



Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

MARCH 18, 2026, MEETING MINUTES

LOCATIONS:

This meeting of the Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy will take place online via Zoom, available via telephone or by visiting 1755 E. Plumb Ln. Ste 254, Reno, NV 89502. Persons wishing to participate in the meeting may connect to the meeting through the link below or telephone numbers below. Persons wishing to provide public comment during the meeting may use the links below and at the appropriate time, the Board Chair will call on persons wishing to make public comment.

Virtual access is available by registering for this meeting online:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81868518993?pwd=hkSGy2l1rDmz6upAGsqyVZOO1eVtE.1>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Meeting ID: 818 6851 8993

Passcode: 167262

SIP: 81868518993@zoomcrc.com

Telephonic access to this meeting is available by dialing the number below based on the location closest to participant.

- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US

- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US

DATES AND TIMES:

March 18, 2026, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Zoom sign-in available at 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Please Note: The Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy may: 1) take agenda items out of order; 2) combine two or more items for consideration; or 3) remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion related to an item at any time. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting. Please contact Elisabeth Barnard at 775.687.9951 (ebarnard@lmt.nv.gov), in advance, so that arrangements may be made. Public comment will be taken at the beginning and the end of the meeting. The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person (NRS 241.030).

Public Comment Agenda Item: There is a time designated at the beginning of the meeting and the end of the meeting for Public Comment. Members of the general public may bring matters not appearing on this Agenda to the attention of the Board or make comment on specific agenda items. Public comment may also be taken at other such times as requested as long as the request for public comment will not interrupt ongoing Board business. The Board may discuss the matters not on the agenda but may not act on the matters at this meeting. If the Board desires, the matters may be placed on a future Agenda for action. In consideration of others who may also wish to provide public comment, please avoid repetition. The Board limits public comment to three (3) minutes.

Prior to the commencement and conclusion of a contested case or quasi-judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual, the Board may refuse to consider public comment (see NRS 233B.126). Please be aware that after the quasi-judicial Board has rendered a decision in the contested case and, assuming this happens before adjournment, the Board may entertain public comment on the proceeding at that time.

1. Call to order and roll call of Board Members.

The Meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. on March 18, 2026, by Chair Rebecca Dorangricchia. Board members in attendance included Vice Chair Paula Wilber, Secretary-Treasurer Jenn Ty, Lorna Benedict, Rosemarie Mueller, John Teng, Bill Schoen, and Alan Kite-Swinden. Additional attendees included Executive Director Elisabeth Barnard and Board Counsel Colleen Platt.

2. Mission Statement of the Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy – To protect the public health, safety, and welfare through effective massage therapy regulation. Insuring that qualified, competent, ethical practitioners are licensed.

Dorangricchia read the mission statement into the record.

3. Public comment – Members of the public who wish to participate in a public meeting may do so by providing public comment during the two designated public comment periods. Additionally, public comment options may include, without limitation, telephonic or email comment. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under public comment until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting. The Board will not restrict comments based on viewpoint. The opportunity for public comment will be available at the beginning and ending of the meeting. (Discussion Only)

David Otto offered public comment at the meeting relating to item #14. No written public comment was received prior to the meeting.

4. Introduction of new Board members (For Discussion)

Item continued to the next meeting as there was no new Board member.

5. Application Review. (The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person.) (For Possible Action)
 - a. Review Application of Jieyu Huang (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Jieyu Huang was present along with her counsel Kirk Kennedy and interpreter Wei Mai Borgel. Her application was presented for review by the Board.

The Board asked questions to Huang.

Mueller motioned to approve the application without restrictions. Seconded by Kite-Swinden. Motion carried with none opposed.

- b. Review Application of Xin Liang (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Xin Liang was present with along with her counsel Kennedy and interpreter Borgel.

The Board asked questions to Liang.

Schoen motioned to deny the application based on NRS 640C.700(4). Seconded by Teng. Motion carried with none opposed.

- c. Review Application of Mengyi Ernsberger (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Ernsberger was present along with her counsel Kennedy and interpreter Borgel.

Schoen recused himself.

The Board asked questions to Ernsberger.

Mueller motioned to deny the application based on NRS 640C.700(4). Seconded by Teng. Nays: Kite-Swinden and Benedict. Motion carried.

- d. Review Application of Andrea C. Engle (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Engle was present.

The Board asked questions to Engle.

Dorangricchia motioned to approve the applications without restrictions. Seconded by Schoen. Motioned carried with none opposed.

- 6. Request for termination of probation from Ping Zhang NVMT.12455 (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Zhang was present along with her counsel Kennedy and interpreter Borgel.

Counsel Kennedy gave statement.

The Board asked questions to Zhang.

Dorangricchia motioned to deny the request for termination of probation. Seconded by Benedict. Motion carried with none opposed.

- 7. Request for reconsideration of terms of probation, including, without limitation, termination of probation from Qiaofen Wei NVMT.11681 (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Wei present along with interpreter Yulun Golden, Husband Trevor Fitz, and family friend Arturo Chevalier.

Board asked questions of Wei.

Schoen motioned to amend period of repayment from twelve (12) months to sixty (60) months effective immediately. Seconded by Wilbur. Motion carried with none opposed.

8. Request for reconsideration of disciplinary action taken October 22, 2025, for Yueming Huang NVMT.7990. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Yueming Huang was present along with her counsel Kirk Kennedy and interpreter Wei Mai Borgel.

Kennedy gave a statement regarding Huang's request for reconsideration.

The Board questioned Huang.

The Board discussed.

Schoen motioned to deny the reconsideration of disciplinary action. Seconded by Kite-Swinden. Motion carried with none opposed.

9. Formal Hearing Xia Han NVMT.442 – Case Number NVMT-C-25082. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Platt presented the Voluntary Surrender that had been negotiated with Han to the Board.

Dorangricchia motioned to accept the Voluntary Surrender as presented. Seconded by Mueller. Motion carried with none opposed.

10. Citation Appeal Golden Thai Spa – Citation #22491. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Yueming Huang was present along with her counsel Kennedy and interpreter Borgel.

Senior Deputy Attorney General Todd Weiss sat as Board Counsel.

Weiss swore in Investigator Christie Brunner. Platt questioned Brunner regarding the citation.

Dorangricchia accepted Exhibits 1, 2, and 3 into evidence.

The Board questioned Brunner.

Weiss swore in the owner of Golden Thai Spa, Yueming Huang. Kennedy questioned Huang regarding the citation. Platt questioned Huang. The Board questioned Huang.

Platt provided closing statements. Kennedy provided closing statements.

The Board Discussed.

Kite-Swinden motioned deny the appeal for Citation #22491. Seconded by Benedict. Motion carried with none opposed.

Consent agenda items are shown in italics. The Consent Agenda contains matters of routine acceptance. The Board members may approve the consent agenda items as written or, at their discretion, may address individual items for discussion or revisions.

11. *Consent Agenda Items – Board members may choose to request any item listed below be pulled for discussion and possible action. Any items not pulled may be approved in a single motion to approve the consent agenda excluding pulled items. (For Discussion and Possible Action)*
 - a. *Approval of applications approved and authorized by the Chairperson through February 28, 2026 (see Exhibit A). (For Possible Action)*
 - b. *Discussion and possible action regarding review and acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget versus Actual through February 28, 2026. (For Possible Action)*
 - c. *Discussion and possible action regarding review and acceptance of updated Fiscal Year 2027 Budget. (For Possible Action)*
 - d. *Discussion and possible action regarding review and acceptance of Fiscal Year 2028 Budget. (For Possible Action)*
 - e. *Discuss, amend, and approve revised Board meeting minutes for October 1, 2025. (For Possible Action)*
 - f. *Discuss, amend, and approve Board meeting minutes for January 7, 2026. (For Possible Action)*

Dorangricchia motioned to approve consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Mueller. Motion carried with none opposed.

12. Executive Director Report. (For Discussion)
 - a. Strategic Plan Key Indicators
 - i. Licensure and renewals
 - ii. Inspection Team calendar year-to-date key indicators
 - iii. Complaints and investigations calendar year-to-date key indicators
 - b. Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards
 - c. Other topics
 - d. Financials, cash reserves, and anticipated upcoming expenditures.

Barnard reviewed the current number of licenses. Total of 5,847 licenses. There were 5,797 massage licensees, 34 reflexologists, and 16 structural integrations practitioners.

Brunner reviewed the current inspection numbers. Total of 951 inspections. 287 were completed with 664 left, for a 30% completion rate.

Brunner reviewed the current investigation numbers. 3 investigations opened with 14 completed so far.

Barnard and Kim Buckingham will be attending the annual FSMTB meeting this year in Las Vegas. InLumon is still on track to update database to version 4. The Board will be working with DPS to review background check authorizing language. Las Vegas Metro Board member Sgt. Fincher resigned and the Board is awaiting Governor appointment of his replacement. Barnard reviewed the budget.

13. Discussion and possible action regarding a new contract with Pacific Office Automation for new multi-function printer in Reno Office. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Dorangricchia motioned to approve a new contract with Pacific Office Automation for a new multi-function printer in the Reno office. Seconded by Wilber. Motion carried with none opposed.

14. Discussion and direction to staff regarding future updates to Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 640C regarding continuing education requirements. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Board discussed the continuing education requirement and directed there be a draft for the Board to review in a future workshop.

15. Discussion and direction to staff regarding revised proposed regulation of the Director of the Department of Business and Industry LCB File R074-25. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Dorangricchia motioned that Barnard draft, and submit a letter of concern, and testify for the Board regarding revised proposed regulations of the Director of the Department of Business and Industry LCB File R074-25. Seconded by Mueller. Motion carried with none opposed.

16. Discussion and possible action regarding seeking bids from a government relations firm for legislative session. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Dorangricchia motioned for Barnard to seek bids from a government relations firm for a two-year period beginning June 1st. Seconded by Wilber. Motion carried with none opposed.

17. Discussion and possible action regarding sending Board members, Executive Director, and staff to FARB Summit on Regulatory Excellence, July 23-25, 2025, in Minneapolis, MN, and amending the FY27 Budget to allocate additional funds if needed. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Dorangricchia motioned that Barnard amend the FY27 Budget to allocate additional funds if necessary for Platt and possibly two (2) other attendees to go to the FARB Summit on Regulatory Excellence. Seconded by Kite-Swinden. Motion carried with none opposed.

18. Discussion regarding recommended future agenda items. (For Discussion)

None

19. Public comment.

Michelle Willoughby gave public comment regarding challenges and concerns with continuing education, a written version of her comments is attached to these minutes. No written comment was received during the meeting.

20. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Notices:

Items may be combined for consideration by the board. Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. Public comment will be taken at the beginning and at the end of the meeting. Regarding public comment, no vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this agenda item until the matter itself has been specifically included on a future agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020). The Chair may allow comment on individual agenda items at her discretion. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

The Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy may address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Board or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting. Interested persons may present oral and/or written comments at the time and place of the meeting, or written comments may be sent no later than **Tuesday, March 17, 2026**, to the following address: **Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy, 1755 E. Plumb Lane, Suite 252, Reno, NV 89502. Supporting materials are available on the Board's website <https://massagetherapy.nv.gov/> or by contacting Elisabeth Barnard at 775.687.9951 or ebarnard@lmt.nv.gov or 1755 E Plumb Lane, Suite 252, Reno, NV 89502.**

Persons/facilities who want to be on the mailing list must submit a written request every six months to the Board. We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Elisabeth Barnard at 775.687.9951 or ebarnard@lmt.nv.gov no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting.

In accordance with NRS 241.020, this public notice and agenda was posted on or before March 13, 2026, at the following locations:

<https://massagetherapy.nv.gov/>

<https://notice.nv.gov>

Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy, 1755 E. Plumb Lane, Suite 252, Reno, NV 89502

NEVADA MASSAGE BOARD MEETING NOTES from Michelle Willoughby

Thank you for letting me be part of the Nevada Massage Board meeting on March 18, 2026. It was very interesting and I enjoyed seeing everyone involved. Here is the list that Liz requested me to send after my public comments. These mostly pertain to the topic of CEU hours.

I am a highly motivated, skilled and sought out massage therapist. I am also working on launching new education for massage therapists, as well as other healthcare providers. When I go to teach, I hope that my students are similarly motivated.

After 26-27 years as a massage therapist, I have a hard time finding classes that expand or challenge my abilities. Many I have taken even have recommendations that I would not agree with or follow. I have also seen research that was read improperly as parts of curriculum at times. Other times there are moves that work well if you are in an environment where people have their clothes on and can be moved into different positions other than laying, but only a portion can be used in a basic massage treatment setup. I've also taken PT courses that I couldn't use without submitting for approval, in which I didn't have time to wait for response, so I just took others that qualified easily.

I have taken many in person classes in my career and still do occasionally. One I just took was \$2,000 for a weekend seminar. Another that I am interested in costs \$4,000 for the weekend. Paying this much money frequently is extremely difficult. Several times in the past I took in person classes that far exceeded the state requirements but they couldn't be used for the following renewal, and just fell off, so I'd have to pay again to get more certs for each renewal. Sometimes I take online courses to save money, because I'm in a hurry, or can't find anything that provides enough growth for the amount of money. Some places I've been employed by brought workshops in and were paid for by the company, which was great, but many employers do not offer that. The income of a massage therapist has not gone up with inflation either. I have worked at some places where I make more money but a lot of that is due to my multiple certifications and sales abilities. Most places I've worked the pay per hour is the same I made 26 years ago at my very first massage job. This also effects the amount of money available to spend on CEUs.

Certain types of massage careers may not require that much on-going education such as people performing a basic Swedish massage for relaxation. I think that this type could still improve some by learning more, but maybe not as much as other types of therapists. I personally specialize in crazy rehabilitative work, so I don't fall into this category. I could definitely teach people how to up their game significantly in a Swedish massage, but I love this stuff more than most. I don't know that much of what I see for ongoing education in this department currently would change their approach, but could be helpful in beginning developmental years.

Someone at the meeting mentioned an idea to require new therapists to have more CEUs compared to people who were licensed longer. How would that work for someone like myself who has been doing it for many years, but has only lived in NV for 4 years? I don't think that it

would be fair to go solely by the years licensed per state but would have to count all previous years working in other states as well.

All to say, I don't know that it matters if a state requires a high number of CEU hours. A good therapist should take continuing education because they care about what they do. I hadn't really thought about it until the questions of "Does this provide more safety for a client?" or "Does it fall under the responsibilities of the board?" When I think of it that way it doesn't seem necessary. Resumes speak a lot for an individual wanting to go far in this career. This should motivate people to get CEUs. I see this being more of a personal responsibility for therapists than of the state to manage. I definitely don't think there should be a requirement for in person classes, for the reasons mentioned in previous paragraphs.

I really enjoy that you offer roll over hours. I haven't seen that in the past in other states where I was licensed. This could encourage people to take in person classes as they usually offer more hours that could be rolled over, should you decide to reduce CEU hours.

Addressing safety for clients, I could see a small cross contamination course being mandatory. A simple 15-minute video that discusses cleanliness would suffice. I wipe down the face cradle, lotion bottle, and anything my hands or lotion bottle touches during a treatment (ex: stool, table tops, and door handle). I know that many people don't take the time between appointments and when I see a fuzzy face cradle cover, I know it is not able to be cleaned between appointments. Placing it on the license renewal website as a task that is done before moving to the next step, would help reduce the time for a Nevada State Board employee to have to check credentials. An Ethics course could be done like this too.

Addressing audits, I have been and am currently still licensed in Missouri. They use random audits for CEUs. I don't believe they ask for documents showing the courses taken or even ask the names of them, you just check a box saying that you have completed them. I think they require 12 hours every 2 years. I've been licensed in 3 other states and they have all had different numbers of required CEUs. I also come from an era doing this, that there were no required CEUs and licenses came through your county. All to say, I have seen lots of changes over time as well.

On a different topic:

I thought it was interesting watching how the cases involving sexual misconduct went. Each situation has different circumstances that need to be attended to in their own way, and I commend you all for having such a hard task to delegate. With this decision-making process, I would like to say that this career is very unique in that it works with people in a vulnerable environment, being minimally clothed and also behind a closed door. This should really be considered when thinking about placing someone who has created certain levels of illegal acts back into this position, especially ones who fully committed obvious sexual offenses. Would it be better for them to get another career that is in the eye of the public? There are many great careers out there. Possibly ones that require more education or standards that are stricter than massage therapy that can assure others safety.

I found it interesting that it seemed like many of them wanted to make the board feel bad that they couldn't work. I see endless "Now Hiring" jobs that do not require a degree. Even if someone is passionate about massage and have reasonable argument for getting their license back, they should want to be a working part of society. It does not give me a great feeling when it seems like they can only do massage and if not, their life will suffer, and are unwilling to even try to work somewhere else and prove a good work ethic.

If someone owes a large penalty of money, there could be a deal made of reducing the amount owed if they prove that they went back to school for another career.

Ideas for Future meetings or input from the Board:

Is there any way to make it legal for a massage therapist to provide therapeutic ultra sound and other high-tech machinery that helps muscle tissues? I could even see this being under a doctor's management if necessary. But it would be great if you could just get certified by taking a course to make sure that you know how to properly administer it. I used to be able to do this but as regulations have grown, these things have been left out of our abilities. I work with Chiropractic Assistants regularly who are allowed to do this and they have far less anatomical education as a Massage Therapist. I will be conducting some studies soon and for some of them I would like to apply some therapies to get quicker results but for now I would have to hire someone to do that portion for me, even though I am more than educated and able to.

Also, dry needling? Some states allow Massage Therapist to be certified in this way but not many. (Not as important to me as the ultra sound, etc. but while it's on my mind)

Is there anything being done to get quicker state to state license renewal? I've heard talks of some states working on this but never heard if it was completed. It just seems that now adays there could be a more widespread data hub that all states could see simultaneously. Even with reciprocity, there are so many documents that have to be mailed, one at a time, to each state. I've felt that this process has become harder over recent years because you have to request these documents through "robots" and you don't know that a request hasn't gone through until the board of interest notifies you a significant amount of time later that they haven't received it. And then you just have to go try it again with the "robot" and hope it works. Some agencies don't have much for public human help anymore. Also, because I have been licensed in multiple states, I have to have a letter from each state mailed saying that I am in good standing, each time I relocate. It would be great if all the states could see the same documents as well as complaints to speed the process up. I'm not really concerned about the fee for licensure but it would be helpful to be able to get to working easier in a new area. Just an idea.