

BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 13, 2023
1:30 PM

**In-Person and Virtual
Meeting Notice**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board will have in-person and virtual meetings. Please see the hybrid schedule in the Meeting Dates section of the agenda.

In-person meetings will be held at 899 North Capitol St., NE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20002. Information on how to access virtual Board meetings is listed below:

Board of Massage Therapy - Open Session

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m1dbefc741faa44112cc16713d11e4c83>

Thursday, April 13, 2023, 1:30 pm | 1 hour | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 473 998 269

Password: e8bM4kYdMu7

Join by the video system.

Dial 473998269@dcnet.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone.

+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

Access code: 473 998 269

BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
Open Session Agenda April 13, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:	
Cary Bland, LMT – Board Chairperson	PRESENT
Johanna Brooks, LMT – Board Member	PRESENT
Vacant – Board Member, Licensed Massage Therapist	
Vacant – Board Member, Licensed Massage Therapist	
Vacant – Board Consumer Member	
BOARD STAFF:	
Ericka L. Walker, MSW - Executive Director	PRESENT
Thelma Ofosu-Mensah, Health Licensing Specialist	PRESENT
Ajay Gohil, Assistant General Counsel	PRESENT
Gregory Scurlock, Compliance Officer	PRESENT
Leonard Howard, Investigator	ABSENT

OPEN SESSION AGENDA, APRIL 13, 2023

OS-0413-01	<p><u>CALL TO ORDER:</u> 1:30 pm</p>	
OS-0413-02	<p><u>ROLL CALL</u> Cary Bland – Chairman Johanna Brooks- Member Ericka Walker – Executive Director Thelma Ofosu- Mensah- Health Licensing Specialist Ajay Gohil – Assistant Attorney General Gregory Scurlock- Supervisory Investigator Dr. Robert White-Visitor Ashley Hernandez– FSMTB Justin Young- FSMTB Ellen Helmich- FSMTB</p>	
OS-0413-03	<p><u>ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA</u> <u>Board Action:</u> Acceptance of April 13, 2023, Open Session Agenda.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Brooks to accept April 13, 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Bland.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0413-04	<p><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES</u> <u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from January 19, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion</u> Motion made by Ms. Brooks to accept January 19, 2023, Minutes Seconded by Mr. Bland.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0413-05	<p><u>CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</u> Mr. Bland informed the Board that the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA) confirmed his reappointment as a member of the DC Board of Massage Therapy.</p>	

OS-0413-06	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</u></p> <p>Ms. Walker gave updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Professional Boards and Performance Oversight Hearings • Census: 570 Licensed Massage Therapists • Renewals have ended and she further indicated that licensees who failed to renew their licenses during the renewal period need to reinstate them if they still wish to keep their DC licenses. • She is attending FSMTB Executive Summit in Denver Colorado • There are still vacancies on the Board yet to be filled. • Dr. Sharon Lewis is still serving in the capacity as the Interim Director for DC Health • Mr. Arian Gibson is now the Senior Deputy Director for HRLA • All the Boards are working on their fall/winter newsletter. • DC Health had oversight and performance hearings with DC Council. <p>District of Columbia COVID-19 https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine</p> <p>District of Columbia Monkeypox https://dchealth.dc.gov/page/monkeypox</p> <p><u>The Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments</u></p> <p>The Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA) recruits talented and interested individuals from all eight Wards to serve on District Boards. Link to apply to serve on a Board: https://mota.dc.gov/page/boards-vacancies-or-available-seat</p>	
OS-0413-07	<p><u>BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT:</u></p> <p>Mr. Gohil gave updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft amendment to the Massage Therapy regulations needs to be completed and forwarded to the Board for final approval. • The revision of in-person requirements for continuing education requirements which were revised to online requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic. • He informed the Board that the new COVID-19 vaccination requirement is now effective. He further indicated the burden of implementing the COVID-19 vaccine requirements is now on the health facility and not DC Health. <p><u>Background:</u></p>	

	<p>The final rule regarding vaccine requirements removed the term mandate and was published on February 24, 2023. The final rule amends 22 DCMR (Health), Subtitle B (Public Health and Medicine), Ch. 2 (Communicable and Reportable Diseases), Sec. 230 (COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for Healthcare Workers), Sec. 231 (Exemptions from COVID-19 Requirements for Healthcare Workers), Title 17 (Business, Occupations, and Professionals), Ch. 40 (Health Occupations: General Rules), Sec. 4019 (SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19-Related Obligations of Health Professionals), to include the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine among those vaccines that healthcare workers and other staff can receive to meet the imposed vaccination requirement and to allow healthcare facilities to determine whether an exemption to the vaccine requirement should be granted to a requesting employee, contractor, volunteer, or privilege or credential holder of that healthcare facility.</p>	
<p>OS-0413-08</p>	<p><u>NCBMBT-INTERSTATE MASSAGE COMPACT</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Board To Discuss</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Elizabeth Kirk Administrative Director NC Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy sent information on the NC Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy regarding opposition to an interstate compact for the massage and bodywork therapy profession.</p> <p>Mr. Gohil, the Board Attorney informed the Board about the rationale behind the interstate- compact for the practice of Massage Therapy Board.</p> <p>The Board decided to conduct further research on the topic and have a detailed discussion on the matter during the July 20, 2023, meeting.</p>	
<p>OS-0413-09</p>	<p><u>SCOPE OF PRACTICE QUESTION</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Board To Discuss</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Ms. Jessica L. Edwards, LMT submitted a scope of practice question. She needs to know if it is within her scope and rights as an LMT to practice Myofascial Release Therapy.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Brooks to confirm that Myofascial Release Therapy is within the. scope of practice within Massage Therapy Seconded by Mr. Bland.</p>	

	Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.	
OS-0413-10	LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS None	
OS-0413-11	<p><u>FSMTB's CEU REGISTRY</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Board to decide whether to approve the FSMTB CEU registry.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Federation sent an email to the Board wanting to know the steps FSMTB would need to take to be considered for approval as a CE sponsor. The Board Attorney recommended that FSMTB should be invited to the open session meeting to make a presentation to the Board. A representative from FSMTB made a presentation during the September 15, 2022, meeting. The Board requested additional information on the matter for the Board to make an informed decision on the matter. FSMTB has submitted additional information for Board review and decision-making. FSMTB provided additional information after the January meeting in order for the Board to make an informed decision on their request. https://www.fsmtb.org/continuingeducation/ce-registry-course-search/ https://www.fsmtb.org/media/2374/ce-standards-and-registry-guidebook-final-052820.pdf</p> <p>CE Standards and Guidebook https://www.fsmtb.org/media/2374/ce-standards-and-registry-guidebook-final-052820.pdf</p> <p>CE Registry Courses https://www.fsmtb.org/continuingeducation/ce-registry-course-search/</p> <p>REACH https://reach4ce.org/</p> <p><u>Motion</u> Motion made by Ms. Brooks to accept CE Registry as a CE sponsor. Seconded by Mr. Bland.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Board will further research the REACH program.</p>	

OS-0413-12	<p><u>MEETING DATES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 18, 2023- Virtual • July 20, 2023- In-person • September 21, 2023- Virtual • November 16, 2023- In-person • <p>The Board decided to meet in person on May 18, 2023, and meet virtually on July 20, 2023.</p>	
OS-0413-13	<p><u>CONSENT AGENDA</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the applications approved and items for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Applications Approved Since January 2023</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rediet Abate • Wallace D. Johnson Jr. • Marilene Olango • Ananya Sunanta • Kitipat Prasert • Nailah Davis • Shannon OConnell • Ramon Fortes Mazeli • Mei Hua • Patricia Tsen • Samantha Washington • Minna Takushi- Ramos • Danielle Simms • Alena Hernandez • Sam Kemper • Alexndria Johnson • Jessica Rose • Marlon Love • Miriah Auth • Sandra Woods • Cheistopher Beaver • Yan Bai • Keesha Barrett • Morgana Alexander • Margaret Brosnan 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athiena Seaward-Byers • RaNecia Smith • Stephanie Guy • Joshua McDonald-Cosman • Keandra Collier • Francia Siri <p><u>Motion</u> Motion made by Ms. Brooks to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Mr. Bland.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0413-14	<p><u>FSMTB CALLS FOR RESOLUTIONS AND BYLAW AMENDMENTS</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Discussions</p> <p><u>Background:</u> FSMTB sent an email calling for resolutions and bylaws amendments.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> No Action was required.</p>	
OS-0413-15	<p><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Pursuant to DC Official Code § 2-575(b), the Board will move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting to discuss the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To consult with an attorney to obtain legal advice and to preserve the attorney-client privilege between an attorney and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a); 2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6); 3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9); 4. To plan, discuss or hear reports concerning the ongoing or planned investigation of alleged criminal or civil misconduct or violations of law or regulations, if disclosure to the public would harm the investigation pursuant to section § 2-575(b) (14). 	

	<p>Motion Motion made by Ms. Brooks to close the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Bland. Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0413-16	Roll Call Vote	
OS-0413-17	This concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the reasons set forth in the motion.	

This ends the Open Session Agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for **May 18, 2023 (In- Person)**

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov