

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

State Board of Massage Therapy
September 23, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bryan Strawser, LMT, Chair
Jennifer A. Keth, LMT, CNC, Vice Chair
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau
of Professional and Occupational Affairs
Linda A. Chamberlain, MS, BSN, RN, CNDLTC, Secretary
of Health Designee
Jessica Nelson, Office of Attorney General Designee
Kathleen Hill, LMT
Imelda Alumbro Shade, LMT

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel
J. Karl Geschwindt, Esquire, Acting Senior Board
Prosecutor
Emyline Breckenridge, Esquire, Board Prosecution
Liaison
Liliana G. Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Adrianne Doll, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Riley Baker, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Paul Keller, Board Administrator
Adrianna McClendon, Esquire, PA Office of General
Counsel
Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Shana Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel
Ronald Rouse, Esquire, PA Office of General Counsel
William A. Newport, Esquire, Board Prosecution
Liaison
Stephanie Dunkerley, Legal Analyst, Office of General
Counsel

ALSO PRESENT:

Seth Dinkel, Federation of State Massage Therapy
Boards
Camille Baughman, MA, BSed, LMT, American Massage
Therapy Association Pennsylvania Chapter,
Government Relations
Elise Baine, Federation of State Massage Therapy
Boards
Nina Kottcamp, Coordinator, Harrisburg Area
Community College

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ALSO PRESENT (cont.)

Breanna Eckley, LMT

Amanda Claybaugh, Treatments Manager, The Lodge at
Woodloch

Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Chief Counsel,
Office of Chief Counsel

Twyla Jones, Industrial Health and Safety Specialist

Natalie Cook, Government Affairs Specialist, McNees
Group

Sara Georg, Applicant for Licensure as Massage
Therapist

Gregory P

Lior Gecht, M.D.

Allison Walker, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,
Inc.

1 ***

2 State Board of Massage Therapy

3 September 23, 2025

4 ***

5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
6 at 9:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session
7 with Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the
8 purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations
9 and to receive advice of counsel on the matters upon
10 which the Board would later vote. The Board returned
11 to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

12 ***

13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
14 Board of Massage Therapy was held on Tuesday,
15 September 23, 2025. Bryan Strawser, LMT, Chair,
16 called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

17 ***

18 [Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the
19 meeting was being recorded, and those who continued
20 to participate were giving their consent to be
21 recorded.

22 Ms. Tully also noted the Board entered into
23 Executive Session for the purpose of conducting
24 quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters
25 currently pending before the Board and to receive the

1 advice of counsel.]

2 ***

3 Roll Call of Attendance

4 [Paul Keller, Board Administrator, provided a roll
5 call of Board members and attendees. A quorum of
6 Board members was present.]

7 ***

8 Appointment - Shana Walter, Esquire

9 [Shana Walter, Esquire introduced herself to the
10 Board as the new Deputy Chief Counsel for the
11 Prosecution Division. She provided a summary of her
12 professional background and experience. She looked
13 forward to meeting the Board again in January 2026
14 for its annual report. Ms. Walter was welcomed by
15 the Board.]

16 ***

17 Approval of Board Minutes - August 11, 2025

18 CHAIR STRAWSER:

19 Moving on to No. 2, if we could have
20 approval of the Board minutes from the
21 last meeting.

22 [The Board discussed corrections to the minutes.]

23 MS. TULLY:

24 Based upon the executive session
25 deliberations and with the correction

1 of removing the attendee, Jeff Nelson,
2 I believe our Chair would entertain a
3 motion to adopt the minutes from the
4 August 11, 2025 meeting.

5 CHAIR STRAWSER:

6 Do I have a motion.

7 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

8 So moved.

9 MS. KETH:

10 Second.

11

12 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye;

13 Chamberlain, aye; Hill, aye; Keth, aye;

14 Strawser, aye; Alumbro Shade, aye.

15 [The motion carried unanimously.]

16 ***

17 Regulatory Report

18 [Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel,
19 presented an update on the status on the Board's
20 active regulations. He noted a written report for
21 all Board members.

22 Mr. Davis stated two regulations, the Child Abuse
23 Reporting Requirements (16A-722) and the Licensure by
24 Endorsement Act 41 regulation (16A-727), had been
25 published as proposed. He had received a no comment

1 letter by the Independent Regulatory Review
2 Commission (IRRC) to 16A-722 on August 13, 2025, and
3 another to 16A-727 on August 27, 2025. Public
4 comments asking why the Child Abuse Reporting
5 Requirement was necessary.

6 Mr. Davis stated the Massage Therapy Board's
7 requirements are very much in line with other
8 Commonwealth licensing boards. He was working with a
9 legal assistant to complete a final draft of both
10 regulations and would soon present them for the
11 Board's review.

12 Mr. Davis addressed the Massage Therapy Virtual
13 Education regulation (16A-728). He clarified this
14 rulemaking would allow applicants to obtain a certain
15 portion of the required 600 hours of initial
16 education virtually, instead of in person. This was
17 published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on August 16
18 of 2025. IRRC's comments are due by October 15,
19 2025.

20 Mr. Davis noted the receipt of communication from
21 Nina Kottcamp, Holistic Health and Wellness, Central
22 Pennsylvania Community College, about this
23 rulemaking. She stated the statute reads that the
24 600 hours of the massage therapy education must be
25 completed in person. Mr. Davis asked if Ms. Kottcamp

1 wanted to expand or additionally comment on her
2 earlier question.

3 Ms. Kottcamp, who was virtually present at the
4 meeting, stated, during the pandemic a lot of the CPR
5 providers, Heartsaver and the like, had started to
6 offer blended classes. Some of the required 600
7 hours could be done virtually for CPR education. She
8 noted the Board requires their 600 hours in person,
9 because the law does not allow for a blended format.
10 Ms. Kottcamp states as long as the approved providers
11 offer blended CPR classes, the classes should be
12 approved.

13 She stated refresher classes are no longer
14 conducted, because the guidelines for CPR are
15 continually changing. Video portions of CPR are
16 given in class and then demonstrated by the students.
17 It is now two hours of virtual education and two
18 hours where an individual demonstrates in person that
19 they can perform CPR physically.

20 Mr. Davis thanked Ms. Kottcamp for her comments
21 and advised that he would inform IRRC of the comments
22 received suggesting that part of the CPR curriculum
23 be conducted virtually. He will continue working on
24 changing the language of the rulemaking to request
25 partial CPR training on a virtual level while still

1 maintaining the requirements of the regulation. He
2 asserted that Board Counsel would also be preparing a
3 draft, and this draft would be presented to the
4 Board.

5 Ms. Tully commented to Mr. Davis that a public
6 comment she had received informed her that they could
7 not access the public comment section in the
8 *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Mr. Davis explained, in the
9 *Bulletin*, there were two different opportunities to
10 comment on same. He advised that individuals wanting
11 to make comments should attend the next public
12 meeting.

13 An individual, who introduced herself as Agnes,
14 stated she called to comment but directed to go
15 through ticket support. She stated the
16 representative with the reply towards the ticket
17 through PALS was misguided on answering the call to
18 comment. She further stated she would try to come to
19 the next public meeting.

20 Mr. Davis advised that if she had input to
21 provide to the Board about this rulemaking, to please
22 do so. He could add it to the next board agenda so
23 everybody has time to review it and discuss her
24 question.]

25 ***

1 Report of Board Counsel - Hearing Examiner Proposals

2 [MS. TULLY:

3 No. 5 on the Agenda, based upon the
4 Executive Session deliberations, I
5 believe our Chair would entertain a
6 motion to authorize Counsel to draft an
7 Adjudication and Order in the matter of
8 Christopher Sean Strain, L.M.T., at
9 Case No. 22-72-003254.

10 CHAIR STRAWSER:

11 May I have a motion?

12 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

13 So moved.

14 MS. KETH:

15 Second.

16
17 Claggett, aye; Chamberlain, aye;
18 Nelson, recused; Alumbro Shade, aye;
19 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

20 [The motion carried. Ms. Nelson recused herself from
21 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

22 ***

23 [Emyline Breckenridge, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
24 presented the Consent Agreement for Item No. 6, Case
25 No. 24-72-003559.]

[Linda Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecution, presented the Consent Agreements for Item Nos. 7 and 8, Case No. 23-72-013448 and Case No. 24-72-008788.]

MS. TULLY:

Would any member of the Board see a reason to re-enter executive deliberations to further deliberate on Item Nos. 6, 7 or 8?

CHAIR STRAWSER:

No.

MS. TULLY:

Item No. 6, based on Executive Session deliberations, I believe our Chair would entertain a motion to accept the Consent Agreement presented at Case No. 24-72-003559.

CHAIR STRAWSER:

May I have a motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

So moved.

MS. KETH:

Second.

Claggett, aye; Chamberlain, aye;

1 Nelson, aye; Alumbro Shade, aye; Hill,
2 aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

3 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
4 name at Case No. 24-72-003559 is Lavender Spa One.]

5 ***

6 MS. TULLY:

7 Item No. 7, based on Executive Session
8 deliberations, I believe our Chair
9 would entertain a motion to accept the
10 Consent Agreement presented at Case No.
11 23-72-013448.

12 CHAIR STRAWSER:

13 Yes. May I have a motion?

14 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

15 So moved.

16 MS. KETH:

17 Second.

18
19 Claggett, aye; Chamberlain, aye;
20 Nelson, aye; Alumbro Shade, aye; Hill,
21 aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

22 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
23 name at Case No. 23-72-013448 is Denise B. Fahrion,
24 LMT.]

25 ***

1 MS. TULLY:

2 Item No. 8, based on Executive Session
3 deliberations, I believe our Chair
4 would entertain a motion to accept the
5 Consent Agreement presented at Case No.
6 24-72-008788.

7 CHAIR STRAWSER:

8 May I have a motion?

9 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

10 So moved.

11 MS. KETH:

12 Second.

13

14 Claggett, aye; Chamberlain, aye;
15 Nelson, aye; Alumbro Shade, aye; Hill,
16 aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
18 name at Case No. 24-72-008788 is Avi J., Karp, LMT.]

19 ***

20 [J. Karl Geschwindt, Esquire, Acting Senior Board
21 Prosecutor, introduced the new Prosecution Liaison
22 for the Massage Board, Adrienne Doll. Ms. Doll
23 expressed her pleasure to join the Board. She
24 provided a summary of her background and professional
25 experience. The Board welcomed her.]

Report of Board Commissioner - No Report

Report of Board Chair - No Report

Report of Board Administrator - Applications Review

MS. TULLY:

Item No. 9, based on Executive Session deliberations, I believe our Chair would entertain a motion to grant the Application of Sara Georg to practice as a Licensed Massage Therapist.

CHAIR STRAWSER:

May I have a motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

So moved.

MS. KETH:

Second.

Claggett, aye; Chamberlain, aye;

Nelson, aye; Alumbro Shade, aye; Hill,

aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

MS. TULLY:

1 Item No. 10, based on the Executive
2 Session deliberations, I believe our
3 Chair would entertain a motion to grant
4 the Application of Fengxian He to
5 practice.

6 CHAIR STRAWSER:

7 May I have a motion?

8 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

9 So moved.

10 MS. KETH:

11 Second.

12
13 Claggett, nay; Chamberlain, aye;
14 Nelson, aye; Alumbro Shade, nay; Hill,
15 aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, nay.

16 [The motion carried. Acting Commissioner Claggett,
17 Ms. Shade and Mr. Strawser opposed the motion.]

18 ***

19 MS. TULLY:

20 Item No.11, based on the executive
21 session deliberations, I believe our
22 Chair would entertain a motion to grant
23 the Application of Olivia Spannagel to
24 practice as a Licensed Massage
25 Therapist.

1 CHAIR STRAWSER:

2 May I have a motion?

3 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

4 So moved.

5 MS. KETH:

6 Second.

7

8 Claggett, aye; Chamberlain, aye;

9 Nelson, aye; Alumbro Shade, nay; Hill,

10 aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

11 [The motion carried. Ms. Shade opposed the motion.]

12 ***

13 Miscellaneous - No Report

14 ***

15 Public Comments

16 [Lior Gecht, virtual public participant, inquired if
17 he could ask questions about an existing case that
18 was supposed to be discussed at the August 11th
19 meeting. Ms. Tully advised Mr. Gecht there is no
20 discussion about personal cases unless the matter is
21 on the Agenda. She directed Mr. Gecht to email her
22 about the case.]

23 ***

24 [Gregory P, virtual public participant, began
25 discussing his current court cases within four

1 different areas of the law. Acting Commissioner
2 Claggett informed Mr. P that this was not an
3 appropriate topic of communication for the Board. He
4 should email his comments or concerns to Ms. Tully.]

5 ***

6 [Agnes, virtual public participant, asked when the
7 meeting minutes from the August 11th meeting would be
8 available on the website. Ms. Tully advised the
9 minutes would be available within a couple of weeks
10 after approval by the Board.]

11 ***

12 Adjournment

13 MR. STRAWSER:

14 I'll take a motion to adjourn please.

15 Thank you.

16 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

17 So moved.

18 ***

19 [There being no further business, the State Board of
20 Massage Therapy Meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.]

21 ***

22

23

24

25

26

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Massage Therapy Meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Massage Therapy Meeting.



Allison Walker,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
REFERENCE INDEX

September 23, 2025

TIME

AGENDA

9:00	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:30	Official Call to Order
10:33	Appointment
10:36	Approval of Minutes
10:37	Report of Regulatory Counsel
10:50	Report of Board Counsel
10:51	Report of Board Prosecutor
10:55	Report of Board Administrator
11:04	Public Comments
11:12	Adjournment