

STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
MINUTES
January 4, 2024 @ 10:00 A.M.
402 W Washington Street, Room W064
Indianapolis IN 46204

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM 10:02 A.M.**
Board members present: Jael Peirce, Elizabeth Cain, Tera Tonkins, Laurie Hardin
Not present: Adeli Kinne
Staff Present: Toby Snell, Ashlee Scott, Leif Johnson
- II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA** Motion made by EC and seconded by LH to adopt the agenda
Motion carries 4-0-0
- III. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES** Motion made by EC and seconded by LH to approve the minutes
Motion carries 4-0-0
- IV. REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**
Report given by Ryan Eldridge
- V. PERSONAL APPEARANCES**
1. Christine Nau-Reinstatement
Christine Appears
Motion made by EC and seconded by LH to reinstate
Motion carries 4-0-0
 2. Trina Loucks-reinstatement
Trina Appears
Motion made by EC and seconded by TT to reinstate
Motion carries 4-0-0
 3. Benjamin Muniz-PR
Benjamin Appears
Motion made by EC and seconded by TT to approve the license
Motion carries 4-0-0
 4. Leah Verkamp-Initial app
Leah Appears
Motion made by LH and seconded by EC to deny the license based on not meeting the requirement
Motion carries 4-0-0
 5. Jennifer Korff-reinstatement
Jennifer Does Not Appear

COURT REPORTER Margie Addington

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

1. Joseph Weathers MT21706102

Extension of Suspension 2022 SBMT 0002

Gavin Hunter appears on behalf of the state

Respondent does not appear

State requests that the board approve the agreed motion to extend the suspension.

These proceedings are now concluded

Motion made by LH and seconded by EC to approve the extension of the suspension

Motion carries 4-0-0

2. Aaron Sizemore MT21706074

Extension of Suspension 2023 SBMT 0007

Gavin Hunter appears on behalf of the state

Respondent does not appear

State requests that the board approve to extend the suspension.

These proceedings are now concluded

Motion made by LH and seconded by EC to approve the extension of the suspension

Motion carries 4-0-0

3. Tanya Gick MT20901553

Probation Withdrawal 2013 SBMT 0010

Tanya appears without counsel

Makes opening statement and requests the board remove the probation status

States she has met all the requirements imposed on her by the board

These proceedings are now concluded

Motion made by JP and seconded by EC to remove the probation status

Motion carries 4-0-0

4. Christopher Sheeren MT21405185

Probation Withdrawal 2021 SBMT 0007

Gavin Hunter appears on behalf of the state

Respondent appears with counsel Adriana Zeljkovic

Counsel for respondent makes opening statement

State makes opening statement

Adriana Zeljkovic calls Mr Sheeren for questions

Exhibit A request to be entered, accepted

Exhibit B requested to be entered, accepted

State has questions for Mr Sheeren

Mr Sheeren states he has no plans to return back to the profession

Board has no questions

Ms Zeljkovic has no further

State calls Toby

Respondent has no questions

Board asks questions

No closing statements

These proceedings are now concluded

Motion made by LH and seconded by EC to withdraw probation
Motion carries 4-0-0

5. Winston Baity MT20901880

Administrative Complaint 2023 SBMT 0009

Gavin Hunter appears on behalf of the state

Winston Baity appears without counsel

State makes opening statement

Respondent makes opening statement

Respondent calls Natalie Christy

Requests to admit Exhibit A, no objection, accepted

Requests to admit Exhibit B, no objection, accepted

State has no further questions for this witness

Respondent has no questions

Board has no questions

State calls the complainant

Respondent asks questions of the witness

State redirects

Board asks questions

No further questions for this witness

State rests

Respondent has no witness

Respondent gives his statement

State asks respondent questions

State requests to admit Exhibit C, accepted

Respondent redirects

Board asks questions

Respondent rests

State makes closing statement

Respondent give closing statement

These proceedings are now concluded

Motion made by LH and seconded by TT to finding in violation of count I

Motion made by LH and seconded by EC to not find in violation of count II

Motion carries 3-1-0

Motion made by JP and seconded by LH to place the license on probation for no less than 6 months and completing continuing education in 4 hours of ethics and 4 hours of human anatomy. Submit quarterly self-reports.

Motion carries 4-0-0

6. Charles Royston MT20900119

Administrative Complaint 2023 SBMT 0012

CONTINUED

7. Hannah Harpenau MT21906881

Administrative Complaint 2023 SBMT 0013

CONTINUED

8. James Eckerty Non-Licensed

Motion to Cease and Desist 2023 SBMT 0014

Gavin Hunter appears on behalf of the state

James Eckerty appears without counsel

State gives opening statement
Respondent gives opening statement
State calls witness
State requests to admit Exhibit A, accepted
State requests to admit Exhibit B, accepted
State requests to admit Exhibit C, accepted
State requests to admit Exhibit D, accepted
State requests to admit Exhibit E, accepted
State requests to admit Exhibit F, accepted
State has no further questions
Respondent asks questions of the witness
Board has no questions
Respondent has no witness to call and gives his side
Board asks questions
State makes closing statement
Respondent gives closing statement
These proceedings are now concluded
Motion made by LH and seconded by EC to issue the Cease and Desist
Motion carries 4-0-0

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Jael goes over the FSMTB meeting
Motion made by JP and seconded by LH to nominate Elizabeth Cain as the representative
Motion carries 4-0-0

IX. ADJOURNMENT 1:30 P.M.



Jael Heirce, Board Chair

**Next Scheduled Meeting:
March 7, 2024**