



Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards

**Annual Meeting
October 8-9, 2010
San Juan, Puerto Rico**

Board of Directors

Kevin Snedden, *President*
Kathy Jensen, *Vice President*
Susan Beam, *Treasurer*
Dennis Beye
Jane Johnson
Scott Miller

Present

Debra Persinger, *Executive Director*
Sally Hacking, *Director of Government Relations*
Jeanette Sieradski, *Examination Coordinator*
Dale Atkinson, *General Counsel*

Member Delegates

AL – Lance Gilliland
AR – Marilyn Graham
AZ – Susan Pomfret
CA – Beverly May
DC – Laura Casperson
FL – Karen Ford
GA – Kathy Lescak
IA – Mary Belieu
IN – Tasha Coleman
KY – Theresa Crisler
MI – Amy Allen
MO – Kevin Snedden
MS – Charlene Russell
MT – Deborah Kimmet
NC – Jaime Huffman
ND – Yolanda Karas
NH – Kevin Clark
NV – Billie Shea
OH – Richard Whitehouse
OR – Kathy Calise
PA – Robert Jantsch
PR – Gregorio Diaz
SD – Joyce Vos
TN – Chris Sluss
TX – Yvonne Feinleib
USVI – Deborah Peters
WV – Joan Wysong

WI – Hector Colon

WV – Linda Lyter, *nominating committee, chair*

MS – Connie Shanks Knight, *nominating committee*

Friday October 8, 2010

Call to Order

Snedden welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 8:55 AM ET.

Snedden facilitated the Delegate roll call and confirmed that a quorum was established.

Delegate Roll Call

To approve the agenda.

MOTION

Made by: Belieu, IA
Seconded: Lescak, GA
Vote: Motion carries.

Snedden introduced the FSMTB Board of Directors and noted that Phyllis Salyers was absent due to illness.

President's Welcome

Snedden introduced invited guests.

Snedden reported on membership status, governance activities, policy development, meetings attended, the massage therapy body of knowledge project and MBLEx growth, noting the FSMTB mission statement.

Snedden announced that the loan granted to start up the FSMTB has been paid in full, 27 months early. Bob Benson, instrumental in granting the loan to FSMTB spoke to the solid financial accomplishments of the FSMTB and offered congratulations to the Federation.

Snedden concluded by acknowledging the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA), Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP) and the Alliance for Massage Therapy Educators (AFMTE) for their support of the MBLEx as the exclusive examination appropriate for licensure.

Beam provided an overview of major income sources and expenses over the past year. Beam noted the addition of staff and new office space in 2010. Beam thanked the volunteers who serve on the Finance Committee.

Treasurer's Report

Beye introduced the proposed changes to the bylaws.

Bylaws

Speakers from professional associations were introduced who provided information to attendees about their respective organizations as it pertains to the FSMTB and the regulatory community in general. Representatives were Jean Robinson, Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals and Bill Brown, American Massage Therapy Association

Professional Association Reports

Sally Hacking, director of government relations for the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards provided a report of regulatory activities and related services offered by the FSMTB.

Miller invited Delegates to comment on achievements and challenges the Boards are facing, to help identify how FSMTB can best serve members. Topics identified included verification of education, examination issues, overlapping scopes of practice, human trafficking, unlicensed practice, enforcement challenges, fraud, regulating massage establishments, continuing education, background checks, school closings, and budgetary constraints.

**Delegate
Reports**

Linday Lyter, chair of the nominating committee presented the following slate of candidates and allowed each candidate to speak to the delegate assembly:

**Slate of
Candidates**

Audra Findley, AR

Kathy Jensen, IA

Susan Pomfret, AZ

Phyllis Salyers, TN (represented in absentia by Christopher Sluss, TN)

Billie Shea, NV

Lyter called for nominations from the floor. No further nominations were forthcoming. Lyter closed the floor to nominations and provided confirmation of three open positions, each serving two-year terms.

Snedden confirmed ballot information that the newly proposed bylaws changes do not impact the current elections.

Dale Atkinson, FSMTB legal counsel and executive director of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) provided information on a variety of issues pertaining to regulatory boards.

**Board
Member
Training**

Topics included coverage of recent regulatory cases, public protection mandate, role of FSMTB, role of state board members, licensure, disciplinary action, statutes, rules and regulations, legislation, and continuing competence.

Atkinson responded to questions from Delegates.

Meeting recessed at 4:29 PM ET.

**Meeting
Recessed
Meeting
Reconvened**

Saturday, October 9, 2010

Meeting reconvened at 8:52 AM ET.

To amend the agenda to address voting issues of the elections and bylaws amendments first to ensure participation and accommodate people needing to leave early.

MOTION

Made by Lescak

Seconded by Belieu

Vote Motion adopted.

Discussion ensued and prior to voting Jantsch suggested revising the motion to specify voting on the elections and bylaws amendments. Kimmert requested clarification that voting does not take place immediately.

Snedden opened the floor to discuss Article V, Section 5 proposed bylaws changes that would not permit nominations from the floor.

Bylaws

To accept the bylaw change as presented.

MOTION

Made by Jantsch
Seconded by Sluss
Vote Motion adopted.

Snedden opened the floor to discuss Article VI, Section 6 proposed bylaw change that extends terms from two to three years.

To accept the bylaw change as presented.

MOTION

Made by Sluss
Seconded by Jantsch
Vote Motion adopted.

Candidates on the election slate addressed the Delegate Assembly for a repeat presentation.

Elections

Snedden conveyed voting instructions and Delegates cast written votes.

Denise Hanley, President of Professional Credential Services provided information about the MBLEx School Performance Database and responded to questions.

**MBLEx
School
Performance
Database**

Snedden announced election results.
Those elected to serve on the FSMTB Board of Directors are:
Kathy Jensen, IA
Phyllis Salyers, TN
Billie Shea, NV

**Election
Results**

Snedden opened the floor for nominations to serve on the Nominating Committee.

**Nominating
Committee
Elections**

Feinleib nominates Christopher Sluss, TN
Wysong nominates Linda Lyter, WV
Lescak nominates Mary Belieu, IA
Shea nominates Susan Pomfretz, AZ
Shanks Knight nominates Stephanie Manriquez, OR
Whitehouse nominates Jaime Huffman, NC
Tasha Coleman, IN nominates self
Belieu nominates Kathy Lescak, GA

Huffman and Pomfretz declined nomination.

Candidates address the Delegate Assembly.

Snedden provided voting instructions.

Jane Johnson provided information about implementing the development of the Model Practice Act.

**Model
Practice Act**

Tasha Coleman provided information gave a presentation about digital verification of regulated professionals in Indiana.

**Digital
Certification**

Whitney Lowe and Jan Schwartz joined the meeting by teleconference and provided information about latest trends regarding distance education.

**Distance
Education**

Snedden announced election results.

**Nominating
Committee
Election
Results**

Those elected to serve on the FSMTB Nominating Committee are:
Linda Lyter, WV.

Lyter was the only individual who received a majority vote. A second round of votes was cast.

Debra Persinger provided an overview and update of issues pertaining to the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx). Topics covered included the job task analysis for the massage & bodywork profession; licensure compared to certification and key differentiators between MBLEx and certification exams; FSMTB use of best practices; quality assurance and professional endorsement; statistical evidence for commonality of core competencies for massage and bodywork; expeditious processing; exam delivery and security; supporting materials and services for candidates, candidate volume and performance; and ADA accommodations. Persinger also highlighted that the MBLEx is the only exam that was designed specifically to meet the needs of the regulatory community and is owned and controlled by the member boards. The MBLEx is the *only* examination that is supported by the two major professional organizations – American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) and Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP), and the Alliance for Massage Therapy Educators (AFMTE) as the exclusive examination of choice for licensure in this profession. Furthermore, the FSMTB is the only professional organization obligated to provide information and services and to operate in the best interests of the state licensing boards and agencies.

MBLEx

Persinger responded to questions.

Snedden announced election results.

Those additional members elected to serve on the FSMTB Nominating Committee as a result of a second round of elections are:

Kathy Lescak, GA

Christopher Sluss, TN

**Nominating
Committee
Election
Results**

Kevin Snedden presented information on practices to address fraud in Missouri.

**Fraudulent
Documents**

Ahmos Netanel presented information on practices to address fraud in California.

and Schools

That the FSMTB form a Task Force to investigate a way to form a database that allows boards to make sure documentation is coming from a valid school.

MOTION

Made by Jantsch
Seconded by Ford
Vote Motion adopted.

Yvonne Feinleib presented information on practices to address fraud in Texas.

Discussion ensued in open forum. Topics covered included continuing education, special event/chair massage, definition of massage and soft tissue manifestations, unlicensed practice, and examination policies.

**Delegate
Open Forum**

The 2010 FSMTB Annual Meeting will be held in Los Angeles, CA

**2010 Meeting
Location
FSMTB
Anniversary**

Snedden led a celebration to acknowledge the five-year anniversary of the FSMTB.

Snedden adjourned the meeting at 4:53 PM ET.

Adjournment