

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: 10:33 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, June 16, 2026

State Board of Massage Therapy
June 16, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel
Paul Keller, Board Administrator
Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, Office of
Chief Counsel
Stephanie Dunkerley, Legal Analyst, Office of General
Counsel
Adrianne McClendon, Esquire, PA Office of General
Counsel
William A. Newport, Esquire, Board Prosecution
Liaison
Liliana Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
Prosecution Division

ALSO PRESENT:

Seth Dinkel, Federation of State Massage Therapy
Boards
Camille Baughman, MA, B.S., LMT, American Massage
Therapy Association Pennsylvania Chapter
Natalie Cook, Government Affairs Specialist, McNees
Government Relations
Jada Thompson, Program Manager, American Massage
Therapy Association
Patty Glenn, Director of Education and Professional
Mobility, Federation of State Massage Therapy
Boards

State Board of Massage Therapy
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ALSO PRESENT (cont.)

Ed Portley, Jr., LMT, Continuing Education Provider
Chloe Dean
Rachel Wilbur-Adams, Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

State Board of Massage Therapy

June 16, 2026

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

The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Massage Therapy was held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. Bryan Strawser, LMT, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

[Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the meeting was being recorded, and those who continued to participate were giving their consent to be recorded.

Mr. Davis also noted the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters currently pending before the Board and to

1 receive the advice of counsel.]

2 ***

3 Roll Call of All Attendees and Presenters

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

7 ***

8 Approval of Board Minutes - March 31, 2026

9 CHAIR STRAWSER:

10 Next, moving on to Item No. 2, we need
11 to approve the minutes from the last
12 meeting, March 31.

13 May I have a motion?

14 MS. DOUGLAS:

15 I have corrections.

16 [The Board discussed corrections to the minutes.]

17 CHAIR STRAWSER:

18 May I have a motion?

19 MS. KETH:

20 So moved.

21 MS. HILL:

22 Kathy Hill, second.

23

24 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro

25 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;

1 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

2 [The motion carried unanimously.]

3 ***

4 Report of Board Administrator - Applications

5 MR. DAVIS:

6 No. 15 on the Board's Agenda. All of
7 these matters were discussed in
8 Executive Session.

9 In the matter of the application
10 for licensure as a Massage Therapist of
11 Chloe Dean, Application AA0006407036,
12 based on the Board's discussions in
13 Executive Session, I believe the Chair
14 would accept a motion approving the
15 application and issuing a full,
16 unencumbered license under Act 41.

17 MS. KETH:

18 Jennifer Keth, I will make the motion.

19 MS. HILL:

20 Hill, second.

21

22 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro

23 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;

24 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

25 [The motion carried unanimously.]

MR. DAVIS:

Moving on to No. 16, in the matter of the application for licensure of Fang Liu, based on the Board's discussions in Executive Session, I believe the Chair would accept a motion provisionally denying the application.

CHAIR STRAWSER:

Yes. May I have a motion?

MS. KETH:

Jennifer Keth, I will make the motion.

MS. HILL:

Hill, second.

Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye; Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

[Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted Item No. 17 was tabled. He would be reaching out to the applicant to discuss the matter.]

Report of Board Administrator - CE Waiver Requests

1 MR. DAVIS:

2 These are waiver requests submitted by
3 licensees for waiver of the continuing
4 education requirements in some part.
5 I'm going to go ahead and just package
6 these together. No. 18 is Amanda
7 Gouveia, No. 19 is Jenna Jack, No. 20
8 is Shelby Applewhite, and No. 21 is
9 Tracey Grolemond.

10 In the matter of the continuing
11 education waiver of the above listed
12 individuals, based on the Board's
13 discussion in Executive Session, I
14 believe the Chair would accept a motion
15 approving the applications, thereby
16 allowing the licensees to obtain 100
17 percent of the required CE online for
18 this biennial renewal.

19 MS. KETH:

20 Keth, I will make the motion.

21 MS. HILL:

22 Hill, second.

23

24 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro

25 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;

1 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

2 [The motion carried unanimously.]

3 ***

4 Miscellaneous

5 MR. DAVIS:

6 I'm going to move on to No. 22, the
7 application of TriState Training, CPR
8 provider approval request. The Board
9 reviewed the application in Executive
10 Session.

11 Is there anyone here who would
12 like to say anything about the
13 application?

14 Hearing nothing, based on the
15 Board's discussion in open session, I
16 believe the Chair would accept a motion
17 to add TriState Training to the Board's
18 list of approved CPR providers.

19 CHAIR STRAWSER:

20 Yes. May I have a motion?

21 MS. KETH:

22 Keth, I will make the motion.

23 MS. HILL:

24 Hill, second.

25

1 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro
2 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;
3 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 Report of Board Counsel

7 MR. DAVIS:

8 Moving on to No. 8 on the Board's
9 Agenda, based on the Board's
10 discussions in Executive Session, I
11 believe the Chair would accept a motion
12 to grant the Motion to Enter Default
13 and Deem Facts Admitted in the
14 following matter: Commonwealth BPOA
15 vs. Bryant Avery McCoy, LMT, Case No.
16 25-72-000264.

17 CHAIR STRAWSER:

18 Yes. May I have a motion?

19 MS. KETH:

20 Keth, I will make the motion.

21 MS. HILL:

22 Hill, second.

23

24 Claggett, aye; Nelson, recuse; Alumbro
25 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;

1 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.
2 [The motion carried. Ms. Nelson was recused from
3 deliberations and voting on the motion. Mr. Davis
4 noted Ms. Nelson was recused as she serves on the
5 committee that deals directly with prosecution when
6 related to immediate temporary suspension matters.]

7 ***

8 MR. DAVIS:

9 Moving to No. 9, based on the Board's
10 discussions in Executive Session, I
11 believe the Chair would accept a motion
12 to adopt the Proposed Adjudication and
13 to direct Counsel to draft a Memorandum
14 Order in accordance with those
15 discussions in Executive Session
16 disposing of the exceptions filed in
17 the following matter: Commonwealth
18 BPOA vs. Qiaoling Cao, LMT, Case No.
19 23-72-001475.

20 CHAIR STRAWSER:

21 Yes. May I have a motion?

22 MS. KETH:

23 Keth, I will make the motion.

24 MS. HILL:

25 Hill, second.

1

2

Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro

3

Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;

4

Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

5

[The motion carried unanimously.]

6

7

MR. DAVIS:

8

Moving on to No. 10, Sarah Louise Lima,

9

Case No. 24-72-017035, based on the

10

Board's discussions in Executive

11

Session, I believe the Chair would

12

accept a motion to direct Counsel to

13

draft an Order upholding the Citation

14

and reducing the fine as discussed in

15

Executive Session.

16

CHAIR STRAWSER:

17

Yes. May I have a motion?

18

MS. KETH:

19

Keth, I will make the motion.

20

MS. HILL:

21

Hill, second.

22

23

Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro

24

Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;

25

Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 ***

3 Appointment - FSMTB - Compact Presentation

4 [Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel, introduced
5 the topic, noting the Board had conversations in
6 their last few meetings regarding the Compact;
7 however, because the Compact was not at their level
8 yet, they were not sure of what exactly was
9 happening. He asked Ms. Glenn to summarize the
10 Compact, the current state, and what could be
11 expected in the coming months.

12 Patty Glenn, Director of Education and
13 Professional Mobility, Federation of State Massage
14 Therapy Boards (FSMTB), explained the interstate
15 Compacts are tools that allow the states to enter
16 into a contract with each other to, then, be willing
17 to facilitate that license across state lines. She
18 compared the Compact licenses to drivers' licenses,
19 noting a driver's license allows a person to drive in
20 other states. The difference is that with the
21 Massage Compact, a person would only be allowed to
22 work in states which had also enacted the Compact.
23 Over time, the therapist's ability to practice will
24 continue to grow and expand as the Compact itself
25 expands. Disciplinary-wise, the Compact model is

1 similar to a driver's license in that the person has
2 to follow all of the rules and laws of the state they
3 are practicing in. If a person violates a law while
4 working in another state, that state has
5 jurisdiction. In addition, the language of the
6 Compact allows for cross-jurisdictional sharing, so
7 states can work together and share information as
8 needed for investigations and prosecution. If
9 someone is sanctioned with the Compact, they can lose
10 their Compact license but not necessarily their home
11 state license.

12 Ms. Glenn explained the Compact is an additional
13 tool that allows therapists to move across the United
14 States more seamlessly to fill work demands or
15 address family needs. She noted a founding principle
16 was to support military professional licensure
17 portability. With the Compact, Pennsylvania would
18 still maintain all of its rights and autonomy as to
19 how it issues state licensure, how they manage
20 discipline or how it addresses actions inside of
21 Pennsylvania.

22 In order for the Compact to stand, Ms. Glenn
23 shared seven states have to enact uniform Compact
24 language. There cannot be alternative language used
25 as it would create a separate contract. Once enacted

1 by seven states, a commission would be formed to
2 begin the rules development process along with all of
3 the policies and procedures that are necessary to
4 facilitate and administer multistate licensure. The
5 commission will work with the Board to address
6 practices within Pennsylvania. She pointed out, with
7 Pennsylvania's robust application process and
8 internal systems, it was anticipated Pennsylvania
9 would have an easier time issuing multistate licenses
10 from the state level. She noted there are some
11 states struggling to even have the funding to support
12 a Massage Board. Therefore, the commission may
13 decide to provide administrative support to those
14 states. She noted, whatever fee is assessed for the
15 multistate license, a portion will go towards the
16 management of the commission. However, a significant
17 portion will remain with the state to support the
18 Board's work.

19 Ms. Glenn explained the Compact will help support
20 and reduce duplicate licensing barriers across states
21 to support legitimate professional mobility, thereby
22 allowing licensed therapists in good standing to move
23 around. The original Compact language was also
24 designed to ensure bad actors would be restricted
25 from accessing the Compact. She reiterated the

1 Compact was originally designed to benefit military
2 families where spouse unemployment is around 25
3 percent, primarily because spouses are significantly
4 impacted by an inability to obtain professional
5 licenses expeditiously.

6 Ms. Glenn provided a background of the
7 development timeline. She noted the Compacts were
8 initially a Department of Defense initiative in 2020
9 when money was set aside for ten professional
10 licensing Compacts to be developed to address
11 military portability and help improve military
12 unemployment. She explained the grant process used
13 to obtain the funds which was facilitated by the
14 Council of State Governments.

15 FSMTB, along with the Commission on Massage
16 Therapy Accreditation (COMTA) and the Associated
17 Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP) applied for
18 and received one of the grants. She noted FSMTB did
19 not directly receive any grant money as the money was
20 facilitated specifically for the development of the
21 Compact language.

22 A technical assistance group was convened
23 comprised of a variety of individuals, professional,
24 regulators, educators, representatives of all
25 associations, attorneys, and policy experts. The

1 group worked with the National Center for Interstate
2 Compacts to develop the Compact language. She noted
3 there was extensive outreach to the public during the
4 development process. The final language was released
5 in January 2023 and was first enacted by Nevada,
6 followed by Ohio in 2024, and Arkansas, Virginia, and
7 Montana in 2025.

8 Ms. Glenn reviewed support for the Compact. She
9 noted the website massagecompact.org has information
10 for the public in addition to a date and survey
11 gathering tool. The survey tool has been open for 16
12 months, and there have been 2,010 responses with 98
13 percent of the profession supporting the Interstate
14 Massage Compact. She stated responses from AMBP
15 members and American Massage Therapy Association
16 (AMTA) members are being tracked with 98 percent and
17 97 percent support respectively. She also noted over
18 2,040 letters of support were sent to various
19 legislators around the country with at least one in
20 each state.

21 Regarding Pennsylvania specifically, Ms. Glenn
22 reported support is at 98.3 percent, with 81 percent
23 of therapists indicating they are likely to obtain a
24 multistate license. She also noted, through the
25 survey, it had been learned only about 20 percent of

1 therapists hold a license in another state with the
2 bulk of the 20 percent only holding their home state
3 and one additional state. She added, across the
4 board, about 80 percent of responses indicated the
5 Compact would make a difference to them. About 79
6 percent of Pennsylvania therapists indicated they
7 have experienced licensing or regulatory challenges
8 when trying to get licensed in another state. She
9 reiterated Pennsylvania responses show strong support
10 of the Compact.

11 Ms. Glenn touched on information reported at the
12 International Spa Association (ISPA) annual meeting
13 where they announced there was a shortage of
14 approximately 11,300 massage therapists across the
15 country. She noted shortages in the profession
16 create opportunity for bad actors to exploit the
17 shortage, not just with human trafficking but with
18 labor trafficking. The shortage also translates to
19 between \$11 billion and \$40 billion in lost revenue
20 and up to half a million in lost tax revenues for
21 state and tourism dollars.

22 Ms. Glenn reviewed what had transpired with the
23 Compact over the last year. She noted there had been
24 a couple of years where there had been some
25 opposition in the profession. At the end of 2024,

1 there were letters of understanding which translated
2 into three states joining the Compact in 2025 and
3 four states with carryover legislation with two
4 states promising action in the 2026 legislative
5 cycle. She explained the atmosphere was now
6 reflecting the climate of 2024 where legislators have
7 caught wind of alternative language or believed the
8 profession was not in alignment.

9 Due to the alternative language suggested by
10 AMTA, it appeared another year of work would be
11 needed. She noted the result was multistate licenses
12 would not be issued until sometime in 2028, instead
13 of 2027. She also noted alternative language bills
14 had been introduced in a number of states; however,
15 none of the states had enacted the alternative
16 language.

17 In addition, she noted Ohio recently approved an
18 11th hour amendment to the school psychologist
19 Compact that reflected changes to the already enacted
20 Compact legislation in Ohio. She explained, with
21 official language moving forward, if alternative
22 language begins to be enacted in other states, there
23 would be a pathway to having two distinctly separate
24 Compacts that would be incongruent and incompatible.
25 She opened up the presentation to questions.

1 Chair Strawser asked if any additional fees would
2 be put on the individual therapists. Ms. Glenn
3 replied the multistate license would be a choice;
4 therefore, the burden of the fee would be on the
5 individual who desires to hold the multistate
6 license.

7 She also noted an additional question that had
8 come up in other states was if there would be an
9 additional burden on state investigators and
10 enforcement teams. She reported, when looking at
11 other professional licensing Compacts which are
12 further ahead in their implementation, the Compact
13 structures help to create safeguards against bad
14 actors. She noted the individual licensed therapists
15 in good standing would not want to risk losing their
16 multistate license, so they tend to be good actors.
17 Therefore, she did not anticipate a significant
18 increase on any state investigators.

19 Ms. Keth asked, if enacted, whether individuals
20 would have a choice to do either a multistate or
21 single state license. Ms. Glenn responded across the
22 board, in most states, there is a choice of license.
23 She noted cosmetology and aesthetics seemed to be
24 evolving into a one license model where the
25 individual would automatically have access to all

1 states.

2 Mr. Davis asked, if someone in another state who
3 holds a massage therapy license wants to have a
4 Compact license, would they be applying to the FSMTB
5 or the Council of State Governments? Ms. Glenn
6 explained the Compact commission would be its own
7 quasi-governmental agency, and the decision on where
8 someone would apply would lie with the commission.
9 She noted the commission would have the ability to
10 determine state by state where the application
11 pathway lives depending on the state's abilities and
12 resources.

13 Mr. Davis commented, with the Physical Therapy
14 Compact, individuals apply directly to the commission
15 for Compact privileges and the state can find out who
16 has privileges by reaching out to the commission. He
17 noted there is no communication from the commission
18 to the state. He asked if it was too early to find
19 out how the communication would work for the Massage
20 Compact. Ms. Glenn replied it was anticipated all
21 Compact states would have access to a Compact
22 database to be able to monitor who had Compact
23 licenses; however, states would not necessarily know
24 who was going back and forth until a violation of the
25 law occurred.

1 Mr. Davis noted he had heard several times that
2 the Department of Defense created the initiative to
3 set aside money for the Compacts. He asked if the
4 impetus that the contracts are going through the
5 Department of Defense was to help military spouses
6 upfront. Ms. Glenn replied he was correct. She
7 noted the military's position was that the
8 professional licensing Compacts were the gold
9 standard for portability. She added there have been
10 other vehicles enacted through legislations or state
11 boards to expedite military spouses' licensure;
12 however, they are still required to get licenses in
13 each state. The process can still delay licensure
14 due the need of verification from home states.

15 Chair Strawser commented the Compact would not
16 only be beneficial for someone who was relocating but
17 would also be beneficial for someone who lives on the
18 border of two states.

19 Ms. Glenn provided additional clarity on
20 relocation through the Compact. She explained while
21 military families are able to designate their home
22 state and maintain the license in their home state,
23 the same is not the case for the general public. She
24 stated for non-military individuals, if the home
25 state of physical residence does not provide

1 statewide licensure to be a part of the Compact, then
2 they would not be able to take advantage of another
3 state having the Compact. The individual would have
4 to physically move to the Compact state in order to
5 get a Compact license. She noted there were many
6 nuances that the commission would address for
7 permanent relocations.

8 Ms. Douglas asked, if she lived in Pennsylvania
9 and had a multistate license, would she be able to
10 work in another state and still live in Pennsylvania
11 or would the multistate license only be good if she
12 was traveling with an organization as their massage
13 therapist? Ms. Glenn replied both yes and no to her
14 question, noting the changes to massage therapy over
15 the years has created a need for portability for a
16 number of reasons.

17 Acting Commissioner Claggett commented on Ms.
18 Glenn's references to licensure delays. He noted
19 there are no licensure delays in Pennsylvania. Ms.
20 Glenn stated her comments were not specifically
21 directed at Pennsylvania. She noted some states
22 require official transcripts to be sent directly from
23 schools, which is a more efficient process when
24 dealing with degree granting programs. However, due
25 to the nature of massage therapy education, many

1 people are unable to obtain official transcripts or
2 documents needed for licensure. She added the delays
3 are not necessarily on the state's part, but there is
4 some part of the licensing process that causes the
5 delays.

6 Chair Strawser asked how it was determined there
7 was a shortage of 11,300 therapists. Ms. Glenn
8 explained ISPA determined the number through
9 extensive demographic research, which is reported at
10 their annual meetings. Chair Strawser asked if the
11 number had been broken down by state, noting the
12 number seemed low to him given trends in
13 Pennsylvania. Ms. Glenn replied the number was not
14 broken down, but she would look into it for him. She
15 commented the nationwide trends are due to a variety
16 of causes, such as workforce changes and COVID. She
17 added the number does not take into consideration
18 franchises like Hand & Stone or Massage Envy;
19 however, conversations with franchise owners indicate
20 struggles due to not having enough therapists to fill
21 all of its rooms.

22 Ms. Glenn also touched on how school owners and
23 administrators voiced difficulties with recruiting
24 for massage therapy, because people want careers in
25 fields where they can be portable or at least know

1 they have flexibility in the future. The lack of
2 portability has created additional barriers to
3 enrollment in programs. She hoped, with the Compact
4 and flexibility in the profession, more people would
5 enter the profession.

6 Ms. Glenn was thanked for her presentation and
7 time.]

8 ***

9 Regulatory Report

10 [Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, noted
11 the Regulatory Status Report for the Board's review
12 and information. She would be discussing four
13 regulations.

14 The first regulation was 16A-722, Child Abuse
15 Reporting Guidelines, which implements mandatory
16 reporting of suspected child abuse under the Child
17 Protective Services Law (CPSL) and implements
18 associated mandatory trainings. The proposed version
19 of the regulation was published on June 14, 2025, at
20 which time ten public comments were received, all
21 from individual massage therapists.

22 The first commentator was in full support of
23 continuing education (CE) and child abuse recognition
24 reporting but asked that it not be in addition to the
25 overall CE requirement. Ms. Abelson explained

1 proposed § 20.78 provides that the Board accepts two
2 CE hours in child abuse as part of the overall 24
3 hours. Therefore, the training does not increase the
4 overall CE requirement.

5 Three of the commentators questioned the need for
6 amendments to the regulations, stating they are
7 already mandated reporters and have been taking the
8 required training. Ms. Abelson explained, by law in
9 Pennsylvania, all licensees in a health-related field
10 are considered mandated reporters in accordance with
11 the CPSL. The amendments made in 16A-722 are
12 consistent with CPSL and will help to avoid confusion
13 as to massage therapists' responsibilities. The
14 regulation does not add any new training or
15 educational requirements above and beyond what the
16 law requires.

17 The last group of six commentators opposed the
18 amendments, stating that children are rarely clients
19 of massage therapists and seldom present in
20 facilities where massage therapy occurs. One
21 commentator mentioned there was an exception with
22 regard to sports medicine but also stated children
23 are typically accompanied by a parent or other adult.
24 Ms. Abelson explained the CPSL requires all health-
25 related boards to require training in child abuse

1 recognition and reporting so there is no wiggle room.
2 In addition, the CPSL makes no distinction between
3 individual places of business and where a child may
4 or may not be present.

5 Ms. Abelson stated because no amendments could be
6 made based on the comments received, Regulatory
7 Counsel drafted the final-form rulemaking. She also
8 noted the Independent Regulatory Review Commission
9 (IRRC) had no comments. The final-form Preamble and
10 Annex were substantively unchanged from the proposed
11 version to the final form version.]

12 ***

13 MR. DAVIS:

14 Based on the Board's discussions in
15 open session, I believe the Chair would
16 accept a motion approving the final
17 form rulemaking 16A-722, Child Abuse
18 Reporting Requirements as presented by
19 Regulatory Counsel this date and
20 directing Counsel and Regulatory
21 Counsel to promulgate the final-form
22 rulemaking through the regulatory
23 review process.

24 CHAIR STRAWSER:

25 Yes. May I have a motion?

1 MS. KETH:

2 Keth, I propose the motion.

3 MS. HILL:

4 Hill, second.

5

6 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro
7 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;
8 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, nay.

9 [The motion carried. Chair Strawser opposed the
10 motion.]

11 ***

12 [Ms. Abelson moved to Regulation 16A-727, Licensure
13 by Endorsement, that would add a new category for
14 licensure by endorsement as required by Act 41 of
15 2019. Individuals who are licensed in other
16 jurisdictions would be allowed to become licensed in
17 Pennsylvania without examination provided they meet
18 certain criteria. The proposed version of the
19 regulation was published on June 28, 2025, and
20 received no comments from any individual, entity,
21 public, or IRRC. Ms. Abelson stated the final-form
22 Preamble and Annex was for the Board's approval.

23 Chair Strawser asked if the regulation was mainly
24 a formality as the Board has been issuing licenses
25 via Act 41. Ms. Abelson confirmed he was correct.

MR. DAVIS:

CHAIR STRAWSER:

MS. KETH:

MS. HILL:

Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro
Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;
Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 ***

3 [Discussion moved to Regulation 16A-728, Virtual
4 Instruction, which would redefine "in class" to allow
5 massage therapy students to obtain a modest amount of
6 initial education via a virtual platform. The
7 proposed regulation was published as proposed on
8 August 16, 2025. Ms. Abelson stated IRRC had no
9 comments; however, there was one comment from a
10 member of the public. The commentator asked if it
11 would be possible to allow for virtual instruction
12 for CPR instruction in light of many CPR courses
13 having transitioned to either online only or a hybrid
14 part-online, part in-person format.

15 Ms. Abelson stated in the current regulations,
16 Section 20.11(a) requires contact hours for CPR,
17 meaning they have to be in-person, and specifically
18 calls out CPR as being an in-person requirement. She
19 noted the proposed version published in August would
20 keep the same requirement. However, Ms. Abelson
21 explained, in reviewing Massage Therapy Law, the law
22 requires CPR but does not specify if the instruction
23 has to be in-person versus online. She stated this
24 meant the Board could decide whether to allow for
25 virtual instruction for CPR.

1 [The final regulation to discuss was 16A-729, Fees.
2 The proposed rulemaking is required to increase the
3 application and biennial renewal fees to provide
4 sufficient biennial revenue to meet the projected
5 biennial expenditures as required under Section 11 of
6 the Massage Therapy Law. Ms. Abelson explained the
7 Board voted to approve a fee increase and voted to
8 move forward with the proposed rulemaking at the
9 March 31, 2026 meeting. The draft presented was an
10 exposure draft reflecting the most recent report from
11 the Bureau of Finance and Procurement. She asked for
12 the Board to approve releasing the exposure draft to
13 stakeholders for public comments. She stated, once
14 comments are received, she would present the Preamble
15 and Annex at the following meeting.]

16 ***

17 MR. DAVIS:

18 Based on the Board's discussion in open
19 session, I believe the Chair would
20 accept a motion approving the release
21 of an exposure draft in proposed
22 rulemaking 16A-729, which is the Fees
23 Regulation, presented by Regulatory
24 Counsel this date and directing Counsel
25 and Regulatory Counsel to release the

1 exposure draft to interested parties
2 and stakeholders.

3 CHAIR STRAWSER:

4 May I have a motion?

5 MS. KETH:

6 Keth, I will make the motion.

7 MS. HILL:

8 Hill, second.

9

10 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro
11 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;
12 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14 ***

15 Report of Board Counsel - Discussion - CE Rollover-
16 Reduction

17 [Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel, pointed out
18 the topic of CE rollover was first mentioned to the
19 Board in 2020 when Act 116 of 2020 was passed by
20 legislature and signed by Governor Wolf to allow CE
21 rollover. He stated impetus for the discussion was a
22 letter received from a licensee pointing out Act 116
23 of 2020. He explained CE rollover is when a licensee
24 takes too many credits, some can be rolled over into
25 the next biennial so they are not wasted. He noted a

1 discussing Act 116 of 2020 six years ago when it was
2 signed into law. He stated to his knowledge that few
3 boards allow CE rollover. He noted a concern from
4 the 2020 Board meeting where allowing rollover may
5 make it difficult for licensees to keep track of
6 their CE credits.

7 Chair Strawser was not opposed to the idea of CE
8 rollover. Ms. Keth stated the idea should be
9 examined as there had been courses she wanted to take
10 but did not because her education for the year was
11 already fulfilled.

12 Mr. Keller mentioned the Psychology Board allows
13 CE rollover but only allows a maximum of ten of the
14 required 30 hours to be rolled over.

15 Ms. Douglas supported the idea of tracking
16 rollover.

17 Board Members agreed to explore the idea of CE
18 rollover but did not want to reduce CE credit
19 requirements.

20 Mr. Davis offered to work with Regulatory Counsel
21 to explore what other boards and the surrounding
22 states were doing. He would prepare a recommendation
23 to be discussed at a later meeting.]

24 ***

25 Report of Prosecution

1 [William A. Newport, Esquire, Board Prosecution
2 Liaison, presented the Consent Agreements for Agenda
3 Item 12, Case 22-72-008883; Agenda Item 13, Case No.
4 23-72-013643; and Agenda Item 14, Case No. 24-72-
5 000763.]

6 ***

7 MR. DAVIS:

8 Nos. 12, 13, and 14 on the Board's
9 Agenda, based on the Board's
10 discussions in Executive Session, I
11 believe the Chair would accept a motion
12 to approve the Consent Agreements in
13 the following matters: Case No. 22-72-
14 008883, Case No. 23-72-013643, and Case
15 No. 24-72-000763.

16 Is there a motion?

17 CHAIR STRAWSER:

18 Yes. May I have a motion?

19 MS. KETH:

20 Keth, I propose a motion.

21 MS. HILL:

22 Hill, second.

23

24 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro

25 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;

1 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.
2 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondents'
3 names are as follows: Agenda Item 12, Case 22-72-
4 008883, Min Dong, L.M.T.; Agenda Item 13, Case No.
5 23-72-013643, Dominique Anthony Kossally, LMT; and
6 Agenda Item 14, Case No. 24-72-000763, Qi Guo,
7 L.M.T.]

8 ***
9 Report of Board Chair - No Report

10 ***
11 Report of Commissioner - No Report

12 ***
13 Miscellaneous

14 [Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel, explained
15 FSMTB has an annual meeting for every state board who
16 is a member. As part of the annual dues paid to
17 FSMTB, FSMTB covers the costs involved with bringing
18 a voting Board Member and an alternate to the annual
19 meeting. He stated the Board would need to vote to
20 allow for up to two people to attend at no additional
21 cost to the Board.]

22 ***
23 MR. DAVIS:

24 Based on the Board's discussions in
25 open session, I believe the Chair would

1 accept a motion to allow two members of
2 the Board to attend, being Jennifer
3 Keth and Veronique Bish, the annual
4 meeting of FSMTB, which is in October
5 on the 21st through the 23rd in Las
6 Vegas, Nevada.

7 Is there a motion?

8 CHAIR STRAWSER:

9 Yes. May I have a motion?

10 MS. KETH:

11 Keth, I propose a motion.

12 MS. HILL:

13 Hill, second.

14

15 Claggett, aye; Nelson, aye; Alumbro

16 Shade, aye; Bish, aye; Douglas, aye;

17 Hill, aye; Keth, aye; Strawser, aye.

18 [The motion carried unanimously.

19 ***

20 Public Comment - None

21 ***

22 [Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel noted he
23 misspoke regarding CE hours. He clarified that the
24 overall number of required CE hours is dictated by
25 statute, and not regulation. He apologized for the

1 confusion.]

2 ***

3 Adjournment

4 CHAIR STRAWSER:

5 May I have a motion to adjourn?

6 MS. KETH:

7 Keth, I will propose the motion.

8 MS. HILL:

9 Hill, second.

10 ***

11 [There being no further business, the State Board of
12 Massage Therapy Meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.]

13 ***

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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.



Rachel Wilbur-Adams,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
REFERENCE INDEX

June 16, 2026

TIME	AGENDA
9:00	Executive Session
10:33	Return to Open Session
10:33	Official Call to Order
10:33	Roll Call
10:34	Approval of Minutes
10:36	Report of Board Administrator
10:40	Miscellaneous
10:41	Report of Board Counsel
10:44	Appointment - FSMTB- Compact Presentation
11:23	Regulatory Report
11:40	Report of Board Counsel (cont.)
11:48	Report of Board Prosecutor
11:53	Miscellaneous (cont.)
11:56	Adjournment