



Washington State Board of Massage

Massage Therapy Meeting Agenda
Thursday, January 30, 2025 | 9:00 a.m.

Physical location

Department of Health
Town Center 2 – Room 153
111 Israel Rd. S.E.
Tumwater, WA 98501

Remote attendance

[Click here](#) to join the meeting.

Or call in (audio only) Phone number:
+12532158782,,87661742123# US OR
+12532050468,,87661742123# US

Webinar ID: 876 6174 2123

Board Members

Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair
Lynna Fuller, LMT, Vice Chair
Whitney Smith, LMT
Elizabeth Boyer, LMT
Esther Sanders, LMT

Program Contact

massage.therapy@doh.wa.gov

Open Public Meetings Act

This meeting is being held as a hybrid meeting in accordance with [RCW 42.30.030](#) in which the public has the option to observe and participate in the meetings of governing bodies through either real-time remote access or physical attendance at a set location.

Times and Order

The meeting will begin at 9:00 AM on Thursday January 30, 2025. The meeting will continue until all agenda items are complete. This agenda schedule may change, and items may not be taken in order of the agenda. Comments from the public in attendance may be solicited after each agenda item.

Accessibility

See the last page of the agenda for information on meeting accessibility for persons with disabilities.

Welcome – 9:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

- 1.1. Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules.
- 1.2. Approval of the Agenda.
- 1.3. Approval of the November 15, 2024, Business Meeting Minutes.

2. Welcome New Board Members

3. Public Forum

The purpose of the open forum is to provide the public with an opportunity to address the board on issues of significance to or affecting massage and that are not related to topics for which a rules hearing was or will be scheduled.

Members of the public who indicate an interest in speaking may share comments at this time. The board may limit the speaker's time based on the number of people interested in speaking.

4. School Program Reviews – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

Reviewing board members will present school program approval requests for full board consideration.

School	RBMs
Classic Institute of Massage	Lynna Fuller
Institute for Structural Medicine	Lynna Fuller
Pacific Northwest Massage Academy	Chimere Figaire-Correa/Whitney Smith
Basin Massage School and Integrative Studies	Whitney Smith/Chimere Figaire-Correa
Washington Spa Academy Washington Spa Academy Bilingual Program Washington Spa Academy- Transfer	Lynna Fuller /Chimere Figaire-Correa

5. Massage Instruments

The board will open a discussion on tools used within the scope of practice.

6. National Convening: Human Trafficking in Illicit Massage, Event Hosted by The Network

Members to report out the highlights and topics for discussion.

7. Program Report – Program Staff

- 7.1. Budget.
- 7.2. Credential Counts.
- 7.3. Disciplinary Counts.
- 7.4. Legislative update.
- 7.5. Future Agenda Items.

8. Adjournment of Public Meeting – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

Accessibility

This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. Special aids and services can be made available upon request. Advance request for special aids and services must be made no later than one week prior to the meeting. If you need assistance with special needs and services, you may leave a message with that request at 800-525-0127 or, if calling from outside Washington State, call 360-236-4052. TDD may also be accessed by calling the TDD relay service at 1-800-833-6388. If you need assistance due to a speech disability, Speech-to-Speech provides human voicers for people with difficulty being understood. The Washington Speech-to-Speech toll free access number is 877-833-6341.



Washington State Board of Massage
Business Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2024 | 9:00 a.m.

On November 15, 2024, the Board of Massage held a hybrid business meeting at the Department of Health, 111 Israel Road Se, Tumwater, WA 98501, Town Center 2, Room 153 with access via Zoom. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were published on the DOH website and through GovDelivery.

Board Members

Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair
Lynna Fuller, LMT
Sherise Gueck, LMT
Whitney Smith, LMT

Staff Present

James Chaney, Executive Director
Devin Brooks, Program Manager
Alyssa Brazil, Administrative Assistant
Jonathan Chamrad, Program Support
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General
Marlon Basco-Rodillas, Policy Analyst
Evan Shigaya, Policy Analyst
Catharine Roner-Rieter, Staff Attorney

Guests

Dawn Lafferty	Andy Hall	Ariana McCarroll
Robbin Blake	Ashley Hernandez	Patty Glenn
Carl Wilson	Karen James	Julie Onofrio
Theron Eirish	Shannon Egan	Anna Houston
Leslie Emerick	Amy Twigg	Laura Puryear
Devin Gombosky	Sean Miller	Becky West
Mai Lin Petrine	Sylvia Liu	Leslie Emerick

Open Session – 9:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

The board meeting was called to order by Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, chair, at 9:02 a.m, on November 15, 2024.

1.1. Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules.

The board, staff and guest were introduced. Ms. Figaire-Correa read the Meeting Ground Rules.

1.2. Approval of the Agenda.

The board reviewed the proposed agenda.

AMENDMENT: Ms. Brooks requested to add Classic Institute of Massage to agenda item 3, as the school submitted their application packet after the agenda was posted online.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the amended agenda with Classic Institute of Massage added to agenda item 3. The motion was seconded and passed.

1.3. Approval of the September 6, 2024, Business Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the September 6, 2024, business meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

2. Public Forum

Members of the public who indicated an interest in speaking provided comments to the board.

Comment shared included:

- Marybeth Berney, from WSMTA, commented that she would like to have photos on massage therapist credentials. Ms. Burney mentioned that this conversation was had in 2019 with former board members and that she will provide information on what was discussed.

3. School Program Reviews – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT Chair

Reviewing Board Members (RBMs) presented the following school program requests for full board consideration.

- Arlington School of Massage – Transfer Program
The RBMs recommended to approve the Arlington School of Massage – Transfer, pending a minor correction.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve Arlington School of Massage – Transfer, pending a minor correction. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Classic Institute of Massage
The RBMs recommended to not approve the Classic Institute of Massage.

MOTION: A motion was made to send Classic Institute of Massage a deficiency letter. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Discoverypoint School of Massage
The RBMs recommended to approve the Discoverypoint School of Massage, Discoverypoint School of Massage – Transfer, pending grammatical corrections.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve Discoverypoint School of Massage, Discoverypoint School of Massage – Transfer, pending grammatical corrections. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Institute for Structural Medicine
The RBMs recommended to not approve the Institute for Structural Medicine.

MOTION: A motion was made to send Institute for Structural Medicine a deficiency letter. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Pacific Northwest Massage Academy
The RBMs recommended to not approve the Pacific Northwest Massage Academy.

MOTION: A motion was made to send Pacific Northwest Massage Academy a deficiency letter. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Washington Spa Academy, Washington Spa Academy Bilingual Program, Washington Spa Academy - Transfer
The RBMs recommended to not approve the Washington Spa Academy, Washington Spa Academy Bilingual Program, Washington Spa Academy - Transfer.

MOTION: A motion was made to send Washington Spa Academy, Washington Spa Academy Bilingual Program, Washington Spa Academy-Transfer a deficiency letter. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Whatcom Community College – Degree, Whatcom Community College - Certificate

The RBMs recommended to approve the Whatcom Community College – Degree, Whatcom Community College – Certificate, pending minor corrections.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve Whatcom Community College – Degree, Whatcom Community College – Certificate, pending minor corrections. The motion was seconded and passed.

4. Examination WAC 246-830-201

The board discussed [WAC 246-830-201](#): (2) and determined next steps for applicants who make more than three (3) attempts to pass the MBLEx examination.

MOTION: A motion was made to open rulemaking to amend [WAC 246-830-201](#): (2) and allow applicants to take the MBLEx more than three (3) times without providing proof to the board of having successfully completed additional clinical training or course work. The motion was seconded and passed.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve current applicants' licensure who had taken the MBLEx more than three (3) times before they passed. The motion was seconded and passed.

5. License by Endorsement Committee- Sherise Gueck, LMT and Whitney Smith, LMT Rule Discussion for [WAC 246-830-035](#) Licensing by endorsement

5.1 The committee had no information to report.

- A committee meeting date was set for December 20, 2024.

5.2 Public Comment- Members of the public were given the opportunity to address the committee members on this agenda item.

- Carl Wilson, public attendee, thanked the board for their conscientious work.

6. Discussion for possible rule making for WAC 246-830-560 Covering and draping

Lynna Fuller presented to the board a proposal to review [WAC 246-830-560](#) and consider opening rulemaking to support the work of [WAC 246-830-557](#).

6.1 Public Comment- Members of the public will were given the opportunity to address the committee members on this agenda item.

- Robbin Blake, (speaking as an individual massage therapist), commented that during previous rulemaking there were three potential draping options: genital, breast, and gluteal cleft, and somehow genital draping was dropped from the rules. Ms. Blake requested to have genital draping put back into rules language.

- Patty Glenn, (speaking as an individual), commented that she thanks the board for looking into this covering and draping issue.

MOTION: A motion was made to open rulemaking to amend [WAC 246-830-560](#). The motion was seconded and passed.

7. Discussion for possible rule making for WAC 246-830-440 Curriculum Academic Standards- Faculty-Student Clinic

Chimere Figaire-Corre presented to the board a proposal to review [WAC 246-830-440](#) (3) and consider opening for rulemaking to specify which courses are considered hands on and hands off.

7.1 Public Comment- Members of the public were given the opportunity to address the committee members on this agenda item.

- Robbin Blake, WSTMA, commented that she would like to see changes requiring three (3) years' experience to teach all courses that are either hands-on or hands-off.

MOTION: A motion was made to open rulemaking to amend [WAC 246-830-440](#) (3). The motion was seconded and passed.

8. Discussion and Q&A on Criminal Background checks with James Chaney, Board Director and Kristi Knieps, ATG

8.1 Public Comment- Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the agenda item.

- There were no comments from the public.
- Kristi Knieps stated that Washington has a tasks force for illicit massage businesses. She will reach out to them and invite them to the next board meeting.

9. FSMTB Annual Conference – Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair, and Whitney Smith, LMT

Members reported out the highlights of the annual conference.

- Chimere Figaire-Correa was elected to serve a 3-year term on the board of directors for FSMTB.
- Education Requirements for MBLEx eligibility made it a requirement to have the education and training completed before taking the test.

10. Program Report – Devin Brooks, Program Manager

10.1. Budget

- Ms. Brooks, Program Manager, reported the increased revenue and the current fund balance from last month.
- During a meeting with the fiscal team, it was learned that the profession may potentially need a fee analysis in 5-7 years and fees may increase.

- Program discussed adding an animal massage endorsement fee and updating [WAC 246-830-990](#). It was stated that this can be an internal process and does not require opening rules.
- Chimere Figmaire-Correa asked if the board has authority to add a fee for school applications.

10.2. Credential Counts.

- Ms. Brooks, Program Manager, gave an update to the board regarding the credentialing counts.

10.3. Disciplinary Counts.

- Ms. Brooks, Program Manager, gave an update to the board regarding the status of the disciplinary counts.

10.4. 2025 Meeting Dates and Locations

- January 30th, 2025, in Tumwater.
- March 14th, 2025, in Tumwater
- May 2nd, 2025, in Everett
- July 17-18th, 2025, Vancouver, WA
- September 19th, 2025, in Yakima
- November 7th, 2025, in Tumwater

10.5. Schedule Education and Training Committee Meeting

- The board agreed to hold the committee meeting on January 30th, 2025, after next business meeting.

10.6. National Convening: Human Trafficking in Illicit Massage, Event Hosted by The Network

10.7. Future Agenda Items.

- Presentation from a task force investigator.
- Review of rules surrounding various types of massage instruments used during treatment.
- Education and training committee update.
- License by endorsement committee update.
- Setting Rules Workshops dates and locations.
- Transfer programs.

11. Adjournment of Public Meeting – Chimere Figmaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

MOTION: A motion was made to adjourn the business meeting at 1:29 pm on Friday, November 15, 2024. The motion was seconded and passed.

Next Business Meeting

Date: January 30, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Washington State Department of Health
111 Israel Rd SE
Tumwater, WA 98501

12. JP Exam Committee- Sherise Gueck, LMT and Lynna Fuller, LMT, Vice Chair

The committee closed the session to report to the board revisions to the JP Exam.

13. Executive Session – The board had a closed session to discuss disciplinary action items.

Submitted:

Approved:

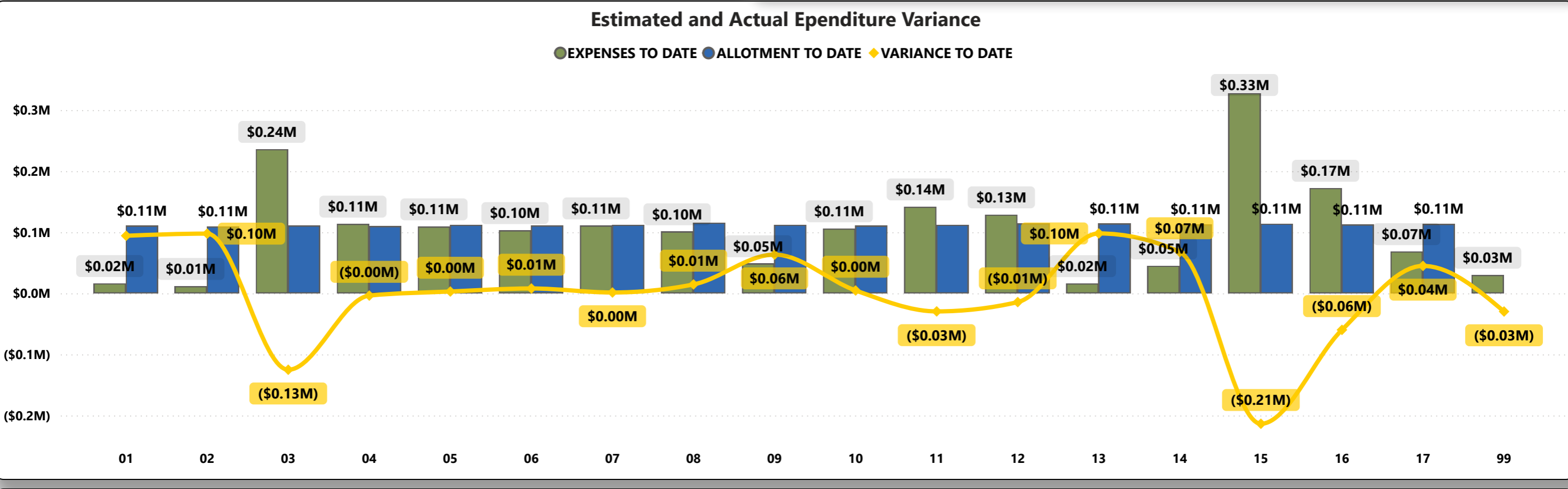
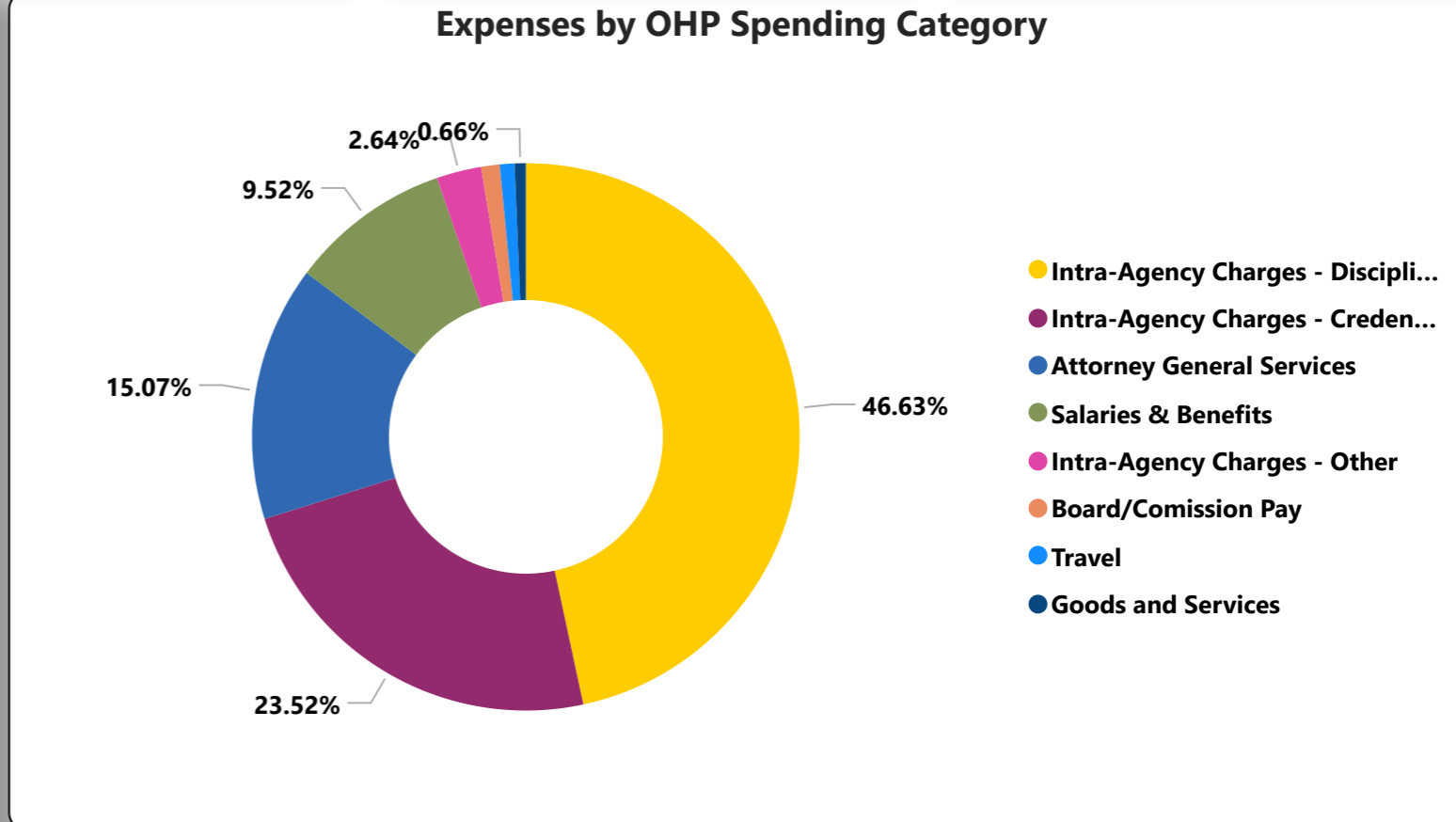
Devin Brooks, Program Manager

Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT, Chair

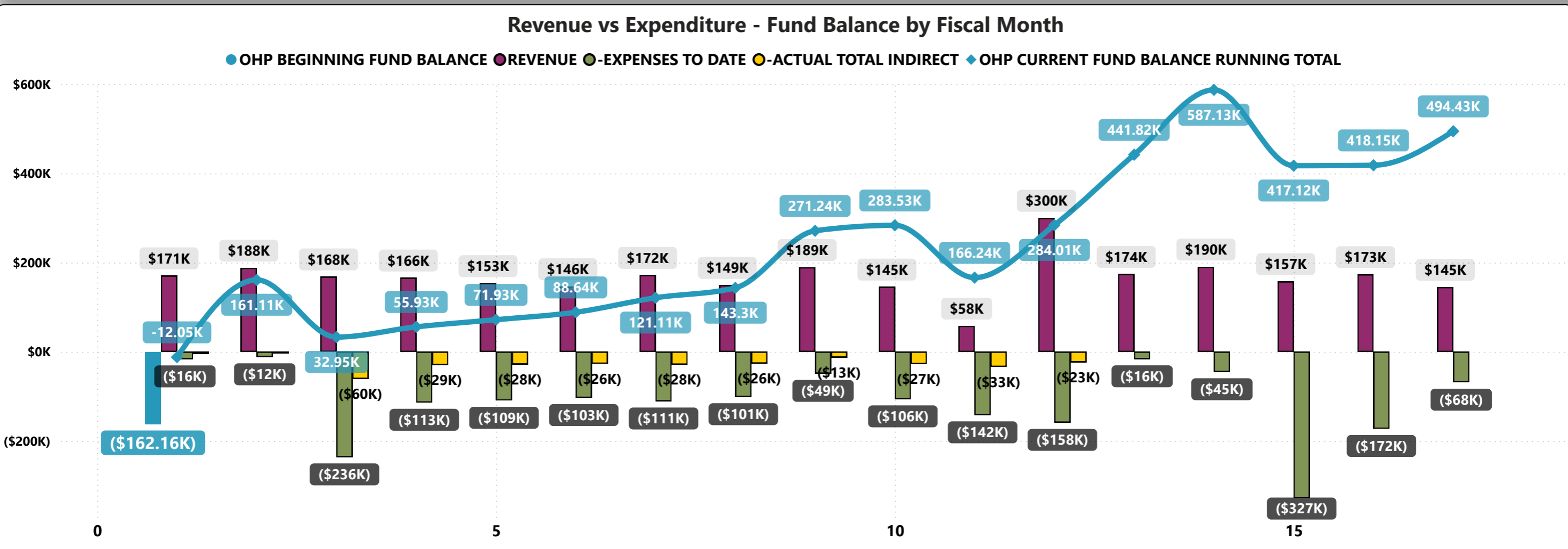
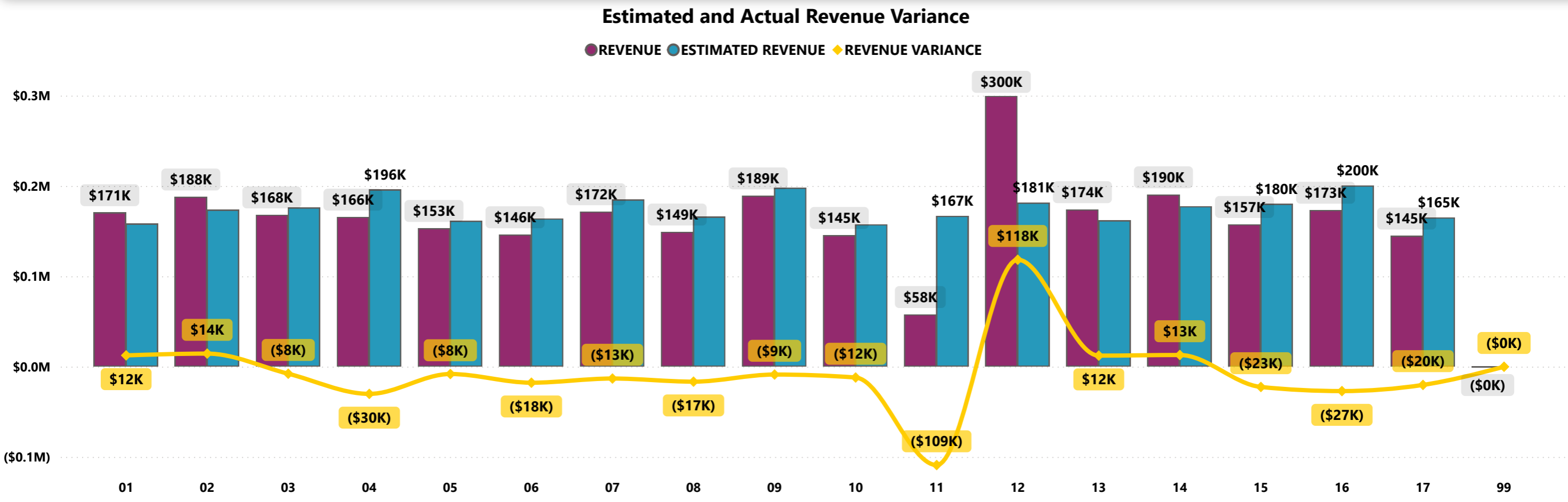
Massage Therapist & Reflexologist

FY2024 Starting Fund Balance (\$162.16K)	Current Fund Balance \$494.43K	HELMS Cost Allocation \$70.39K	Revenue \$2.84M	Expenses+ Total Indirect+HELMS \$2.26M
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Master Indexes Title	ALLOTMENT TO DATE	EXPENSES TO DATE	VARIANCE TO DATE	ACTUAL TOTAL INDIRECT
<input type="checkbox"/> MASSAGE THERAPIST	\$1,906,305	\$1,882,219	\$24,086	\$302,057
<input type="checkbox"/> Intra-Agency Charges - Discipline	\$898,812	\$878,877	\$19,935	
<input type="checkbox"/> T - Intra-Agency Reimbursements	\$898,812	\$878,877	\$19,935	
<input type="checkbox"/> Intra-Agency Charges - Credentialing	\$497,016	\$437,097	\$59,919	
<input type="checkbox"/> T - Intra-Agency Reimbursements	\$497,016	\$437,097	\$59,919	
<input type="checkbox"/> Attorney General Services	\$244,375	\$284,011	(\$39,636)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Salaries & Benefits	\$171,004	\$179,330	(\$8,326)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Intra-Agency Charges - Other	\$59,431	\$49,748	\$9,683	
<input type="checkbox"/> Travel	\$17,289	\$16,363	\$926	
<input type="checkbox"/> Board/Comission Pay	\$13,500	\$20,656	(\$7,156)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Goods and Services	\$2,450	\$16,137	(\$13,687)	
<input type="checkbox"/> IT Equipment	\$1,428		\$1,428	
Total	\$1,906,305	\$1,882,219	\$24,086	\$302,057



Health Professions	ESTIMATED REVENUE	REVENUE	REVENUE VARIANCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Massage Therapist & Reflexologist		\$2,967,116.00	\$2,843,408	(\$123,708)
Total		\$2,967,116.00	\$2,843,408	(\$123,708)



Credential Count

Credential status	01/02/2025	10/21/2024	08/06/2024	06/24/2024	04/22/2024	03/06/2024
Active	11,466	11,468	11,401	11,385	11,635	11,594
Active	9,273	8,841	8,740	8730	8,955	8,849
Active in Renewal	2,170	2,519	2,637	2631	2,650	2,725
Active w/ conditions or Active on Probation	23	23	24	24	30	20
Expired	26,740	26,595	26,443	27,101	26,257	26,152
Expired in Renewal	1,042	1,087	1,121	1,116	1,085	1,120
Inactive	569	354	343	352	342	340
Revoked	91	91	91	90	90	90
Summary Suspension	4	4	4	4	3	3
Surrender/ Voluntary Surrender	46	49	47	47	47	42
Suspended	180	178	175	174	172	171

Disciplinary Statistics

Case Status	01/02/2025	10/21/2024	08/06/2024	06/24/2024	04/22/2024	03/12/2024
Adjudication	6	8	9	5	4	4
Case Disposition	30	29	30	33	32	21
Compliance Monitoring	20	21	23	25	27	28
Investigation	23	21	27	23	20	28
Pending Service	15	16	16	15	12	11
SOA served- awaiting response	1	0	0	1	0	0
SOC served- awaiting response	0	0	4	6	6	5

Case Status	Definition
Adjudication	The legal process used to resolve enforcement matters. It begins with a statement of charges and includes efforts to settle a case before holding a formal hearing.
Case Disposition	The process of evaluating evidence from an investigation and making a decision to pursue an enforcement action or to close the case.
Compliance monitoring	The process used to monitor a health care professional under a legal order. The health care professional must comply with specific conditions in order to practice. Conditions may include payment of fines, psychological evaluation and treatment, retraining, supervision, etc.
Investigation	A process used by trained Department of Health employees to interview people and gather facts about a complaint.
Pending Service	A statement of charges, statement of allegation or a notice of decision that has been authorized but no finding of unprofessional conduct has been made, no order has been issued and no sanctions have been imposed.
SOA served- awaiting response	<p>The Statement of Allegations (SOA) sets forth the factual allegations against the health care professional and the potential violations of the Uniform Disciplinary Act.</p> <p>The health care professional has 28 days to respond to the service.</p>
SOC served- awaiting response	<p>A document that is served on a health care professional notifying them of allegations of violations of the Chapter 18.130 RCW, Uniform Disciplinary Act or other laws or rules that pertain to health care professionals.</p> <p>The health care professional has 21 days to respond to the service.</p>