

South Carolina Board of Massage Therapy Meeting
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 10:00am
110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Upstate Conference Room
Columbia, SC 29210

1. Meeting Called to Order

Janet Shaw, Chairperson called the meeting of the South Carolina Massage Therapy Board to order at 10:01 a.m. A quorum noted as present.

Board Members Present:

Janet Shaw- Chairperson
Gloria Smith- Vice Chairperson
Adam Broxton
Alicia Roberts
Bailey Maddox
Nina Spinelli
Jessica Jones

SCDLLR Staff Present:

Matalie Mickens - Board Executive
Otis Richardson- Administrative Coordinator
Mary League, Esq.-OAC
Alexis Bell, Esq.- Disciplinary Counsel, ODC
Jennifer Stillwell- Assistant Deputy Director, OIE
Robby Dean- Program Manager, OIE
Renee Young- Lead Investigator, OIE
Kirsten Mobley- Investigator, OIE
Tori Smith- Investigator, OIE
Robbin Barr- Paralegal, ODC

Members of the Public:

Robin Reibold - Court Reporter
Scott Hayes, Esq.
Jennet Zou
Marlin Phillips
Tessa Shelby-Houston – Carolina School of Massage
Mei Li Trapasso- Carolina School of Massage

A. Public Notice

Ms. Shaw announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC Board of Massage Therapy office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Shaw called for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION: Ms. Smith made the motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Maddox seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. Introduction of Board Members and all Other Persons Attending

The Board members and all persons attending introduced themselves. Ms. Shaw introduced Ms. Jessica Jones as a newly appointed board member.

4. Approval of Excused Absences

All present

5. Approval of February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Ms. Maddox made a motion to accept the February 5, 2026 meeting minutes with a correction in Item 1 from “Commission” to “Board”. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberts, which carried unanimously.

6. Chairperson’s Remarks

Ms. Shaw thanked everyone for coming.

7. Staff Reports

A. Board Executive Report-Matalie Mickens

Ms. Mickens informed the Board that the cash balance on April 30, 2026 was \$89,447.05. Board members questioned the significantly lower balance, and were asked to submit questions that the Board Executive would forward to Finance for response.

Licensing Report

Ms. Mickens presented the reports of the licensee totals.

B. Inspection and Citation Report – (OIE Inspector) Jennifer Stillwell

Ms. Stillwell presented the Inspection Report as information only. The Citation Report was presented for approval.

MOTION: Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the citation report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Maddox, which carried unanimously.

C. Office of Investigation and Enforcement (OIE) Report – (OIE Investigator) Renee Young

Ms. Young presented the OIE report as information only.

D. Office of Investigation and Enforcement (IRC) Report – (OIE Investigator) Renee Young

Ms. Young presented the IRC report for approval.

MOTION: Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the IRC report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberts, which carried unanimously.

E. Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report (ODC) – Matalie Mickens

Ms. Bell presented the ODC Report as information only. Ms. Bell advised there are 16 open cases, 11 of which are pending a disciplinary hearing or agreement. Since January 1, 2026, ODC has closed 14 cases prior to the previous Board meeting. There are no appeals pending. The Board accepted this report as information.

8. Discussion and Vote

The Board discussed the changes in the scoring scale for the TOEFL, and the new TOEFL scoring system equivalences to the prior system.

MOTION: Ms. Spinelli made a motion for the Board to adopt these minimums required TOEFL scores under the new scoring system of Band 4 for speaking, Band 4.5 for listening, and Band 4 for overall score. Ms. Smith seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

9. Application Hearing

a. Jennet Xiuqin Zou

The applicant sought initial licensure in South Carolina. Ms. Zou was represented by Scott Hayes, Esq. Ms. Zou was sworn in, testified, and responded to questions from the Board.

MOTION: Ms. Smith made a motion to go into executive session for legal counsel. The motion was seconded by Mr. Broxton, which carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Ms. Smith made a motion to exit executive session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Broxton, which carried unanimously. No votes were taken.

MOTION: Ms. Smith made a motion to deny the application. The motion was seconded by Ms. Maddox, which carried unanimously.

10. Disciplinary Hearing

b. Case No.: 2024-1 – Tao Spa

The Respondent did not appear, and the State moved forward in its absence, presenting evidence and testimony to support the violations alleged in the Formal Complaint.

MOTION: Ms. Spinelli made a motion to go into executive session for legal counsel. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberts, which carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Ms. Spinelli made a motion to exit executive session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberts, which carried unanimously. No votes were taken.

MOTION: Ms. Smith made a motion to permanently revoke the license. The motion was seconded by Ms. Maddox, which carried unanimously.

11. Discussion

Ms. Mickens informed the Board that there were individuals who had their MBLEX scores from FSMTB invalidated, and explained what happens in the event of FSMTB score invalidation.

12. Travel Approval

a. FSMTB Annual Meeting- Las Vegas, NV- October 21-23,2026

MOTION: Ms. Spinelli made a motion to appoint Ms. Shaw as delegate. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roberts, which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Spinelli made a motion to nominate Ms. Maddox as alternate delegate. The motion was seconded by Ms. Smith, which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Spinelli made a motion to approve Ms. Jones, Ms. Spinelli, Ms. Smith, Ms. Roberts, the Board executive and advice counsel to attend the FSMTB annual meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Smith, which carried unanimously.

13. Public Comments

Mei Li Trapasso of Carolina School of Massage made public comments.

14. Adjournment

Ms. Shaw called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Spinelli seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Ms. Shaw adjourned the **May 28, 2026** meeting of the South Carolina Board of Massage Therapy at 1:19 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held **August 7, 2026**.