

Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor



# Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy

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## Open Session Minutes Meeting of the Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy

Monday, January 23, 2023  
Held via videoconferencing

### Board Members

Angela M. Reiter, LMT, BC – Chair  
Myriah Mhoon – Vice-Chair  
Bailey S. DeRoest  
Michael K. Tapscott, LMT  
Vacant, Public Member

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Reiter called the Board's meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

The following Board members participated in the virtual meeting: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.

### **ALSO PRESENT**

The following Board staff and Assistant Attorney(s) General participated in the virtual meeting: Executive Director Tom Aughterton, Investigator David Elson, Licensing Specialist Paul Schuldt and Licensing Administrator Tony Wilcox. Assistant Attorney General ("AAG") Seamus Monaghan participated in the virtual meeting. AAG Marc Harris participated in the virtual meeting to provide the Board with independent legal advice on the hearing matter(s) as indicated herein.

### **III. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Michelle Cordero, Education Director, ASIF Massage Education, addressed the Board during the Call to the Public regarding concerns relating to the Board's licensing and license application processes.

### **IV. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – A.R.S. § 38-503**

None.

### **V. SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATE BOARD MEMBER DISCLOSURE FORMS; STATE BOARD STAFF; A.R.S. § 38-501-to-511**

**VI. ANNUAL ELECTION OF STATE BOARD OFFICERS**

**MOTION:** Mr. Tapscott nominated Chairwoman Reiter for Board Chair.

**SECOND:** Ms. DeRoest

**VOTE:** The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.

**VOTE:** 4-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

**MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Tapscott nominated Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon for Board Vice-Chair.

**SECOND:** Chairwoman Reiter

**VOTE:** The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.

**VOTE:** 4-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

**MOTION PASSED.**

**VII. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

- A. Discussion and approval of the Massage Board Open Minutes from October 31, 2022, November 28, 2022, and December 19, 2022.

**MOTION:** Chairwoman Reiter moved for the Board to approve the Open Minutes from October 31, 2022, November 28, 2022, and December 19, 2022.

**SECOND:** Ms. DeRoest

**VOTE:** The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.

**VOTE:** 4-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

**MOTION PASSED.**

**VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT**

- A. Industry Issues Briefing by Mr. Kevin Snedden, Director of Industry Relations, Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards; Q & A from Board Members

**IX. ITEMS FOR BOARD REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- A. **Formal Interview(s)**

Vacant.

- B. **Formal Hearing(s)**

Vacant.

- C. **Investigative Review(s)** – *to include possible cease and desist order and/or referral to local law enforcement.*

- (1) 22-285 Christopher Esteen LMT #24771

**MOTION:** Chairwoman Reiter moved for the Board to continue this matter until such time that more information becomes available to the Board.

**SECOND:** Ms. DeRoest

**VOTE:** The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.

**VOTE: 4-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.  
MOTION PASSED.**

**D. License Application(s) Requiring Board Review**

**MOTION: Chairwoman Reiter moved for the Board to enter into Executive Session to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).**

**SECOND: Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon**

**VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.**

**VOTE: 4-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:58 a.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 10:16 a.m.

No legal action was taken by the Board during Executive Session.

(1) 22-230 Anna Hwang

**MOTION: Ms. DeRoest moved for the Board to continue this matter and invite Ms. Hwang to appear before the Board at its next regular meeting.**

**SECOND: Chairwoman Reiter**

**VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.**

**VOTE: 4-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

(2) 22-286 Liping Huo

**MOTION: Chairwoman Reiter moved for the Board to deny the license based on the information presented as well as the findings of fact and statutory/rule violations identified in the investigative report, A.R.S. § 32-4253(A)(2), for providing false information on the license application.**

**SECOND: Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon**

**VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.**

**VOTE: 4-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

(3) 23-002A Bei Wang

(4) 23-003A Muan Buchanan

(5) 23-004A Sixia Lu

(6) 23-005A Regui Yin

(7) 23-006A Jie Yu

(8) 23-007A Le Zhang

(9) 23-008A Yanhua Chen

(10) 23-10A Jiao Lin

**MOTION: Chairwoman Reiter moved for the Board to postpone item numbers (3) – (10) to its next regular meeting to allow Board staff an opportunity to further research**

**the concerns raised regarding voluntary certification in California vs Arizona's licensure by reciprocity.**

**SECOND: Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon**

**VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Reiter, Vice-Chairwoman Mhoon, Ms. DeRoest and Mr. Tapscott.**

**VOTE: 4-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

**X. BOARD INVESTIGATOR REPORT**

- A. Board review, discussion and possible action on the monthly investigative activity report by State Board Investigator David Elson, detailing the current status of submitted administrative case investigations.

**XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT; BOARD REVIEW, DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE INSTRUCTION TO STAFF.**

- A. Update on Auditor General sunset performance audit of Board and January 11, 2023 Joint Committee of Reference hearing on Audit findings; January 31, 2023 deadline for six-month Board compliance report.
- B. Status of Level-One Statutorily-Required DPS Fingerprint cards for Arizona LMTs; Chapter Law 281, 2022 (HB 2438)
- C. Status of this legislative session's HB 2172 massage therapy; communication proficiency; repeal, by Rep. Jennifer Longdon (D-24-Phoenix), rescinding A.R.S. § 32-4222
- D. Conversion of State Board licensing database; Thentia report
- E. Update on State Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request to OSPB and Governor's Budget request package to Legislature.

**XII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MASSAGE BOARD AGENDAS**

- Board review of licensing applications and possible updates.
- General discussion regarding transition of license expiration dates from birthdate to date the license is issued.
- Discussion relating to applicants who receive a confirmation that their application was successfully submitted with follow up notification that information was missing.
- Voluntary certification in California vs licensure by reciprocity in Arizona.
- Solicit presentation from Arizona educator to present to the Board regarding how the Board can be more engaged in responding to human trafficking.

The next Board meeting date:

Monday, February 27, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.; to be held via videoconference.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board's meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.