

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

Open Session: February 4, 2025

Call to order *at* 11:03 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
Allison Galecki

Guests:

Maureen Mulhall, AMTA Lobbyist
Christine Hooper
Colleen Grabow
Mara McGhee, FSMTB

Board Announcements & Comments

None

Public Announcements & Comments

Maureen Mulhall noted that the deadline to introduce bills in the current session of the General Assembly is February 7, 2025. She also reported the summary of a number of bills:

- HB1417 (Davidsmeyer) places a cap on fees of licensing
- HB1795 (Weber) would require fingerprinting for license renewals and includes disciplinary items
- A potential bill would amend the Open Meetings Act to allow virtual attendance to meetings
- A potential bill would create a sex workers bill of rights

Legislative Update

None

Chairman Notes

None

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Liaison Notes

Greg Largent covered a number of items:

- The Board needs an Enforcement Unit resource contact. The Board indicated that the Enforcement Unit has been reaching out to each of them.
- Proposed FY26 meeting schedule - 8/5/25 11/4/25 2/3/26 5/5/26
- Are Tuesdays at 11:00am preferred by the members? Members wish to keep meetings on Tuesdays but move the meetings to 10:00am.
- Are quarterly meetings too frequent? Reduce schedule to 2-3 meetings annually? Members think quarterly meetings are appropriate.
- Notice of an MBLEx system upgrade 3/1/25 for 2 weeks. Online services are affected and include the ability to:
 - Submit MBLEx applications
 - Receive Authorizations to Test
 - Transfer exam results
- Mandatory Trainings notice should have been received and members are encouraged to complete those trainings as soon as practical.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2025.

Approval of Open Minutes

MOTION BY Elizabeth Gonzalez and a SECOND BY Sandy Saldano to approve the Open Minutes from the August 6, 2024

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

Old Business

- COMPACT discussion – Sandy Saldano
 - Interstate Massage Compact <https://massagecompact.org/>

Sandy Saldano proposes that task force be formed to re-write the Massage Licensing Act. She suggests that The Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) could engage the Board. Mike Hovi requests that the item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board. Sandy would like to have a Department investigator attend an upcoming meeting so that the Board could gain a better understanding of the investigation process.

New Business

- Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards Annual Meeting – summary provided by Sandy Saldano.

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

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The MOTION is approved and the session is closed at 12:05 p.m.

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

Greg Largent announces the recommendations made in Closed Session.

Items Reviewed

- 4 License Application(s)
- 1 CE Waiver Request(s)
- 2 Deliberation(s)

Approve Recommendations

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

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

MOTION BY Elizabeth Gonzalez and a SECOND BY Sandy Saldano to approve the Closed Minutes from the August 5, 2024 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 Mike Hovi and a SECOND Elizabeth Gonzalez to adjourn the meeting.

All in Favor. The motion is approved and the meeting is adjourned at 1:06 p.m.