



Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy

SPECIAL MEETING TO ADDRESS COVID-19

LOCATION(S): Pursuant to Governor Steve Sisolak's Emergency Directive 006, there was no physical location for this meeting. Participants joined the meeting via Zoom.

Attendees registered in advance for this meeting at:
[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcqf-mhqTguGNYc09MqVYIjK-5pMzMN9Oag](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJcqf-mhqTguGNYc09MqVYIjK-5pMzMN9Oag)

Meeting ID 937-8097-3422
Password 318148

DATE AND TIME: Friday, May 8, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Please Note: The Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy may: 1) take agenda items out of order; 2) combine two or more items for consideration; or 3) remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion related to an item at any time. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting were asked to contact Sandy Anderson at 775.687.9951 (sjanderson@lmt.nv.gov), in advance, so that arrangements could be made. Public comment was taken at the beginning and the end of the meeting. The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person (NRS 241.030).

Public Comment Agenda Item: There is a time designated at the beginning of the meeting and the end of the meeting for Public Comment. Members of the general public may bring matters not appearing on this Agenda to the attention of the Board or make comment on specific Agenda Items. Public comment may also be taken at other such times as requested as long as the request that public comment will not interrupt ongoing Board business. The Board may discuss the matters not on the Agenda but may not act on the matters at this meeting. If the Board desires, the matters may be placed on a future Agenda for action. In consideration of others who may also wish to provide Public Comment, please avoid repetition. The Board reserves the right to limit public comment to three minutes.

1. Meeting called to order on May 8, 2020 at 9:43 am. Chair – Diane Huleva, Vice Chair – Deirdre Strunk, Secretary/Treasurer Elisabeth Barnard, April Whiting, Teresa Lopez, Lorna Benedict, Bob Oliver, Richard Fields, Executive Director Sandy Anderson and Senior Deputy Attorney General Sophia Long.
2. Introduction of Richard Fields, Public Board Member.
3. The mission of the Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy is to, through licensing and regulating the practice of massage therapy, reflexology, and structural integration, protect the public health, safety and welfare by ensuring that only qualified competent massage therapists, reflexologists, and structural integration practitioners are licensed in the State of Nevada. It is our goal to balance the needs of the public with those of the licensees, through development, implementation, enforcement, and continued improvement in the areas of education, public safety, boundaries and ethics, in compliance with the highest standards set forth within the massage therapy profession.
4. Public comment. (Discussion Only) Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under public comment until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting. The Board will not restrict comments based on viewpoint. The opportunity for public comment will be available at the beginning and ending of the meeting.

Written public comment submitted by the following: Wendy Nickell, Tricia Fox, Sharon Manning, Ryan Witholt, Ovid E. Owens, Penny James, Michael Ortiz Jr., Karla Rive, Alethea Shelton, Wendy Owens, Carol Garlington, John Maxwell, Susan Szczygiel, Serge Dahan, Lindsey Berg, John Maxwell, Kamden Fox, Denise Hernandez, Kathie, Sally Spurgeon, Billie Shea, Amy Lewis, Brandi Goodson, David Otto, Deborah Vargo, Jessika Reeve, Jodi Jenkins, Kristin Schirripa, Stephanie Wilson, Susan Nelson, Whitney Tierney, Katherine Von Arx, Glen Alex, Chelsey Wethern, Maria Manasala, Janelle Forbes, Ivy Garcia, Amy Burkett, Nyla Allen, Erica Riddle, Joseph Dunkley, Anne Webber-Pascua, Michael Lee, Katie Glazier, Consuelo (Connie) Quintanar, Cameo, Angel Hammering, Jennifer Douglas, Mary McCormick, Aileen Osborne, Tara Erson, Stephanie Demoleas, A. Gutzwa, Mary McFadden, Henri Hale, K. Bruno, Kelli Henderson, Linda Griner, Linda Holloway, Markisa Rogers, Inez Sweet, Vicki Guillory, Marilyn Kurz, Donna Kris, Dave Halterman, Lisa Kalkes, Jolene W., Nichole Crock, Robin Starr, Billie Bastian, Tina and Guy Asher, Khristine Ogden, Marina Wasniak, D. Garrett, Lynda Lavin, Christine Garner, Monica Lablanc, Kim Miramontes, Karla Rice, Stephanie Engel, Jayne H., Brandi Goodson, Brigitte Papp and Laura Embleton. For all written comment submitted, please see attached.

Public comment:

Andrea Felesina – Nurse practitioner/massage therapist. I have reviewed the written comments that were submitted to the Board prior to the start of the meeting. It looks like there is a mutual concern for massage due to potential for infection to the client and/or therapists. Maybe having a verbal or written informed consent that the client signs or verbalizes that they understand that there is potential for infection even though the therapists are doing all they can per regulations and guidelines to ensure that does not happen. This will potentially assist with the liability aspect. My second concern is to have all new bedding for clients with 20-30 blankets per week that would have to be used and laundered is a significant cost for therapists, especially when most have not worked since mid-March. Please consider us to use an

additional sheet to cover the blankets, something that would be less bulky or less of an expense for the therapists. Finally, maybe suggesting the use of medical/hospital gowns to prevent changing our clothing in between clients.

Silke Clarke – License Massage therapists in Nevada. Chiropractors offices are open and actively working. What is the difference between massage therapists and chiropractors' offices? With the unemployment issues, I have been out of work since the start with no assistance. Thank you to the Governor for listening to us.

Christine Garner – I have been a licensed therapist for sixteen (16) years. I have a mobile service, how is this going to affect me during this COVID-19?

Joseph (Joe) Dunkley – I am licensed Structural Integration Practitioner in Nevada. I have a comment regarding Phase 1 of re-opening. In 2018 the Nevada State Board of Massage separated license types to include structural integration and reflexology. As while I understand people here are discussing the issue of massage therapy. But as we have a separate license and there is not very many of us, I wanted to make a point of what SI practitioners have to say about this topic. The Governor has lumped massage and structural integration practitioners into the category of massage parlors, tattoo/piercing, tanning salons and spas. Structural Integration as defined by the Board is “means the application of a system of manual therapy, movement education and embodiment education that is intended to improve the functional relationship of the parts of the human body to each other within the influences of gravity.” My point is that manual therapy is to improve the functional relationships of the parts of the body to each other which is another way to say misalignments. Misalignments are a source great pain, nerve entrapments, fascial inflammation conditions and many extreme discomforts for patients. Structural Integration plays a critical role in the health of Nevada residents by treating and reducing acute, chronic pain and the suffering. It reduces the need for pain medication, including highly addictive opioids, unnecessary surgeries and extended therapies. In my 20 years of practicing, I have helped hundreds of patients to avoid surgeries, break their addiction to pain medications and solve problems such as jaw misalignments and TMJ which don't have a lot of alternative therapies available to them. Many people suffer from these conditions like that for years or even decades. Something like Structural integration or Rolfing consistently address. So, the question of reopening practices in this field, I do request the Board considers deeply that the differences between structural integration and massage. They made the point to separate the license due to increased training, longer hours of education and the therapeutic nature of structural integration. It is not a therapy that people engage in for relaxation, for recreation, for pleasure or amusement of any kind. It is specifically a scientifically validated therapy that provides a critical life sustaining services to the residents of Nevada. We see only one patient at a time, our offices are maintained and inspected by the Board, already following thorough hygiene practices. I am sincerely requesting the opening of structural integration practitioners' offices now as part of phase one and as a separate subject from massage as a whole.

Sally Spurgeon – I am a licensed massage therapist in town with a small office in Las Vegas. We specialize in massage for post mastectomy, oncology patients and woman suffering from lactation issues. Because of what we do and the importance of what we do, I have been driving the Governor crazy not to mention certain Senators in the State of Nevada. The results of which, the Directive which was issued last night (5/7/2020) and I am not sure if everyone has seen that updated directive. The directive will save a lot of angst if you are aware of it. I believe

the Governors wording was intentional. He understands because it has been spelled out to him in many texts, that we are not massage parlors and that we really do object to that terminology. However, when he made his statement, he was establishing us massage therapists that are not performing illegal activities. The excerpt from the release last night reads “massage parlors not to include massage for physical therapy or that are medically necessary as prescribed by a licensed health care provider.” So, if you have a client, and that client is stressed right now, whose doctor is going to deny them massage when that massage will be beneficial to them and that it is medically necessary for them. So, if you have a client that has this letter, the update directive allows for you to perform massage as of today 5/8/2020. That is my public comment for today.

Denise Bolanos – NVMT.6185, my only comment is in regard to the recent research that was published out of Germany in the annuals of internal medicine in regard to Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT). I have some concerns with clotting factors, so I am hoping this is will be conversation when discussing the re-opening phases.

Stacey Tommey – I am a licensed massage therapist. I have one quick question about any changes with processing of renewals, or is everything still on time?

Carol Garlington – I have been a licensed massage therapist since 1997. I honestly don't care how good you are or how many years you have been practicing, fact is we don't know enough about this virus with the exception of the person whom brought up the clotting factor, I am not hearing concern for anything other than our incomes and our practices. Our mission is to protect the public health, the death rate is growing every day. This is a virus which is extremely transmittable in close circumstance. I can't think of any situation where doing massage is safe or medically necessary. We can't do massage if we are dead and we cannot practice on dead clients.

Amy Lewis – I am a Craniosacral therapist practicing under massage license. I would like for craniosacral to stay out of massage as it is a different therapy dealing with different issues. For instance, my clients do not dis-robe, they stay fully clothed. A lot of us are having clients that have extreme symptoms like migraines, Multiple Sclerosis (MS), concussive syndrome and their symptoms are getting worse because they cannot come in to get their treatment. My issue is that I don't understand how like so many of us, how chiropractic or physical therapists are essential, but structural integration, massage or craniosacral that focuses on massage, relaxation or medical treatment is not essential. I would like for craniosacral to be taken out of massage therapy license, so that we have our own. Thank you so much for your consideration and your time.

Chelsey Wethern – I think that someone performing massage in a spa or salon should be different than someone performing massage in a suite as it would be a little easier to manage all the regulations and everything. So, if they can consider massage when re-opening if they could separate the spa settings from independent contractors as they have more people coming through, more clients

Amra Lear – Thank you to the Board for having us here and giving us the opportunity to speak publicly. I did read through some of the points that were suggested by other professionals. I would like to add a few things to put into perspective. Checking someone's temperature – each person temperature varies so checking every client's temperature may not be ideal. I love the

fact of wearing masks. Wearing aprons is a great idea. I saw the drafts the Board has presented and I think it is a great draft to go by. I want to again commend the Board for having us here today.

James Bradley – I do mobile/chair massage, I was wondering since I perform chair/mobile massage and the clients are clothed, does that have any difference? I was also wondering if the unemployment office could perform telethons. I have six kids and a stay at home wife, I am blessed. But I have so many people that are so hurting, crying, angry and people are committing suicide. Is there a way they could do a telethon; the Governors and Mayors could be on the phone taking calls? God Bless you guys and I am excited for the new year.

Tanya Velazquez – I am licensed massage therapists. I want to make a comment and a question that I am hoping you guys could hear out. I tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19) three (3) weeks ago and ended up with pneumonia at which I am fully recovered now, I would like to know the requirements for going back to work cause it is something that I am afraid that I could still pass along, because I am not sure if I could still be carrier or anything like that. What are the precautions we should be taking for the people that work or tested positive? What are the things that we need to hold in place for the people that were affected by it? Thank you.

Christopher Eck – I would like to have the Board consider requiring constant ventilation based on studies done at the beginning of (COVID-19), how microdroplets can possible carry the virus and be stagnate for up to three (3) hours if there is not constant ventilation as massage therapists know; air conditioners, so on and so forth in a 6x10 room or whatever the air conditioner kicks on every twenty minutes, so the possible risk factor even with masks and other protective layers, the air is stagnate. So, I would like to encourage the Board to consider requiring constant ventilation in the rooms. Thank you.

David Otto – NVMT.103 – I submitted my written comment, but I wanted to tip my hat to the clotting comment earlier. There are a lot of considerations for opening again. I think the Board's done an incredible job of presenting in the proposed regulation, emergency regulations and guidelines. Putting together what is standardly and scientifically understood especially by Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) what starting to get back to work, looks like. There are people that do not have a lot of information about how it will affect their clients and themselves (putting themselves at risk). I just want to say, that I think the regulation as they are proposed will walk that fine line of moving inward and standing or moving backwards. There is a population of clients that are ready and need of frontline workers that need that kind of work that we provide. Then on the other side of the spectrum, there is clients that will not get a massage until this is over. To safely explore what is possible. Nobody is benefiting from our profession, if we do not learn things like how former COVID-19 clients can have increased or did have a clotting issue upon receiving COVID-19. This is all information that is still developing, and I think that the proposed guidelines and regulations are safe. I think the Board has done a great job in making or gathering all the resources to put this together. Any discussion today, I hope shows the choice is in each of our hands to not practice because we are not ready yet. That the ones who do, able and safely to continue you may do so. Thank you.

Roger O'Donnell – I am a personal injury Attorney in Reno and I wanted to put out a different perspective than what I think people are getting out here. I have several clients that are in a lot of pain and they are suffering. A lot of times, this is acute. This Board regulates a very

accessible form of pain relief for my clients. A lot of them really rely on everyone that this Board regulates in order to help them achieve a level of pain relief that frequently they can't get otherwise or that it is not available. A lot of them use alternatives in order to cope with the pain that they are experiencing from acute trauma. I would ask the Board to keep an eye on keeping the profession accessible, loosen the restrictions and things for people. Obviously, everyone that you regulate, knows their business better than anyone on the Board can do or could possibly know. They know how to protect their clients and themselves. The world has a vested interest in maintaining public health but there is a lot of people in Nevada that need services and I think any restrictions is a dis-service to people who have no option. Thank you.

Darlene Ensign – I appreciated those comments that were just made. I have some patients also who are elderly that I have to be more careful with, but they are taking pain medication now and I am not able to do any therapies on them. I cannot help them right now. I did not get a chance to review the proposed regulations, but it is going to be difficult to diagnosis if the client already has allergies and with warmer temperatures outside, it would be difficult to diagnosis. Especially if the clients are immune compromised. I am not sure how we address the masks, changing of clothes, touch and so on. When we are allowed to open up, I am going to screen each client and work with them on an individual basis. If I determine they must wear a mask or they do not pass the screening questions, then I would have to cancel the appointment. For their safety and for mine.

Brent Bornemeire – NVMT.6400 and have been practicing for about eight (8) years. I was wondering about integrating technology to the cleaning process in order to maintain standards. Because, I feel if one person gets sick doing massage, structural integration, reflexology or craniosacral, it is going to affect all of us. Keeping things clean, should be paramount to everyone and our practice. I was wondering about using Ultraviolet thermometers on everyone, client sit in a chair for a minute in the air conditioning in order to prevent false readings, Ultraviolet lighting in rooms that we could turn on in between clients, fans with ultraviolet lights in them in order to continuously cleaning the room/air, different cleansers that remove the virus, keep laundry clean (wrapping mine in saran wrap), to prevent cross contamination. Any cleaning things would help us to prevent and when things go back to normal, we would be absolute stellar across the line. We have to protect the public in order to protect our profession. Thank you.

Joanne Laurence – Licensed Massage Therapist (LMT).4831 – Several things to bullet point. This is food for thought. Immunol compromised LMT's is interested in protecting our Immunol public or clients. But our LMT's are somewhat part of that and we should keep that in mind. Outcall therapy, no matter what modality is performed, we cannot control our environment in terms of sanitation. While working on a 50-minute hour, we really need to consider that ten-minute flip is a lot rushing around and that ten minutes is really going to affect that. It may result in some people not performing sanitation or work based on guidelines or regulations. We need to balance our welfare of our worker (LMT's), structural integrationist or reflexologists. With the ability to work and to provide for our families and our homes. That is also a concern for me. We have an idea that some of our therapists are servicing our local clientele are medically needy and our relaxation clientele are needy versus the therapists that are servicing the tourists in our industry, that could turn very bleak in our environment due to lack of tourism and travel until the casino's re-open. Will clients be honest during the evaluation? About the things they have been doing. Or symptoms? Regarding the Governor's comment, "massage parlors" we should discuss that at the next meeting about how we can

uplift our industry; separate it out; we can do some very proactive things on that level. Can the Board please confirm when the next meeting will be? Thank you.

Lisa Scott-Lee – I was licensed in the State of Wyoming, for the last five (5) years, moved here and attempting to get re-licensed here in Nevada. One thing we need to consider, especially in China they did a lot of studies regarding the people who tested positive for COVID-19. Twenty (20%) percent of those people showed no symptoms. Taking temperatures is not a proven thing in order to safeguard anything. We need to go into this, I am all for re-opening, getting back to work, making money and to assist the people, but we need to go into it, that we are possible carriers and that they (the clients) are also possible carriers instead of assuming that everyone is safe. We have to be careful. I do hope we can get back soon, but safely. Thank you.

Katherine Von Arx – I want to have the right to wear a face mask when I feel like its necessary, even if and when everything stabilizes and goes back to normal. Huge complaint that I have received for the last thirteen (13) years I have been doing this, is that people cough in my face and then lie to me and say they are not sick they just have allergies, when they are clearly sick. I have lost so much work, as I work on commission, I have lost a lot of work. I have lost paying on bills as people have gotten me sick and unable to work. My bosses at hotels on the Las Vegas strip tell us that we cannot wear them, because it makes guests feel uncomfortable and I am sure that is not going to be the case for now. But I would like some kind of rule or law that says I can choose to wear it despite what my boss says. I would like some extra protection. I also like the idea of using a ultraviolet light and constant ventilation. Thank you.

5. For discussion and possible action regarding emergency regulations developed by the Board in response to COVID-19. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Discussion was held regarding each section of the proposed regulation. Members of the public participating in the discussion were David Otto, Brandi Goodson, Sally Spurgeon, Silke Clarke, Laura Embleton, Chelsea Wethern, and Haley Millett.

Discussion was held including Board members, staff and stakeholders. All of the above provided constructive feedback regarding each section of the proposed regulatory changes to the Nevada Administrative Code, Chapter 640C.

6. For discussion and possible action regarding adoption of emergency regulations developed by the Board in response to COVID-19. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Elisabeth Barnard motioned to accept proposed emergency regulation as presented, seconded by Teresa Lopez. Motion carried unanimously.

7. For discussion and possible action regarding adoption of recommendations to be provided by the Board to the Local Empowerment Advisory Panel (LEAP) for the reopening of massage establishments statewide as part of the Nevada United Roadmap to Recovery. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Discussion was held regarding each section of the proposed regulation. Members of the public participating in the discussion were Dusty Dangerfield, Sonja Wagner, Stephanie Wilson, Pauline O'Connell, Brandy Demara, Lisa Marcosa, April Brown, David Otto, Laura Embleton,

Chelsea Wethern, Penny James, Leah Silverman, Stacey Fishburg, Jayne Hyduk and James Baylis.

Discussion was held including Board members, staff and stakeholders. All of the above provided constructive feedback regarding sanitation guidelines and recommendations.

Lorna Benedict motioned to accept sanitation guidelines and recommendations with changes, seconded by Teresa Lopez. Motion carried unanimously.

8. For discussion and possible action regarding adoption of waiving fees as set forth in proposed emergency regulations including the waiving of the \$25 per month late fee for licenses expiring through May 2021 or for a period of 12 months after the lifting of the state of emergency whichever is later. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Teresa Lopez motioned to accept waiving late fees through May 2021 for licenses, seconded Deirdre Strunk. Motion carried unanimously.

9. For discussion and possible action regarding adoption of a reduction in licensing fees as set forth in the proposed emergency regulations. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Discussion was held. No motion.

10. Report by the Chair (For Discussion)

Chair Diane Huleva expressed “Thank you to everyone. We have great Board members staff. I am very grateful for the team we have and to be included in this team. Thank you to the public for having the patience while we work through our first meeting online. Thank you to Sandy and Tereza for working several late nights, one that I was part of in order to get this agenda accomplished. Thank you to Tereza for guiding me through today’s meeting, I could not have done it without you. Again, it is a team effort, and we are not always going to like some of the answers, that the reality of life sometimes. I just want to say Thank you I truly appreciate you guys.”

11. Report by the Executive Director (For Discussion)

Executive Director, Sandy Anderson explained the most recent directive from Governor Sisolak is available and has been published. The directive will be listed on our website later today. She quoted the Directive, “Massage Parlors not to include massages for physical therapy or that are medically necessary as prescribed by a licensed health care provider.” So, massage parlors and spas are not permitted to operate as they are listed as non-essential function. If you have a prescription from a medical provider for services that you are rendering, you may practice. The Governor did include lymphatic drainage for cancer patients that are receiving prescribed massage. In order to enforce this newest directive, you must have a current prescription. Ensure those clients get that medical prescription in order to protect you from any kind of civil penalties from the municipalities that you practice in.

The Governor’s office has mandated that each Board work with them, in order to get on the list of able to practice. As such, I have been working with the Governor’s office and the LEAP team and our Board members, in order to try to compile these documents in order to present

to you today. We hired a consultant who has a master's degree in microbiology and a legal degree in order to assist us with these documents. We have used the resources that we had available in order to help all our licensees as well as the Board make good decisions today. The regulations discussed today, are the legal necessity for us to implement the recommendation(s). We cannot do things, if we do not have legal authority to do them. These emergency regulations are only good for 120 days. After 120 days, they expire. If at a later meeting, the Board should decide to incorporate these regulations into our existing NAC/NRS, we will need to complete the workshop process. Which many of you have helped us with in the past. The regulation document presented today has been approved by outside counsel as well as two (2) Deputy Attorney General's that we currently work with. It is a solid document that we would like to take to the Governor.

The second document for review today is the recommendations for going back into practice. The attached document is guidelines to re-open. If you see the word "shall" in the document, it means the Board has a law and you the licensee must follow the recommendation.

12. Discussion regarding recommended future agenda items. (For Discussion)

No discussion was held.

13. Public comment. (Discussion Only) Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under public comment until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting. The Board will not restrict comments based on viewpoint. The opportunity for public comment will be available at the beginning and ending of the meeting.

Deirdre Strunk – When a new Board member is appointed to the Board, that position is appointed by the Governor's office. It is not something from the Board or staff. It is an appointment by the Governor of Nevada.

Amy Lewis – I have an issue with having to pay for a license that I don't get to practice under. I am forced to shut down, which I am fine with. But then I think that we really need to find other ways to re-work the budget, so that therapists are not carrying the burden and not getting or bringing in income. So, it's fine to allow a license to expire, but I am not able to work. My license is due in June along with my state license and that is an additional \$745.00 when I am not bringing in any income because of the mandate or State of Emergency. I think it has become a tax instead of a license. I am being taxed extra without having the compensation and not being able to practice. Because what is a license? A license is so that I can work, and I am unable to work. I really think the Board needs to address this, I don't agree with what the comments were and the decision. I am just not really happy with that or satisfied.

Chelsea Wethern – Can the Board consider us to pay for a license for one year instead of the two-year term? In order to lessen the amount, since we are not getting any income.

Jayne Hyduk – See if the Board can review different payment options available. If you have like two thousand (2,000) licensees and if everyone was paying twenty dollars (\$20.00) of the two-hundred ninety-five dollars (\$295.00), that would provide forty-thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) of funds to the Board and if one thousand (1,000) licensees were on a payment plan for the first three (3) months of payment plan that would provide an extra sixty-thousand (\$60,000.00) to the Board. Different payment options might be something to look at.

Susan Szczygiel – Licensed massage therapist NVMT.1849 I have been practicing for twenty-seven (27) years for massage. Do we continue to send in our CEU's for our renewal? Do the CEU's have to be completed prior to June 30 in order to be submitted? I truly appreciate the work that you all have put into this. You can tell. I am very worried about people going back to work too soon and we do not know what this virus is capable of. If social distance of six (6) feet is still the rule, then how can massage be performed? I think this is the ideal time, to separate out massage. Massage for medical reasons and massage for relaxation or for non-essential practices. I really understand the financial burden for most therapists, so I understand the necessity to get back to work. There is absolutely no way you can perform a safe massage at this moment. There is no vaccine for it, not enough information about the virus and I think it would be very irresponsible. More people would be coming down with this. I am putting in my plea, that when the Governor opens up the facilities we may have to do a job in the interim until we can do the job we love again, that do not do this job as we may become sick, and die from it and until we know more information about the virus, what it does, how it reacts. It is just too unsafe to do massage. Thank you for listening.

Stacey Tommey – Do you have any idea of which phase the regular chain or independent contractors can begin massage we are expected to be in?

Denise Bolanos – NVMT.6185 I have been to a lot of the Board meetings, I do understand how tight the budget is, and how much savings we got out of the two-year license. I do know that the budgets dollars towards, continuing to have sufficient technology in order for us to produce those licenses, the sufficient funding to be able to provide inspections that we are going to desperately need now more than ever, those are all very important to me. Every dollar that I give to the massage board, I feel is vital to its operation. I know that those dollars are being used at their best and I appreciate that you guys are trying to give le-way to the therapists who are renewing during the crisis. But moving forward, I feel the quantity of funds that we contribute to our Board are nominal and necessary. Thank you.

David Otto – NVMT.103 I would like to get clarification: In regard to Roberts Rules, the discussion on reducing license fees for Item 9 was closed out without a motion. Because of possible action I thought a motion was called. If I understand correctly, that if no motion was made or it failed due to lack of a second motion, then it closed? I do not know what the implications of that are, but that is my comment. Don't put me in charge of money, I am so glad that I had someone at American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) during my time as President of the Nevada Chapter to handle the purse strings. Because I would spend every dime I could on the members. If the Board would entertain the idea of dipping into the reserves as to what they are there for, in a temporary state, then people would not have to not be working, not be paying for licenses renewal costs that could keep them in Nevada for many many years after. If we lose licensees even at twenty-five percent (25%) that ok, but at fifty percent (50%) is not ok. With the potential of a fifty percent (50%) capacity or losing fifty percent (50%) of the work force is not having a positive outlook. I hate not having a positive outlook on things.

I am looking at Las Vegas as a whole, as a major source of income for the Board and the licensees paying for the budget. I really hope maybe in some future meeting or discussion, that this is considered as I had thought what was reporting at the last meeting one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000.00) in reserves. I think is recoverable and sustain

enough, as can continue to get students licensed and attract therapists to the State of Nevada. They can continue to provide at least half of the people potentially lose all of this during the State of Emergency. To maintain that it is part fiscally responsible or outlook. I am going to renew when my license is due. In order to maintain the integrity of the license is super important. This topic is very hard for me to decide on. I hope that people will do the same, as Denise described there is a lot of money spent on making sure that we are separated from illicit massage businesses and I total support the safety of the public and all the things that have to be done on behalf of the Board and staff. And the wise decisions they always make. I just hope the discussion is considerable or is able to be considered in the near future regarding possible fall-out from a long-term pandemic.

Rachel Schlingheyde – Please consider those of us that have a small studio or one room studio versus the spas that have multiple rooms. As they have a lot more people visiting on a daily basis or waiting rooms. I am concerned about the lumping of the two businesses and how that might affect re-opening phases and the affects it has on sole proprietaries who are not getting the unemployment help. Many of us didn't get the Paycheck Protection Program (PPE) loan. Taking that into consideration. Thank you.

Ed Uehling – I find this very interesting. I am just an observer. I am not a licensed practitioner. It is very interesting to see how the State is preventing all these people from working, yet the State is expecting them to pay. That is absolutely incredible. This agency in particular, refuses to take any action to somehow lower their budget. The state has declared these people cannot earn a penny, yet the public employees are being paid their salaries by the State, they are collecting their full salaries and they are not giving up a penny. Typical government, very alarming in this situation. Not steal from people that are not permitted to work while expecting them to pay taxes on top of that. It's unbelievable. Well it's not all unbelievable, but all governments operate this way all over the world throughout history. They think that they are much more important than the people doing the work, actually paying for things and having all these regulations put on top of them. Total contradiction of what this country was intended for and to be about.

Angel Hammering – With In-balance Medical Massage. First of all, Thank the Board for today's meeting. You guys have done a great job. There has been a lot of information to deal with. I cannot even imagine what you guys are going through. I also want to send a special Thank you to Sandy. She has been in direct contact for me with any of my questions or issues that I have, specific with my office. She has been very helpful and understanding with our situation. I wanted to mention to everyone here, I personally went to a Board meeting last year and I believe there was only two (2) therapists, maybe three (3) that actually attended the Board meeting. Maybe in the future, may consider Zoom meetings again. Only because of the response that you had was unbelievable and in order to get more therapists involved with what's going on. Maybe this is a viable option to get more therapists involved with meetings and with understand of all aspects of the Board, what is involved, process, items to do along with more attendees. If more were involved, things that massage therapists want done like separating medical massage versus spas, being recognized, for all the good things we are trying to get now, if more were involved. Then maybe we can make that happen, but more have to be involved. It cannot be just the Board. If licensed therapists were involved, if a Zoom meeting is the way more people to join in, speak and to have their voices heard, then this could be one way to consider holding a meeting in the future. Thank you so much.

Ryan Witholt – I want to re-iterate what Ms. Hammering said. Thank you, guys, for your hard work, I know I had a lot of questions going into this meeting, I feel the documents that were created have been very helpful. It makes me feel, that the dues that I pay for a license renewal are well spent. This is my first interaction with the Board in this fashion, I have never been to a meeting before. But I think it would be an awesome thing to extend and make available or future as it provides so much more access and to be a part of the process. As well as to educate myself on the government level. Thank you.

Mkali Carole D - In the event people do not have insurance, how can that client or the therapists obtain a letter of “proof of wellness” from doctor in order to get massage? Is there access for client to obtain for a discount?

Robin Graber – Thank you guys. I sat in on this whole meeting. You guys did an amazing job. Unprecedented. Thank you so much.

Diane Huleva – With regards to Item 9. Sometimes, when we have to make hard decisions, this does not mean this is forever. This could end up on our next Board meeting, the next Board meeting after that, next Board meeting after that. It just means, for right now, that is the best decision we feel, right now at this time. Our next meeting is June 10, 2020.

Teresa Lopez – I am not sure if everyone is aware, but I did test positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19). I have fought the virus successfully, and now am a survivor. I wanted to say, that when I tested positive in the emergency room (ER), I did not have a fever. The ER nurse took my temperature, still no fever and tested positive. I want to make that clear to the people still listening and want to notify the massage community. I know there is some pushback on some of these recommendations even on how to keep things clean and keep yourself safe. I am here to tell you, that you do not want to contract this virus. It was the hardest thing to get through. Emotionally knowing you have something that is killing thousands of people, and physically. Both my husband and I fought it successfully. I sincerely implore every single person in this meeting whenever and however the Governor lets us go back to massage and I hope massage is not opened before it is safe to do so. I am telling you; you do not want this virus.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Teresa Lopez motioned to adjourn; April Whiting seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Notices:

Items may be combined for consideration by the board. Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. Public comment will be taken at the beginning and at the end of the meeting. Regarding public comment no vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this agenda item until the matter itself has been specifically included on a future agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020). The Chair may allow comment on individual agenda items at her discretion. Please limit public comments to 3 minutes.

The Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy may address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Board or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting. Interested persons may present oral comments at the time of the meeting. Written comments may be sent via email to sjanderson@lmt.nv.gov, facsimile to 775.786.4264, or mailed to NSBMT 1755 E. Plumb Lane, Suite 252, Reno, NV 89502 by 4:00 p.m. Thursday, May 7, 2020. Supporting materials are available at http://massagetherapy.nv.gov/About/Board_Meetings/Meetings/ or by contacting Sandy Anderson, Executive Director via email: sjanderson@lmt.nv.gov.

Persons/facilities who want to be on the mailing list must submit a written request every six months to the Board. We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Sandy Anderson at 775.687.9951 or sjanderson@lmt.nv.gov no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting.

In accordance with NRS 241.020 and the Governor’s Emergency Directive addressing open meeting law, this public notice and agenda was posted on or before May 5, 2020, at the following locations:

http://massagetherapy.nv.gov/About/Board_Meetings/Meetings/
<https://notice.nv.gov>