is offered for informational purposes only.

10. Update of New Licensure Database

Covert-ByBee shared that the new database is now in operation. Future goals are for more modernization of the entire system.

11. Public Comment

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No public comment was made.

12. Topics for Next Meeting

Topics identified for the next meeting include Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards Report Out, Legislative Update, Update on the New Licensure Database, Licensure Application Processing Report, Public Comment, and the American Massage Therapy Association Nebraska Chapter Report Out.

The next meeting date is June 6, 2025.

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Helaney, Secretary