

**South Carolina Massage/Bodywork Therapy Panel
Meeting
10:00 a.m., May 22, 2015
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 108
Columbia, South Carolina 29211**

Meeting Called to Order

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Massage/Bodywork Panel 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.

Pledge of Allegiance

Rules of the Meeting Read by the Chairman

Introduction of Board Members:

Janet Shaw, Vice Chairperson, called the regular meeting of the Massage/Bodywork Panel meeting to order. Other Panel members for the meeting included, Anthony Ruggiero, and Jenny Mitchell (by phone).

Staff Members Participating in the Meeting:

Georgia Lewis, Advice Counsel; Rosalind Bailey-Glover, Program Coordinator; Matteah Taylor, Administrative Coordinator; Sharon Wolfe, OIE, Megan Flannery, ODC; and Court Reporter

All Other Persons Attending:

Isabella Schnittger, William Vetter, Karl Bailey, Julie Rehoric, John Pettit, Judy Pettit, Patricia Newman, Debbie Banker, Linda Gaskin-Drechesler, and Lane Goodwin.

Approval of Excused Absences: Carolyn Porter and Denise Van Nostran

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve the absences of Carolyn Porter and Denise Van Nostran. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes: December 12, 2014

MOTION:

Jenny Mitchell made a motion to accept the minutes from December 12, 2014. Anthony Ruggiero seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Approval of the Agenda:

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve the agenda. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks – Janet Shaw:

Ms. Shaw asked for patience of the audience because she was acting chair and has only chaired a panel meeting one other time.

Administrator Remarks – Rosalind Bailey-Glover:

Budget – January – April 2015

The Panel accepted the budget as information.

IRC Report – Sharon Wolfe

The Investigative Review Committee met February 12, 2015 and May 8, 2015. As of February 12, 2015 there were 6 cases heard. Out of the 6 cases, 5 cases were recommended for dismissal, 1 case were recommended for dismissal with a cease and desist. As for the May 8, 2015 report there was 2 cases heard those 2 cases were recommended for dismissal.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to accept the IRC report from February 12, 2015. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to accept the IRC report from May 8, 2015. Jenny Mitchell seconded the emotion which carried unanimously.

OIE Report – Sharon Wolfe

The OIE report is an overview of the cases from January 1, 2015 through February 12, 2015. There were a total of 11 cases during this timeframe. Out of those 11 cases, there were no active investigations, 1 case was do not open, 1 case was opened, 6 cases were pending board action, and 3 cases were pending criminal court action. During the same timeframe there were a total of 7 cases closed.

ODC Report – Megan Flannery

As of May 12, 2015 there were 3 opened cases, 2 pending action cases, 1 pending hearing, and 1 case was closed as of December 1, 2014.

New Business

Review for Consideration of Continuing Education Provider

Julie Rehoric

Julie Rehoric appeared before the Panel seeking approval to provide continuing education. The discussion included but was not limited to explanation pertaining to teaching continuing education classes. Ms. Rehoric has an Associate's degree but she does not meet the requirements of South Carolina Code of Regulation Chapter §77-120 to teach ethics. Ms. Rehoric stated she has been a nurse for over 30 years. It was explained that she has conducted some research and found out that an Associate's degree is needed to teach the A & P component and hold a

Massage Therapy license for three years to teach Massage Therapy. Ms. Rehoric would like to incorporate certain ethical statements while teaching the continuing education classes.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to enter into executive session for legal advice. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to come back to regular session. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

During executive session no motions made and no votes were taken.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve Julie Rehoric to teach continuing education based on her experience which exceeds the written requirements. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Patricia Newman

Patricia Newman appeared before the Panel seeking approval to provide continuing education. The discussion included but was not limited to explanation pertaining to Reiki continuing education classes. Ms. Newman explained she's been teaching Reiki, levels one and two since the fall of 2013 at Trident Technical College. Ms. Newman does not have a Massage Therapy license.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to enter into executive session for legal advice. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to come back to regular session. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

During executive session no motions made and no votes were taken.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve Patricia Newman to teach Reiki continuing education classes based on her experience. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Review for Consideration of Endorsement

John Pettit

John Pettit appeared before the Panel seeking approval of the endorsement massage therapy application. The discussion included but was not limited to explanation pertaining to endorsement of the massage therapy licensure. Mr. Pettit did not complete a national examination. Mr. Pettit is currently licensed in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. He graduated from a massage school in Pennsylvania during that time the examination to obtain licensure was

not required. When Mr. Pettit applied for licensure in North Carolina, he was required to submit written statements from three of his clients. Mr. Pettit received two sworn statements from medical physicians, a chiropractor who was clients of his and one of his instructors from the school in Pennsylvania. Mr. Pettit is certified in six levels of neurologic muscular therapy.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to enter into executive session for legal advice. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to come back to regular session. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

During executive session no motion were made and no votes were taken.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve the endorsement application for John Pettit to receive the Massage/Bodywork Therapy license without the national examination to be taken. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Isabella Schnittger

Isabella Schnittger appeared before the Panel seeking approval of the endorsement massage therapy application. The discussion included but was not limited to explanation pertaining to endorsement of the massage therapy licensure. Ms. Schnittger's secondary education as well as the massage therapy training was completed in a school in Germany. English is Ms. Schnittger's second language. William Vetter, Ms. Schnittger attorney accompanied her to assist with answering any questions the panel had. Mr. Vetter explained Ms. Schnittger attended massage school in Germany for 1800 hours which was a 12 month program. Once Ms. Schnittger successfully completed massage school licensure was received in Germany. After the license was received it was required to complete a two year and a half apprenticeship. Ms. Schnittger worked at various clinics in Germany and France. Ms. Schnittger moved to South Carolina because her husband's job re-located them to South Carolina. Mr. Vetter explained Ms. Schnittger's education and experience supersedes the South Carolina's requirements, and Ms. Schnittger will be an asset to the Massage/Bodywork Therapy industry.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to enter into executive session for legal advice. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to come back to regular session. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

During executive session no motion were made and no votes were taken.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve the endorsement application for Isabella Schnittger to receive the Massage/Bodywork Therapy license with an expiration date that is concurrent with Ms. Schnittger's U.S. Visa. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Linda Gaskin-Drechesler

Linda Gaskin-Drechesler appeared before the Panel seeking approval of the endorsement massage therapy application. The discussion included but was not limited to explanation pertaining to endorsement of the massage therapy licensure. Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler received the massage therapy license without having taken a national examination. Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler completed her education from the United Kingdom. Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler has a current license from the State of Maine. The State of Maine does not require a national examination. In 2000 Maine accepted Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler education and experience for licensure. Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler taught aroma therapy classes. Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler husband, Jeffery Drechesler appeared as a character witness. Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler explained she attended massage therapy and aroma therapy school in England in 1995 and successfully completed 600 hours in massage therapy and 600 hours in aroma therapy. In the UK a massage therapy license is required to practice alongside a physician. In 2006 Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler re-located to Florida where she was a spa director. She did not work as a massage therapist in Florida. Ms. Gaskin- Drechesler is currently employed as an office worker at the International Spa Institute in Bluffton, South Carolina.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to enter into executive session for legal advice. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to come back to regular session. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

During executive session no motion were made and no votes were taken.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve the endorsement application for Linda Gaskin-Drechesler to receive the Massage/Bodywork Therapy license and the national examination was waived. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Karl Bailey

Karl Bailey appeared before the Panel seeking approval of the endorsement massage therapy application. The discussion included but was not limited to explanation pertaining to endorsement of the massage therapy licensure. Mr. Bailey completed his massage therapy education in the United Kingdom. Mr. Bailey is interested in sports therapy and decided to further his education in sports massage therapy. To receive licensure in the United Kingdom the school must be accredited. Once the education is completed at the accredited school a license is granted to the students. Mr. Bailey is willing to take the required examination to receive his South Carolina license.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to enter into executive session for legal advice. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to come back to regular session. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

During executive session no motion were made and no votes were taken.

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to approve the endorsement application for Karl Bailey to receive the Massage/Bodywork Therapy license and the national examination was waived. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Ms. Shaw gave a suggestion to Mr. Bailey, if he plans to ever move to another state he should probably take the MBLEX examination.

Public Comments:

Adjournment 12:35 pm:

MOTION:

Anthony Ruggiero made a motion to adjourn. Jenny Mitchell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.