

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
August 15, 2025

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 9:00 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 8.11.2025.

The following members answered roll call:

Members Present (4):

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

Members Absent (0):

Others Present (5):

TJ O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General
Abigail Nissen, Assistant Attorney General
Sean Loving, DHHS Program Manager
Maiya Baumann, DHHS Program Manager
Claire Covert-Bybee, DHHS Program Manager
Jessica Dean, DHHS Health Licensing Coordinator
Heather Ord, DHHS Health Licensing Coordinator
Kim Hitzel, DHHS Health Licensing Coordinator
Trevor Klaussen, Randy Clark, Carla Cue- Investigator

A quorum was present and the meeting convened.

2. Introduction

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Doring moved, seconded by Bailey, to adopt the agenda. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye: Carper, Doring, Helaney, Bailey (4). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: None (0). Abstained: (0) Motion carried.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (6.06.2025)

An email ballot was approved on 6.27.2025. Voting aye: Carper, Helaney, Doring (3). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: None (0). Abstained: Doring (1) Motion carried.

5. CLOSED SESSION Investigative Reports and Other Confidential Information

MOTION: Doring moved, seconded by Bailey, to enter into closed session at 9:10 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 voice vote was taken. Voting aye: Carper, Doring, Helaney, Bailey (4). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: None (0). Abstained: (0) Motion carried

Public phone line closed

Members agreed to return to open session at 9:21 a.m. and WebEx opened

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

7. UPDATES AND REPORTS

- a. ASMR-Loving asked the board about ASMR therapy and if this would require a massage therapy license. The board requested more information on the techniques the owner is using.
- b. Legislation: Covert-Bybee mentioned LB 660 for boards to review regulations every 5 years.
- c. Nebraska Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association (NE-AMTA)
<http://www.amtane.org>
No representatives in attendance. Member will be at national org meeting in September with a planned discussion about regulation.
- d. Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) <https://www.fsmtb.org>
Carper stated the annual meeting is in Kansas City and 2 members from each state can attend. Carper and Doring will be attending.
- e. MLO/Evoke updates.
Loving discussed the new system MLO and the progress with the new EVOKE system in the future.
- f. Statistics: Examinations, Licensing, Administrative Penalties, Renewals, Disciplinary and Non-Disciplinary Information, and School Report (attached to agenda)

8. No public comments

9. Adjournment

The upcoming meeting is scheduled for 10.3.2025. No further information was presented, and the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 9:56 am.

Board of Massage Therapy
Summarized by: Sean Loving, Licensure Unit