

**LOUISIANA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
FEBRUARY 18, 2011
OPEN BOARD MEETING
12022 PLANK ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70811**

This meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Mary Donker-Syvertsen.

Present were Tina Elwood, Mary Donker-Syvertsen, Suzanne Schwing, Julianne Menn, Faith Miller, Pam Little and Donna Laseter. Billy Belsom, Dennis Maciasz, Leslie Hill, Rhonda McManus, and Jack Miller, as well as representatives of the public were also present.

Ms. Elwood moved and Ms. Miller seconded the motion to pass the November 12, 2010 minutes as they stand. All approved.

Ms. McManus, Executive Director reported 43% of licensed massage therapist renewals occurred online. There were 2549 renewals. A Firefly for database website meeting will occur to make necessary modifications or corrections to the process, and phase 2 is beginning so that all paper data can be converted onto a computer base. Ms. McManus will interview to hire a full time LBMT administrative staff position in the coming weeks. Ms. McManus' work to become completely current and in compliance with the IRS is ongoing. Invoices have been received for 2004, 2005, and 2006 tax and small penalties. The IRS continues to audit the LBMT records (back to 2004), and will soon assign a case manager as a contact to aid in resolving the penalties. Last, Board members will be given website access Board Packages for May meeting.

Mr. Maciasz presented the current LBMT balance sheet and the proposed 2011-2012 Budget in detail. Board members clarified questions. Ms. Menn moved and Ms. Little seconded the motion to adopt the budget. All approved.

The Chair called for initiation of Executive Session. Ms. Little moved and Ms. Menn seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss two lawsuits at 10:33 am. All approved.

Ms. Menn motioned and Ms. Laseter seconded the motion to close Executive Session and take a small break before resuming Open Meeting. All approved.

Open Meeting resumed with the Chair calling to order at 11:10 am. In keeping with legislative compliance Board Offices were re-elected.

Ms. Schwing nominated and Ms. Laseter seconded the nomination for Ms. Elwood to hold the office of Treasurer. She accepted after consensus vote.

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Ms. Elwood nominated and Ms. Schwing seconded the nomination for Ms. Menn to hold the office of Secretary. She accepted after consensus vote.

Ms. Elwood nominated and Ms. Miller seconded the nomination of Ms. Schwing to hold the office of Vice Chair. She accepted after consensus vote.

Ms. Elwood nominated and Ms. Schwing seconded the nomination of Ms. Donker-Syvertsen to hold the office of Chair. She accepted after consensus vote.

Ms. Menn nominated and Ms. Elwood seconded the nomination of Ms. Schwing to hold the office of Chief Investigative Officer. She accepted after consensus vote.

Ms. Donker-Syvertsen opened the floor for discussion of a new committee for Rules and Standards re-legislation. The Chair appointed Faith Miller (AOBTA selected, business owner, non-LMT), Pam Little (represents the Northern part of LA, prior other Board experience), and Rhonda McManus, Executive Director to serve with her in updating the Rules and Standards. All proposed revisions will be posted in advance of presentation to the legislature according to the requirements of the LA Administrative Procedures Act. Meetings will be open to the public and follow LA Open Meetings Law requirements. Other Board members asked if they could participate. The Board attorney, Mr. Belsom, will investigate correct procedure to avoid a meeting by the Board as a quorum. The probable time frame is for 2012 legislative session.

Ms. Little motioned, and Ms. Miller seconded the motion to end the LBMT meeting 11:32 am. All approved.