

**Meeting Minutes**  
**South Dakota Board of Massage Therapy**

Monday, April 29, 2019 at 11:00 AM CST

Becker/Hanson Department of Transportation Room 314 Pierre SD

The meeting of the South Dakota Board of Massage Therapy (“Board”) was called to order at approximately 11:06 a.m. CST and the presence of a quorum was confirmed. Board President Christine Ellwein facilitated the meeting.

Roll call was taken by Ellwein of Board members.

**Members of the Board present in person:** Christine Ellwein, Bridget Myers, Lorin Pankratz,

**Members of the Board excused:** Natalie Marsh.

**Others in attendance in person:** Mitch Richter, Executive Secretary, Julie Richter, administrative assistant to Executive Secretary, Lydia Kanz, Sarah Kanz, Bob Mercer, Valerie Rowen, Rhanda Heller, Olawa Rae-Bruhjell

The Board reviewed the draft agenda, Pankratz motion to approve as is Myers Second. **MOTION PASSED.**

Motion made by Pankratz to approve minutes from October 23<sup>rd</sup> and September 17, 2018. Second by Myers. **MOTION PASSED.**

Mr. Richter explained the financials and year to date we are on track to be slightly under what was budgeted.

Ellwein called for public comments. Rhanda Heller and Valerie Rowen addressed the board.

Jimmi Denell Ashley was not in attendance for her scheduled appeal of denial of licensure. Ashley’s absence resulted in a default of her appeal. Grant Flynn from the Attorney General’s office stated that Ashley had contacted him and asked that her appeal of denial of licensure be pulled. Flynn requested Ashley put this in writing. Flynn stated no correspondence had been received from Ashley.

Pankratz moved Myers seconded to approve change in payment vendors to align with other Department of Health agencies. **MOTION PASSED.**

Discussion was held on continuing education/energy work. The outcome of the discussion was to keep the present policy of April 16, 2009 that states, Reiki is not massage therapy. Reiki classes are not continuing education compliant. The Board will plan to discuss this topic more at the next meeting.

Bridget Myers and Mr. Richter gave a review of the Federation meeting held in Salt Lake City and Mr. Richter updated the board on the Member Board Executive Summit meeting in Cleveland.

Discussion was held about 2020 legislation. Bridget Myers had conversed with a couple of legislators that were interested in discussing potential changes. Mr. Richter will line up a conference call and/or a meeting to discuss what changes the legislators would like to introduce.

Mr. Richter updated the board on license renewals, work with law enforcement on bad actors in the industry, Member Board Executive Summit meeting in Cleveland, and the potential to bring Federation staff to the next Board Meeting.

Upon a motion by Pankratz and second by Myers, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) for a consultation with legal counsel and invited Mitch Richter and Morgan Brekke with Woods Fuller Shultz & Smith PC via phone to join the Board at approximately 1:15 p.m. The other meeting attendees exited the meeting at this time.

Upon a motion by Myers and second by Pankratz, the Board unanimously voted to go out of executive session at 1:35 p.m.

Pankratz made a motion to approve negotiation of a contract with a software vendor for up to \$10,000 for a 12 month period. Myers seconded the motion. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, and Pankratz voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Myers made a motion to approve negotiation with Woods Fuller Schultz for a contract for legal services, Pankratz seconded the motion. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers and Pankratz voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

President Ellwein appointed Bridget Myers to attend the Federations annual meeting in Atlanta in October 2019.

Ellwein stated the next tentative Board meeting will be in September 2019, date to be determined at a later date.

Myers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 1:58 p.m. CST. Second by Pankratz. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, and Pankratz voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

---

Christine Ellwein, President