

**Meeting Minutes**  
**South Dakota Board of Massage Therapy**  
Monday, September 17, 2018 at 9:00 AM MST  
Dakota Lecture Hall, Western Dakota Tech, 800 Mickelson Drive, Rapid City, SD

The meeting of the South Dakota Board of Massage Therapy (“Board”) was called to order at approximately 9:08 a.m. MST and the presence of a quorum was confirmed. Board President Christine Ellwein facilitated the meeting.

Roll call was taken by Ellwein of Board members. All were in attendance.

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

**Members of the Board present via phone:** Meg Johnson.

**Others in attendance via phone:** Kelsey Blair, Angela Taylor of Headlines Academy, Gene Heller, Sierra Brusahart, Morgan Brekke, Board legal counsel, for executive sessions as outlined below.

**Others in attendance in person:** Mitch Richter, Executive Secretary, Julie Richter, administrative assistant to Executive Secretary, Al Trace, Black Hills Health & Education Center, Heather Payden, South Dakota School of Massage Therapy, Rebecca Herman, South Dakota School of Massage Therapy, Rhanda Heller, Olawa Rae-Bruhjell, Springs Bath House School of Massage Therapy and Jimmi Ashley.

The Board reviewed the draft agenda, and Richter proposed changing the order of certain agenda items to better facilitate the meeting. Marsh made a motion to approve the agenda with changes to the order of certain agenda items as proposed by Richter. Pankratz seconded the motion. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson, Pankratz, and Marsh voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Ellwein called for public comments. Heather Payden – SD School of Massage Therapy, Gene Heller, Rebecca Herman, South Dakota School of Massage Therapy, Al Trace of Black Hills Health & Education Center, Sierra Broussard, Rhanda Heller, and Olawa Rae-Bruhjell, Springs Bath House School of Massage Therapy addressed the Board.

Upon a motion by Pankratz and second by Marsh, 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 9:37 a.m. The other meeting attendees exited the meeting at this time.

Upon a motion by Myers and second by Marsh, the Board unanimously voted to go out of executive session at 9:51 a.m.

Pankratz made a motion to approve the July 19th, 2018 meeting minutes. Marsh seconded the motion. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson, Pankratz and Marsh voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Pankratz made a motion to ratify all actions of the Board taken pursuant to the July 19, 2018 meeting. Second by Marsh. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson, Pankratz and Marsh voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Myers reported on the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) 2018 resolution and by-law amendment recommendations and the votes she will make as the delegate for South Dakota at the FSMTB convention.

Richter gave an update on the meeting with Representative Stalzer, Meg Johnson, and himself that took place in August 2018. Richter reported that Representative Stalzer has no plans to bring legislation regarding to massage therapy at this time.

The Board reviewed a letter submitted by Stewart School from the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), which is an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education, establishing that ACCSC had approved Stewart School's Massage Therapy Program for ACCSC accreditation. Based on this letter, the Board determined that Stewart School's Massage Therapy Program now met the standard for recognition by the Board pursuant to ARSD 20:76:08:02(2). Upon a motion by Myers and second by Johnson, the Board moved to authorize legal counsel to prepare a letter to be sent to Stewart School with the assistance of the Executive Secretary recognizing Stewart School under ARSD 20:76:08:02(2). The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson Marsh and Panratz voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Richter gave an update on the Education Subcommittee. FSMTB has recommend that the Board not to do anything with the approved list of schools at this time. Board wishes not to do anything at this time but will take its official action on this issue at its next meeting. Pankratz gave an update as well and discussed what other states were doing with lists of approved schools.

Thereafter, the board policy and position of April 16, 2009, stating reiki is not massage therapy and reiki classes are not continuing-education compliant was discussed.

Marsh made a motion to adopt a temporary board policy and position stating: Reiki classes are not continuing education compliant, unless they are education presented by an approved provider of the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork, American Medical Massage Association, or Federation of State Massage Boards for the 2018 renewal period only. Second by Myers. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson, Pankratz and Marsh voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Marsh then made a motion to have the Education Subcommittee that was previously appointed review the reiki issue and bring a recommendation to the next Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Myers. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson, Pankratz and Marsh voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Richter gave an office update. The issue of Board members posting on social media was discussed and it was recommended that Board members refrain from engaging on social media.

Upon a motion by Myers and second by Pankratz, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) & (4) for consultation with legal counsel, consideration of proposed contested cases, and consideration of contracts. The Board invited Mitch Richter and Morgan Brekke with Woods Fuller Shultz & Smith PC via phone to join the Board at approximately 11:30 a.m. The other meeting attendees exited the meeting at this time.

Upon a motion by Pankratz and second by Marsh, the Board unanimously voted to go out of executive session at 12:32 p.m. **MOTION PASSED.**

Pankratz made a motion to deny the licensure of applicant number TEMP#72, with a second by Marsh. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson, Pankratz and Marsh voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Marsh made a motion to extend the management contract with Promethean Tactics to expire on June 30, 2020, with a second by Pankratz. The Board voted. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson, Pankratz and Marsh voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Ellwein stated the next tentative Board meeting will be a video conference on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. MST.

Pankratz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 12:44 p.m. MST. Second by Marsh. The Board voted by roll call. Ellwein, Myers, Johnson, Pankratz and Marsh voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Meg Johnson, Secretary