

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation
Illinois Massage Licensing Board

Open Session: May 6, 2025

Call to order *at 11:07 a.m.* by Mike Hovi.

Roll call:

Michael Hovi, Chair
Kendall Alexander, Member
Lurana Bain, Member
Elizabeth Gonzalez, Member
Sandra Saldano, Member
Sharon Kay Wong, Member

Absent:

Kendall Alexander, Member

Staff:

Greg Largent
Tafari Mahou
Terra Collins

Guests:

Maureen Mulhall
Emmanuel Bistas
Colleen Grabow
Jeremy Miller
Lisa Wharton
Rachel Schmitz
Rebecca Billenstein
Seth Dinkel

Board Announcements & Comments

None

Public Announcements & Comments

Emmanuel Bistas and Colleen Grabow expressed their support for the Compact/Impact.

Lisa Wharton has concern that a particular graduate from the US Career Institute in Colorado cannot obtain Illinois licensure.

Jeremy Miller wanted clarity on sexual harassment training and abnormal skin growth training.

Maureen Mulhall indicated the necessity of a Rule to provide guidance for the abnormal skin growth training requirement.

Legislative Update

None

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Approval of Open Minutes

MOTION BY Elizabeth Gonzalez and a SECOND BY Sharon Wong to approve the Open Minutes from the February 4, 2025 Massage Licensing Board meeting.

All in Favor? 5 Opposed? 0 Abstained? 0 The motion is approved.

Old Business

None

New Business

- The Board elected Mike Hovi as Chair and Lurana Bain as Vice-Chair.
- The recommendation of a task force to review the Act was discussed. No action was taken.
- The Board selected Sharon Wong to attend the FSMTB Annual Meeting as the delegate from Illinois.

Chairman Notes

Mike Hovi noted that future meetings will convene at 10:00 a.m.

Liaison Notes

Greg Largent covered a number of items:

- FY26 meeting schedule - 8/5/25 11/4/25 2/3/26 5/5/26
 - Note, FY26 meeting start time changed to 10:00am
- Travel Vouchers need submitted within 30 days. FY25 ends 6/30/25
- Mandatory Trainings need to be completed, if not already.
- Board members reappointed to a second term:
 - Mike Hovi
 - Lurana Bain
 - Liz Gonzalez

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2025.

MOTION BY Lurana Bain and a SECOND BY Sandy Saldano to enter into CLOSED SESSION, pursuant to Section 2(c)(4), 2(c)(15) and 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act.

The MOTION is approved and the session is closed at 12:03 p.m.

Chair Mike Hovi adjourns the Closed Meeting at 12:57 p.m. The meeting returns to Open Session at 1:01 p.m.

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Items Reviewed

- 5 License Application(s)
- 0 CE Waiver Request(s)
- 2 Deliberation(s)

Greg Largent announces the recommendations made in Closed Session:

- Applicants Florencia Hernandez Lopez and Ievgeniia Liemieshko be allowed to sit for the MBLEx exam.
- Applicant Balin Phaijitsattaya not be allowed to sit for the MBLEx exam.
- CE Sponsor applications of Evoluzion Alternative Health Inc and Inner G Restorative & Holistic Care, Inc be approved.
- Massage Therapy License of Aihua Chen be revoked and licensee fined.
- Massage Therapy License of Lifeng Dong be revoked.

Approve Recommendations

MOTION BY Elizabeth Gonzalez and a SECOND BY Sandy Saldano to approve the recommendations made in Closed Session.

All in Favor? 5 Opposed? _____ Abstained? _____ The MOTION is approved.

MOTION BY Sharon Wong and a SECOND BY Lurana Bain to approve the Closed Minutes from the February 4, 2025 Closed Session and keep the Closed Minutes closed pursuant to Section 2.06(d) of the Open Meetings Act.

All in Favor? 5 Opposed? _____ Abstained? _____ The MOTION is approved.

ADJOURN MEETING

MOTION by Elizabeth Gonzalez and a SECOND by Sandy Saldano to adjourn the meeting.

All in Favor. The motion is approved and the meeting is adjourned at 1:05 p.m.