

# **BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**

## **OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

**July 27, 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20002. Information on how to access virtual Board meetings are listed below:**

#### **Board of Massage Therapy -Open Session Meeting**

Hosted by HRLA BOARDS

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m161cc4c0f4eaa1a0ff9897f4e4bd4b60>

Thursday, July 27, 2023, 1:30 PM | 1 hour | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 2300 121 3887

Password: q8pMjahy2x8

Join by the video system.

Dial 23001213887@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: 230 012 13887

**BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**  
**Open Session Minutes July 27, 2023**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS:</b>	
Johanna Brooks, LMT – Board Chairperson	PRESENT
Cary Bland, LMT – Board Member	PRESENT
Vacant – Board Member, Licensed Massage Therapist	VACANT
Vacant – Board Member, Licensed Massage Therapist	VACANT
Maisha Goss Johns – Board Consumer Member	PRESENT
<b>BOARD STAFF:</b>	
Erica 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	PRESENT

**OPEN SESSION AGENDA, JULY 27, 2023**

OS-0727-01	<p><b><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></b></p> <p>The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm</p>	
OS-0727-02	<p><b><u>ROLL CALL</u></b></p> <p>Johanna Brooks- Chairperson Cary Bland – Board Member Maisha Goss-Johns- Consumer Member Ericka Walker – Executive Director Thelma Ofosu- Mensah- Health Licensing Specialist Ajay Gohil – Assistant Attorney General Gregory Scurlock- Supervisory Investigator Matteo Lieb- Office of Government Relation</p> <p><b><u>New Board Member Swearing-In/Oath</u></b></p> <p>New Consumer Member Maisha Goss-Johns and New Board Chair Johanna Brooks were sworn in to become Board Members by Uno Izegebu Deputy Director, Executive Office of the Mayor (MOTA)</p>	
OS-0727-03	<p><b><u>ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Acceptance of July 27, 2023, Open Session Agenda.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Mr. Bland to accept the July 27, 2023, Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Goss-Johns.</p> <p>Mr. Bland, Ms. Brooks, and Ms. Goss-Johns voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0727-04	<p><b><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the June 1, 2023, meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Mr. Bland to accept and approve the June 1, 2023, Open Session Minutes. Seconded by Ms. Goss-Johns.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. Ms. Goss-Johns abstained from the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0727-05	<p><b><u>CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>No Report</p>	

OS-0727-06	<p><b><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>Ms. Walker gave updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ She congratulated and welcomed Ms. Johanna Brooks as a new Board Chairperson for the Board</li> <li>➤ She welcomed Ms. Maisha Goss-Johns as a new Consumer Member of the Board.</li> <li>➤ She expressed her gratitude to Mr. Bland for his continued service to the Board.</li> <li>➤ She informed the Board that Dr. Ayanna Bennett is the DC Health Acting Director.</li> <li>➤ DC Health has formed the Interprofessional Board Chair Collaboration Work Group (IBCC). The group will be organizing a symposium, tentatively in September 2023.</li> <li>➤ Ms. Walker informed the Board that Board members need to adhere to the issue of confidentiality for pending applications. She informed Board members that they should desist from seeking the status of pending applications on behalf of applicants. She further indicated that if they receive inquiries from applicants on the status of their applications, they should direct the applicants to Board staff.</li> <li>➤ Ms. Walker informed the Board that DC Health is moving to its new location Shannon Place in February 2024. District of Columbia COVID-19 <a href="https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine">https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine</a></li> <li>• District of Columbia Monkeypox <a href="https://dchealth.dc.gov/page/monkeypox">https://dchealth.dc.gov/page/monkeypox</a></li> <li>• 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: <a href="https://mota.dc.gov/page/boards-vacancies-or-available-seat">https://mota.dc.gov/page/boards-vacancies-or-available-seat</a></li> </ul>	
OS-0727-07	<p><b>LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS</b></p> <p>Mr. Matteo Lieb (Office of Government Relations) gave updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Council is on recess through September 15, 2023.</li> <li>➤ The Uniform Telehealth Act of 2023 bill has been enacted and is being discussed for possible implementation in DC.</li> <li>➤ A series of compact bills for licensure pathways – 3 Health Professional license compact bills are in the process of evaluating the compact for Occupational Therapy, Professional Counselling, and Registered Nurses- with emphasis on Registered Nurses and License</li> </ul>	

	<p>Practical Nurse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Bill of 2023 has been enacted and a hearing has been held.</li> <li>➤ The Committee of Health is under the new leadership of Council member Henderson.</li> </ul>	
OS-0727-08	<p><b><u>MEETING DATES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September 21, 2023- Virtual</li> <li>• November 16, 2023- In-person</li> </ul>	
OS-0727-09	<p><b><u>CONSENT AGENDA</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> 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><b><u>Background:</u></b> 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><b><u>Applications Approved Since June 2023.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Heajin Yi</li> <li>➤ Alexandria Boothe</li> <li>➤ Taquita Johnson</li> <li>➤ Simone Muniz</li> <li>➤ Maykel Moraes da Silveira</li> <li>➤ Essodina Tchalim</li> <li>➤ Tanya Cannaday</li> <li>➤ Keegan Sweeney</li> <li>➤ Nicole Nelson</li> <li>➤ Dawnly Nelson</li> <li>➤ Nyreshia Griggs</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Mr. Bland to ratify the consent agenda. Seconded by Ms. Brooks.</p> <p>Mr. Bland and Ms. Brooks voted in favor of the motion. Ms. Goss-Johns abstained from the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0727-10	<p><b><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b></p>	

	<p>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"> <li>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);</li> <li>2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6);</li> <li>3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9);</li> <li>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).</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Motion made by Mr. Bland to close the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Goss-Johns.</p> <p>Mr. Bland, Ms. Brooks, and Ms. Goss-Johns voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-0727-11	<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	
OS-0727-12	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 **September 21, 2023 (Virtual)**

***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](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov)***