

OBMT

2014 UPCOMING BOARD MEETING DATES

Monday, Jan 13th

Monday, Mar 17th

Friday and Saturday, May 16th-17th (Will be held in Grants Pass, OR)

Monday, July 21st

Monday, Sept 22nd

Monday, Nov 17th

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

OAR Effective 1/1/2014

Update from the Federation of State Massage Therapy Board (FSMTB) 2-3

Mailing List 3

Email Address 4

BOARDerline

Oregon Board of Massage Therapists

FALL 2013

OAR Changes Effective January 1, 2014

FACILITY PERMITS

Senate Bill 387 was signed by Governor John Kitzhaber on June 13, 2013. SB 387 will be effective January 1, 2014. This bill requires all massage facilities not owned by a licensed health professional to obtain a facilities permit. It exempts regulated massage school clinics and "A clinic or facility owned or operated by a person authorized to practice a profession by a health professional regulatory board." LMT's are exempt because

they are a licensed health professional by the Oregon Board of Massage Therapists. Within the last few years, the OBMT has experienced several mas-



Oregon State Capitol

sage facilities hiring unlicensed therapists to work at their facility. Due to the limitations of all the current laws (statutes),

the OBMT had no statutory authority to issue fines to facilities that hire unlicensed massage therapists. Instead, the board would issue fines to the unlicensed practitioner, who typically did not understand that they needed to be licensed. Several of these facilities are suspected to be involved in human trafficking. This new law will also allow the board to enforce sanitation standards for all facilities.

Other OAR changes

PRACTICAL EXAMINATION CANCELATION REQUIREMENTS CLARIFICATION

Applicants have 14 days from the date of their scheduled practical examination to submit written documentation of the emergency .

CLARIFICATION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

You must submit ALL CE hours taken within the renewal period at the time of your renewal for it to carry over. Otherwise it will not carry over

The exception is at the time of your first renewal. CE are not required to be submitted

at that time. All contact hours obtained since the date of the initial license can be applied toward the second renewal.





FSMTB

Discussions as to whether it should be called a Massage Therapy Practice Act, or a Massage-Bodywork Practice Act was still to be resolved with the definition of "Bodywork" being the outstanding factor.



Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB)

October 10 – 12, 2013)

Impressions from a first time attendee by Steven Foster-Wexler

This year, the 8th annual meeting of the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) was held in Baltimore, Maryland. The Oregon Board of Massage Therapist (OBMT) sent four representatives.

The meeting began with a review of parliamentary procedures, then the President's report, Finance report, and Policy updates of which there were 23 proposed amendments to the Bylaws. All but three amendments passed. There was a presentation on the progress towards completion of a Model Practice Act (MPA). The MPA is intended to provide a resource to legislatures and massage therapy boards when addressing issues related to the public protection mission of regulating the practice of massage therapy.

Discussions as to whether it should be called a Massage Therapy Practice Act, or a Massage-Bodywork Practice Act was still to be resolved with the definition of "Bodywork" being the outstanding factor. This working document is scheduled to be presented to the

board in November 2013 with a draft being released to the public in early 2014.

A presentation on The Entry-Level Analysis Project (ELAP) was given. ELAP is a research project that defines the minimum number of training hours necessary to acquire knowledge and skills essential for safe and competent practice as an entry-level massage therapist.

The main goal of the ELAP Work Group was to look at the inconsistencies across the country in terms of licensing requirements, school curriculum, and practitioner skills and issues. They were also charged with ensuring that modern instructional designs were incorporated into the development of this program. The ELAP Work Group created about 3700 learning components to be used as a guide. This guide can be used to both assist schools in the development of their curriculum and to help licensing boards decide how many hours to require for licensing. The work is ongoing with a final product scheduled for release in December 2013. More information can be found at www.elapmassage.org.

General Counsel for the FSMTB gave a regulatory review of past licensure issues, the concept of "good moral character," citizen/alien status, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and accommodations. This was followed by a Member Board Forum which focused on the issue of 'Exclusions.' We were advised to establish well-defined practice acts and to avoid the use of "exemptions," as this tends to lead to deregulation.

Saturday began with a presentation on the development of the Massage Therapy Licensing Database AKA MaTiLDA. MaTiLDA will serve as a national database free to member boards. The License Renewal Task Force which had been formed to explore issues of CE requirements and portability also gave a presentation on their findings. The task force noted that courses in public safety (ethics) were determined to be of paramount importance when compared to courses in professional development.

The Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx) gave a presentation on the history and issues surrounding the exam. They also

FSMTB October (10 – 12, 2013)

Impressions from a first time attendee by Steven Foster-Wexler (started on pg2)

noted that the 2014 Candidate Handbook will include a Job Task Analysis (JTA) this is to ensure that the content is still reflective of current practice.

They also noted that the pass rate is averaging 75% with 1st time examinees exceeding this threshold. The application process takes 3 – 5 days with a usual 48 hour turn around. The largest area of fraud occurs in the listing of a candidate's school of training. When fraud is detected, a score is revoked and the candidate has to wait 12 months before the exam can be retaken.

The MBLEx will be switching over to the Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) system. This test system is 1) tailored to each applicant, 2) unique as the test is computerized and 3) adaptive as test

question are adaptive based upon a candidate's previous answers. This will serve at the advantage of the candidate as each test pinpoints and measures the candidate's level of competency during the test and adjust to tailor to the candidate's strengths. With the CAT's ability to limit the exposure of test questions, this safeguard the integrity and security of the exam.

The disadvantages of this test system is simply that, a larger test bank is needed to support the large number of test questions needed for the system to function effectively and accurately which will be complex to manage. But, once in place, security will be greatly enhanced to safeguard the integrity of the exam.

Next two meeting locations were announced. The 2014 meeting will be held in Tucson, Arizona and the 10th anniversary meeting of the FSMTB will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 2015 where it first convened.

The final Member Forum concluded with the OBMT Board Chair, David Fredrickson, LMT, presenting a motion to form a task force to collate existing data regarding the impact of human trafficking on the Massage and Bodywork field. The motion passed easily.

For further information regarding the FSMTB, please visit their website at www.fsmtb.org. In light of the issues and concerns discussed at this year's annual meeting, it is our opinion that the OBMT is doing quite well in serving our members and protecting the public of Oregon.



What Does It Mean To Be Excluded From the Mailing List?

Have you ever wondered what the question—Do you want to be excluded from the mailing list—on your renewal application means?

The Oregon Board of Massage Therapists (OBMT) allows for individuals outside of the agency to purchase a list of contact information for LMTs that have not elected to be excluded from the mailing list. Please know that when you mark “No” to this question, you are giving consent to provide your contact information including the public email address to those individuals.

If you have questions regarding the mailing list itself, please contact the Board office.

Oregon Board of Massage Therapists
748 Hawthorne Ave NE
Salem, OR 97301

Why Do We Want Your Email Address?

Due to the rising cost of postage and paper, email is the preferred mode of communication.

- It is a 'green' alternative to paper.
- It is an efficient way to contact you for missing information.



Electronic mail saves time and money.

- The sooner you know, the less it will cost in potential late fees.
- Another way to receive important statutory and rules changes.
- Your public email address is only shared with entities that request information about your business.