

These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the Board.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
June 5, 2026

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Massage Therapy was called to order by Holly Doring, Chair, at 9:29 a.m. in the State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lower-Level Morrill Room, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was conducted In-Person and by WebEx. The following members answered roll call.

Steven Carper, Vice - Chair
Holly Doring, Chair
Elizabeth Bailey, Member
Abigail Davis, Secretary

Absent: none

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Also present were: Sean Loving, Program Manager; Heather Ord, Health Licensing Coordinator; Tyler Walvoord, Department Legal; Abby Hoy Nissen, Assistant Attorney General; and Alexandria Belcher, Mark Meyerson, Hayle Alvarado, Trevor Klaasen and Tricia Allen, Investigators from the Investigations Unit.

Doring announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

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 website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and posted in the Licensure Unit on May 18, 2026.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Carper moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the agenda as presented. Voting aye: Carper, Doring, Davis, and Bailey. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none. Vacant positions: 2 Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 27, 2026

Carper moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the minutes with the following corrections:

Page 1: “Carper announced...” changed to “Doring announced...”

Voting aye: Carper, Doring, Davis, and Bailey. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none. Vacant positions: 2 Motion carried.

4. CLOSED SESSION Investigative Reports and Other Confidential Information

Davis moved, seconded by Bailey, to enter into closed session at 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of review and discussion on investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Doring repeated the motion and purpose. Voting aye: Carper, Doring, Davis, and Bailey. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none. Vacant positions: 2 Motion carried.

Returned to open session at 11:16 a.m.

5. OPEN SESSION Application review and recommendations (initial licensure, reinstatement, convictions, administrative penalties, and mail ballot reports)

APPLICATIONS

Emerald Healing Arts & Apothecary – Massage Therapy Establishment

Carper moved, seconded by Doring, to recommend approval of the establishment license on a censure with \$1,000 civil penalty, and the completion of the jurisprudence exam by the owner within 90 days. The basis for the censure, civil penalty, and the completion of the jurisprudence exam is due to operating two hundred thirty-three (233) days without a Nebraska establishment license. Voting aye: Carper, Doring, and Bailey. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Davis Absent: none. Vacant positions: 2 Motion carried.

Sakoon the Spa – Massage Therapy Establishment

Carper moved, seconded by Davis, to recommend approval of the establishment license on a censure, \$14,000 civil penalty, and the completion of the jurisprudence exam by the owners within 90 days. The basis for the censure, civil penalty, and the completion of the jurisprudence exam is due to operating for an extended period of time without an active establishment license and employing nine (9) massage therapists for an extended period of time in an unlicensed establishment. Voting aye: Carper, Doring, Davis, and Bailey. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none. Vacant positions: 2 Motion carried.

6. UPDATES AND REPORTS

a. Legislation and Regulations:

Sean mentioned that the draft to open the regulations for adjustments has been created. There will be future meetings scheduled when the regulations have been opened.

b. Nebraska Chapter of American Massage Therapy Association (NE-AMTA): Doring mentioned the NE-AMTA national conventions are scheduled for August 27-29, 2026, in Denver, Colorado.

c. Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB): Doring and Carper mentioned that the FSMTB 2026 Annual Meeting will be held October 21-23 in Las Vegas, Nevada. .

d. American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) Nebraska National Report: Doring mentioned the AMTA will hold the 2026 National Convention August 27 – 29, 2026, in Denver, Colorado.

Carper moved, seconded by Doring, to approve Doring to attend the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards 2026 National Convention as the delegated representative for Nebraska, and Carper as an alternate if Doring is unable to attend, and Davis as a nonvoting member. Voting aye: Carper, Doring, Davis, and Bailey. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none. Vacant positions: 2 Motion carried.

e. Statistics: Examinations, Licensing, Administrative Penalties, Renewals, Disciplinary and Non-Disciplinary Information, and School Report

There is no discussion at this time.

7. FUTURE MEETING DATES

August 7, 2026
October 2, 2026
December 4, 2026

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There are no public comments at this time.

9. Adjournment

The upcoming meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2026. No further information was presented, and the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:47 am.

Board of Massage Therapy
Summarized by: Heather Ord, Health Licensing Coordinator, Licensure Unit