

2009 Nevada Delegates Report

– submitted by David Otto & Billie Shea, 2009 House of Delegates Representatives for the Nevada Chapter

Date of House of Delegates Meeting: Thursday, September 24, 2009 – Orlando, Florida

Another year of national AMTA member representation commenced at 1:30pm on September 24th, 2009, in the House of Delegates (HOD) in Orlando, Florida.

David Otto and Billie Shea of the AMTA Nevada Chapter were accounted for in the electronic keypad role call, establishing the quorum, two-thirds, and majority counts for all the House of Delegates from all over the United States.

The first actionable items that were passed by the HOD were the adoption of the 2009 HOD Agenda, approval of the Rules of Procedure (Parliamentary Procedure), and hearing reports of the HOD Operations Committee (HODOC).

The first round of voting involved the **Position Statements**. The discussion, presentation of pros and cons, and vote for each of the 4 Position Statements concluded as follows:

1. It is the position of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) that [massage can aid in pain relief](#). (submitted by Ann Blair Kennedy, SC Delegate) 136 for / 6 opposed – **PASSED**
2. It is the position of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) that [massage therapy may be effective in reducing lower back pain](#). (submitted by Ann Blair Kennedy, SC Delegate) 49 for / 92 opposed – **FAILED**
3. It is the position of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) that [massage therapy can be effective in reducing anxiety](#). (submitted by Ann Blair Kennedy, SC Delegate) 39 for / 103 opposed – **FAILED**
4. It is the position of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) that [massage therapy can improve the quality of life for those in hospice and palliative care](#). (submitted by Lisa Curran Parenteau, MA Delegate) 123 for / 19 against – **PASSED**

The second round of voting involved the **Recommendations**. The discussion, presentation of pros and cons, and vote for each of the 2 Recommendations (to the National AMTA Board of Directors) concluded as follows:

1. [Regional field representatives for students and schools](#) (submitted by the Indiana Chapter) 81 for / 56 opposed – **PASSED**
2. [Purpose of the Chapter Presidents Council](#) (submitted by the Indiana Chapter) 20 for / 119 against – **FAILED**

The final round of voting was for 2010 HODOC Candidates for holding an HODOC position in the 2009-2011 window of service. The 2009 HOD meeting ended at approximately 4:20pm.

Here is the AMTA National publication of a summary of the House of Delegates activity:

“AMTA House of Delegates approves two position statements

The AMTA House of Delegates debated proposals for association position statements that express the sense of the membership on matters pertaining to massage therapy. This year, the delegates approved two position statements, which are now official positions of the association.

Two proposed position statements were not approved, as delegates felt their language and/or the research support cited were not at the level the delegates would like to see for the association to take such positions. Details on the approved position statements will soon be available on the AMTA website and will become part of the association’s efforts to promote the value of massage therapy, supported by research.

The approved statements are:

- It is the position of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) that massage can aid in pain relief.*
- It is the position of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) that massage therapy can improve the quality of life for those in hospice and palliative care.*

The AMTA House of Delegates has now approved six position statements since it first began voting on them in 2006. Proposals for AMTA position statements are developed and submitted by members according to specific guidelines and criteria. Proposals that meet all criteria are presented to the House of Delegates at its meeting that occurs during the AMTA national convention. Delegates are elected by their chapters to represent members in that state (and Washington, D.C.)”

We would like to thank all the members and the membership who had and continue to support the Nevada Delegation to attend the 2009 House of Delegates. It is indeed our duty *and* privilege to represent the Nevada Chapter Members of the AMTA; thank you for the opportunity to serve our industry and Association.

Sincerely,

David Otto & Billie Shea

If you would like information on [how to create, write, construct, and submit a Position Statement or Recommendation](#) for vote in the 2010 House of Delegates, please contact [Patrice Marvel](#) or [Billie Shea](#), 2010 Nevada Chapter Delegates, *as soon as possible* – deadlines are set for the February to March timeframe and there are many considerations to address before submission to the House of Delegates Operations Committee.