# Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy

# Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2013

1. Call to order

Dr. Tim Hobbs called to order the regular meeting of the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy at 10:10 am on 2-22-2013 in Baton Rouge.

1. Roll call

Dr. Tim Hobbs conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

* Dr. Tim Hobbs – Chair
* Francis Johnson-Secretary
* Suzanne Schwing -CIO
* Mary Donker Syvertsen- Member
* Faith Miller-Treasurer
* Donna Laseter- Member
* Attorneys
* Board Staff
* Public

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Mary Donker Syvertsen motioned to approve minutes from Nov. 16, 2012

Donna Laseter 2nd the motion

All approved

1. Treasurer Report—Faith Miller

July-Dec 2012

Assets………………$413,336.54

Liability……………$91,261.11

Income……………..$257,220.25

Expenses……………$183,324.67

**NET INCOME……..$84,614.41**

Mary Donker Syvertsen motioned to approve report

Francis Johnson 2nd the motion

All approved

**V. Executive Director Report**

1. About 400 paper applications received after first of the year
2. Approximately 2100 applications to process – online & paper
3. New license design is out along with new LMT cards
4. New renewal season is March 31 of each year
5. Late fees will start April 1st – No late fees were charged from 01/01/2013 – 03/31/2013 due to the change in the renewal date

**VI. Old Business**

1. Office Relocation

* Cost $4,662
* Working w/Lessor on building signage
* Entergy deposit reimbursement $2100

2. Rules Update

* Rules are at the Legislative Fiscal Office
* The next deadline to be met is March 10th at the Office of the State Register by noon
* If the above deadline is met, it will be published March 20th

**VII. New Business**

**1**. Felony Concerns: Referenced Practice Act 3556 and 3563

In previous discussions, the board gave approval for the CIO to make an initial evaluation of felony convictions on renewals or applications and if it was one the CIO felt obviously didn’t effect or have impact on the practice of massage therapy that the CIO could make a decision to let that renewal or application go through without having a formal hearing before the board. The CIO would then give the board a periodic report of which ones were approved and what the felonies were.

* Faith Miller motioned to allow the CIO the screening process for renewals and felonies that show up under 5 years to go through the same screening process that we approved previously for applications.

Mary Donker Syvertsen 2nd the motion

* Faith Miller also added the same procedure should be followed whether it has or has not been 5 years since conviction

ALL APPROVED

**2**. Out of state applications:

* Suzanne Schwing motioned to empower staff to review/approve applications according to what the law states for out of state applications otherwise it has to go before the board
* Mary Donker Syvertsen 2nd the motion
* All approved

**3.** National Exams

* Rhonda McManus: Mblex needs a separate application from the board to retake

Mary Donker Syvertsen motioned to take a 30 minute break @ 11:00 am

Faith Miller 2nd the motion

All Approved

**Dr. Tim Hobbs called meeting to order at 11:35 am**

**4.** Aspects of Practice Act

* Louisiana Institute of Massage Therapy hours reported on the transcripts do not comply with hours required in the law
* 325 hours dedicated to the study of massage therapy techniques and clinical practicum-related modalities (LA Law)
* 335 hours including hydro and spa (LIMT)
* Suzanne Schwing motioned to reaffirm stance on license within the law and rules and regulations
* Mary Donker Syvertsen 2nd the motion
* All approved
* Faith Miller Abstained

**5**. Faith Miller motioned to amend the agenda to go into executive session at the end of the meeting. Suzanne Schwing 2nd the motion.

All approved

**VII. Continuing Education Programs**

**1.** Community member expressed feelings about online vs. hands on CE classes.

* He said there needed to be less online and home study courses

2. Suzanne Schwing motioned to further define the 12 continuing education hours required in the state of Louisiana in balancing online education with classroom requirements.

Faith Miller 2nd the motion

None approved

In discussion, Dr. Tim Hobbs also suggested to put quality assurance for CE programs and asked that Continuing Education be put as an agenda item for the next meeting.

**VIII. Officer elections**

* Suzanne Schwing nominated Mary Donker Syvertsen for Chair. All approved
* Faith Miller nominated Dr. Tim Hobbs for Vice Chair. All approved
* Mary Donker Syvertsen nominated Faith Miller for Treasurer. All approved
* Suzanne Schwing nominated Francis Johnson for Secretary. All approved
* Faith Miller nominated Suzanne Schwing for Chief Investigative Officer.

All approved

* Mary Donker Syvertsen nominated Donna Laseter for Ad hoc. All approved

Mary Donker Syvertsen motioned to modify agenda for public comment prior to executive session

Suzanne Schwing 2nd the motion

All approved

Mary Donker Syvertsen motioned to go into executive session at 1:10 pm

Faith Miller 2nd the motion

Mary Donker Syvertsen motioned to come out of executive session at 1:49 pm

Faith Miller 2nd the motion

Mary Donker Syvertsen motioned to adjourn meeting at 1:50 pm

Faith Miller 2nd the motion

All approved