

The Advisory Board on Massage Therapy met at 10:05 am on Thursday, August 16, 2018 in the testing Center at 2401 N W 23rd St., Suite 84, Oklahoma City, Ok. 73107

1. Call to Order

Chair Grisso called the meeting to order

(The meeting agenda had been properly posted and agenda-ized)

2. Roll Call

Quorum was established with roll call. The following persons answered roll call:

1. Laura Grisso, Chair
2. Pam Matherly, Vice Chair
3. Marilyn Ihloff
4. Robert Rowe
5. Theresa Schroeder

BOARD STAFF

Sherry Lewelling, Executive Director

John Funderburk, Principal Assistant

Janelle Hastings, Administrative Assistant

Laura Bryce, Massage Therapy Department

Lauri Ann "LA" Gillette Examiner/Inspector

Visitors

Mary Elizabeth LeBlanc, Jennifer Giehll, Karen Harr, Tonya Sharp, Laura Hickman, Laura Embleton, Kimberly Johnson, Sara McDermitt, Lisa Potts,

3. Public Comment – Opportunity for the Board to Receive Public Comment – Each speaker is limited to three minutes. Comments must be related to items listed on the agenda

Tonya Sharp introduced herself as a license Massage Therapist and president of the Oklahoma Massage Therapy Association (OMTA) She specifically addressed items 7 and 8 on the agenda, and stated that education is needed not a change in the definition of Massage Therapy. She does not support change in definition of Massage Therapy in general, reflexology and aroma therapy are not Massage therapy modalities. Reflexology students study only that and deal only with nerve points, commonly the ear, hand and foot and not the body tissues.

Ms. Lewelling stated that we should establish standards in rules so everyone is clear.

Karen Harr Massage Therapist, asked if a decision was made regarding item #7 in April 19, 2018 minutes about traveling massage therapist, in reviewing the minutes from that meeting it was found that item was intended to generate discussion regarding those who do outcall massages and was not an action item. Ms. Harr went on to question item #8 on the April 19, 2018 minutes regarding the selling or serving of alcohol. Ms. Grisso advised that only the ABLE commission has authority to grant a license to sell or serve alcohol. If a Massage salon wanted to sell alcohol they would have to get a license from the ABLE commission (Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement). Ms. Lewelling said the responsibility would fall on the individual Massage Therapist as to whether they would serve alcohol or provide service to an intoxicated client. The exception might be casinos which operate under different laws since Indian Nations have jurisdiction over casinos.

Laura Embleton - National Government Relations Director for American Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP)

Ms. Embleton said are here as a resource for you, I work across the country from large cities on down to small ordinances, she mentioned that Iowa City Iowa created a form to be completed by owner with names of all who work there and if inspectors go in and if the establishment does not have the list, they are shut down on the spot.

She also said that Nevada was regulating reflexology and suggested we look to them for additional guidance on regulation of reflexology if needed.

Scott Rigsby- introduced himself as owner of Oklahoma Healing Arts Institute est. 2003 which teaches reflexology, among other things, and expressed concern about the current bill and whether Massage Therapy includes Reflexology and if so are students who come out of his program going to have to become Massage Therapists? Ms. Grisso stated that we have not defined Reflexology as part of Massage Therapy

4. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve or Disapprove Board Meeting Minutes from April 19, 2018 Board Meeting

A Motion was made by Ms. Matherly and seconded by Ms. Schroeder to approve the Board Meeting Minutes from April 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

Matherly, yes: Ihloff, yes: Rowe, yes: Schroeder, yes.

Motion carried.

5. Legislative and Administrative Rules Update, MTAB Chair, Laura Grisso

Ms. Grisso said we are moving forward to new legislative session, we have our law written last year to review in committee. Any changes need to be discussed and written and referred to OSBCB by November 5, 2018 meeting. Rules have to be submitted in January so need approval at January 8, 2019 OSBCB meeting.

Ms. Grisso reiterated that we will need a lot of support for this legislation, not just the few faces that appear for meetings, she recommended that everyone, including families, friends, clients contact their legislators to express support.

6. Executive Director Update- Sherry G. Lewelling
FSMTB Conference

Ms. Lewelling welcomed Lauri Ann "LA" Gillette as the new inspector/examiner, she will be our biggest asset when we get establishment authority as she will be over that part in the inspection program, she is an experienced Massage Therapist as well as a Master Cosmetology Instructor and she will also help get inspection program organized.

Ms. Lewelling had planned to attend the FSMTB (Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards) conference in October but it conflicted with NIC conference and she has an active part in NIC.

Regarding upcoming legislation Ms. Lewelling encouraged committees to get their recommendations in order as soon as possible and stressed the need to keep the bill simple and basic to meet priority needs. If we throw too many things and too many changes it won't go anywhere. Luke Martin, lobbyist with the Oklahoma Massage Association is very good at what he does and very well respected at the capitol, however, will take more to get this passed, Legislators want to hear from constituents, it will take Massage Therapists stepping up and contacting their legislators just as our cosmetology licensees stepped up when we were threatened with deregulation.

7. Discussion and Possible Action as to whether reflexology constitutes massage therapy as defined in the Massage Therapy Practice Act (59 O.S. sec. 4200.1 – 4200.13).

This item was tabled due to Mr. Moak's absence.

8. Discussion and Possible Action as to whether the use of essential oils in aroma therapy constitutes massage therapy as defined in the Massage Therapy Practice Act (59 O.S. sec. 4200.1 - 4200.13)

This item was tabled due to Mr. Moak's absence.

9. Note: there was no item #9 on agenda.

10. Discussion and Possible Action for special September meeting.

After discussion it was determined that a special meeting could be called for, if needed after the 1st round of committee meetings

11. Discussion and Possible Action to change October 18th meeting.

Because the Board's legal advisor Grant Moak would be unable to attend the October 18 meeting, a motion was made by Ms. Ihloff and seconded by Ms. Matherly to change the October 18 meeting to November 1, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Matherly, yes: Ihloff, yes: Rowe, yes: Schroeder, yes.

Motion carried.

12. Chair Appointment of Committees

Legislative Committee:

Board Members: Theresa Schroeder and Laura Grisso

Meeting Dates: Thursday September 20 at 3:00 pm and TBD (10/22/2018 or 10/23/2018)

The scope of this committee is The Massage therapy act. This committee will be responsible for reviewing the act, revising the act and present these revisions to both the Massage Advisory Board and the Cosmetology and Barbering Board. This committee will give updates on the proposed legislation as it travels through the legislature and will be responsible for getting the word out to therapists and recruiting others for legislative events and contact.

Rules Committee:

Board Members: Pamela Matherly and Bob Rowe

Meeting Dates: Thursday September 13 at 10:00 am and Monday September 24 at 10:00 am

This committee will review and revise the rules as needed. They will also be responsible for presenting the proposed rule changes to the Massage Advisory Board and the Cosmetology and Barbering Board. Continuing education also falls under this committee’s scope.

Professional Conduct Committee:

Board Members: Pamela Matherly and Laura Grisso

Meeting Dates: Monday 9/17/2018 at 2:00 pm and Thursday 9/20/2018 at 1:00 pm

This committee will work with the rules committee and if needed the legislative committee to make recommendations on safety and sanitation, professional practice and human trafficking.

Overview Committee:

Board Members: Marilyn Ihloff and Laura Grisso

Meeting Dates: Monday 9/17/2018 at 10:00 am and Monday October 15 at 10:00 am.

This committee’s scope will address the massage therapy industry as a whole, and take on special projects as they arise such as researching alternate licensure processes and the implementation of the MTLDA database.

13. Board Adjournment

Laura Grisso, Chair

Pamela Matherly, Vice Chair

Marilyn Ihloff

Rob Rowe

Theresa Schroeder