

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

Minutes
March 17, 2021

Subject to the approval and correction of the Board at its next meeting

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Nevada State Board of Accountancy is to protect the welfare of the citizens of the State of Nevada by assuring the competency of persons licensed as Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) and compliance with professional standards by the registered CPA firms.

NOTICE

On March 22, 2020, Governor Sisolak signed Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, which suspends the requirement that public bodies in Nevada provide a physical location for members of the public to attend and participate in meetings open to the public. In accordance with Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, the Nevada State Board of Accountancy ("Board") is providing other methods for the public to provide comment. Members of the public may submit written comments electronically before, during or after the meeting by email to cpa@nvaccountancy.com. You may also mail written comments to 1325 Airmotive Way, Suite 220, Reno, Nevada 89502 or fax comments to (775) 786-0234. Members of the public may provide public comment telephonically during Board meetings. The Board has reserved the following number for the public's telephonic participation: (877) 873-8018 / Access ID 2972156#. Members of the public providing comments telephonically should dial the telephone number above approximately five (5) minutes before the meeting starts to provide their names to Board personnel. Those participating telephonically are asked to mute their telephones when not speaking. To resolve any issues related to dialing in to provide public comment, please call (775) 786-0231.

An open meeting of the Nevada State Board of Accountancy was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by President, Michael Davis, March 17, 2021 at the offices of the Nevada Society CPAs 5422 Longley Ln, Suite A, Reno, Nevada and by Teleconference 1-877-873-8018, Access ID 2972156# and via zoom invite link.

Board Members Present:

Michael E. Davis President,
Rick Arpin
Charles Russell

Kerry Eaton, Secretary/Treasurer
Nikki Etherington
Jannet Vreeland

Rachael Thomsen

Board Staff Present:

Karen Peterson, Counsel
Viki A. Windfeldt, Executive Director
Leslie C. Walsh, Deputy Director

- A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Establish a Quorum
- B. **Public Comment Section:** In accordance with NRS 241.020 Public Comment will be taken prior to the beginning of the meeting.
Note: No one was present for this section of the public comment agenda item.

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◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ CONSENT AGENDA ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

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 change.

- *1. Approval of January 13, 2021 and February 16, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
(For Possible Action)

- *2. Ratification of Applications for Certified Public Accountant – Non-Appearance
(For Possible Action):

Katherine Barreto	Aaron Cowee	Jeremiah Boeckman	Ileana Delfaus-Beccue
Jennifer Gledhill	Maya Gocheva	Angelica Geurrero	Rafael Herrera
Jennifer Hoskinson	Tyler Jansson	Rolf Johannessen	Amy Klouse
Chris Linford	Chris Liu	Chanpheng Lengsavath	
Harold Manning	Timothy Moore	Carlos Paredes	Henry Phan
Alison Powers	Diana Rivera	Oscar Rubio Jimenez	Caitlin Sandoval
Skylar Stevens	Celine Taing	Rose Terelak	Leonard Wadsworth
Gregory Ward	Min Yi Zhang	Qingyuan Zheng	

- *3. Approval of Change to License Status *(For Possible Action):*

<u>Inactive Status:</u>	Michelle Faithful	Agustin Galicia	Brenda Laird
	Michael Schroeder		
<u>Retired Status:</u>	Shele Bannon	Larry Bigler	Radha Chanderaj
	Ronald Durkin	Diana Giovannoni	Dolores Grover
	Kenneth Lodgen	Peggy McCaslin	Johnny McCuin
	Wallace Rowe	Connie Stechman	David Zeleniak

- *4. Review and Approval of Finances *(For Possible Action)*
 - A. Monthly Income & Expense in compliance with NRS 622.234

- *5. Board Approval of Fictitious Name Use: *(For Possible Action)*
 - A. Lamplight Advisors LLC

- *6. Board Approval of CPA Exam Scores December 2020 – January 2021
(For Possible Action)

- *7. No items scheduled under this agenda item

The consent agenda and supporting documents were reviewed by the Board. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the consent agenda items. Board Members abstained from voting on Applications for Certification as follows: Charles Russell for Chris Liu, Henry Phan, and Leonard Wadsworth; Nikki Etherington for Jeremiah Boeckman and Min Yi Zhang; and Rachael Thomsen for Ileana Delfaus-Beccue, Rafael Herrera, Tyler Jansson, Amy Klouse, Alison Powers, Oscar Rubio Jimenez and Qingyuan Zheng;

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ REGULAR AGENDA ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Agenda Item 8: Grievance Report and Grievance Matters (*For Possible Action*)

Note: NRS 241.020 requires the Board to list individuals that may have administrative action taken against them in connection with the Board's disciplinary grievance report. The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health for any of the grievances filed with or disciplinary action considered by the board.

A. Review of Grievance Report (*For Possible Action*)

Motion was made, seconded and carried to close complaint matter I2020.018 based on compliance and the closure letter containing cautionary language regarding client record retention.

Motion was made, seconded and carried to close complaint matter I2021.001 based on lack of cause and the closure letter containing cautionary language regarding the return of client records.

Motion was made, seconded and carried to close the following non-licensee complaint matters NL2020.002 and NL2021.001 based on compliance.

Note: Board Member Jannet Vreeland abstained from voting for items under agenda item 8 based on participation on the Enforcement Committee of the Board.

Agenda Item 9: Report of Legal Counsel (*For Possible Action*)

A. Legislative Update

Legal Counsel Karen Peterson provided a Legislative Update based on the 2021 Legislative Session.

Agenda Item 10: Report of Executive Director (*For Possible Action*):

Administrative Items:

A. Review of Monthly Board Statistics

Executive Director provided the Board with a report of the monthly board office administrative detail statistics since the last Board meeting.

B. Nevada State Required Reporting Monitoring Update

Executive Director provided the Board with an update report for the Nevada State Required Reporting documents.

Miscellaneous Items:

C. NASBA Regional Director Focus Questions

Executive Director provided the Board with the NASBA Regional Director Focus Questions. The Board provided response feedback to the focus questions.

Agenda Item 10 (Cont.)

D. NASBA Acceptance of Scores from Proposed Remote Testing Pilot
Executive Director provided the Board with a request from NASBA in connection with the scores from remote pilot testing. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve and accept the scores from candidates that take the pilot remote testing CPA examination.

E. Legislative Sunset Committee – Occupational Licensing Study
Executive Director provided the Board with an update from the Legislative Sunset Committee and the final Occupational Licensing Study. A summary of the study included recommendations in the areas of Good Moral Character, Cost of Licensing, Education & Experience, Reciprocity by Endorsement, Interstate Compacts, and Licensee information.

F. Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL) Update
Executive Director provided the Board with updated report from ARPL. A summary of the Oxford Report indicates licensing is associated with a greater percentage average increase in hourly earnings. Particularly minority and females holding a professional license can expect a wage increase upon becoming licensed.

G. Board discussion of COVID19 Vaccine Update
Executive Director provided the Board with information that licensees have inquired if the CPA/Accounting profession is considered to be front line workers in order to receive the COVID19 vaccine sooner in the State identified prioritization lanes. The Board discussed the topic and determined that based on the information available by the Governor's office, CPAs are not a priority profession and would need to obtain a vaccine on their own.

H. NASBA Conference(s) Update
Executive Director provided the Board with an update on NASBA's remote conferences. The Executive Director and Legal Counsel conferences will be held virtually April 12 – 14, 2021 and the NASBA Regional Conference will be held virtually on June 22 – 23, 2021. There is no cost to register for the virtual conferences.

Agenda Item 11 Board consideration of Change to Educational Requirements

(For Possible Action):

A. Aaron Saiewitz, PhD/UNLV

Appearance 10:00 AM

Dr. Saiewitz, PhD from the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) came before the Board to request consideration to change the educational requirements. Dr. Saiewitz provided a summary to the request regarding the current requirement of 9 credit hours in the area of Financial Accounting. The request of UNLV would be to amend the Financial Accounting credit hours to 6. The Board discussed the educational requirement change. Motion was made, seconded and carried to direct staff to draft updated regulations of the educational requirements to reflect 6 credits in financial accounting as opposed to 9 credits. These proposed regulations will be reviewed and discussed at their next Board meeting.

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Agenda Item 12 Board ratification of extensions for CPA Exam Credit & Notice to Schedule *(For Possible Action)*

The Board reviewed the requests for extensions and Motion was made, seconded and carried to ratify the extensions for CPA Exam Credit and Notice to Schedule as provided. Board members Nikki Etherington abstained from voting on Sean Bischel; Michael Davis for Jonathan Ampudia; and Charles Russell for Megan Hirsch.

Agenda Item 13 Board approval of amendment to the Personnel & Salary Benefits Policy *(For Possible Action)*

The Board reviewed the amendments to the Personnel & Salary Benefits Policy and directed staff to further amend the policy language as discussed, and provide an updated draft for approval at the next Board meeting.

Agenda Item 14: President's Report *(For Possible Action)*

Nothing was discussed under this agenda item.

Agenda Item 15: Next Board Meeting: May 18, 2021 Las Vegas NV

C. **Public Comment Section:** In accordance with NRS 241.020 Public Comment will be taken prior to the adjournment of the meeting.

Note: No one was present for this section of the public comment agenda item.

D. Adjournment

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY
STATISTICS INFORMATION

	Board Statistics	January February 18th 2020	March April 2020	May June 2020	July August 2020	September October 2020	November December 2020	January February
Administration								
	Website Hits	586,291 216,151	842,873 184,818	195,839 244,724	218,104 282,173	287,835 257,192	233,187 658,983	Numbers Pending
Examination								
	Initial Applications	31	34	45	32	41	26	34
	Re-Exam Applications	45	81	78	92	92	95	116
Licensing								
	Original Certification Applications	15	10	9	10	9	21	16
	Reciprocal Applications	6	4	12	12	8	9	14
	Licenses Issued	30	21	17	29	20	31	32
	Individual Experience Reviews	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Return Active Status	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
	Retired Status	20	13	4	0	1	22	29
	Inactive Status	9	5	0	1	1	6	6
	Voluntary Surrender	15	13	1	0	3	16	16
	Practice Privilege Applications	6	4	4	4	5	9	7
	In State Firm Applications	4	1	7	7	10	5	3
	Fictitious Name Applications	2	1	5	3	3	5	1
	Criminal History Petitions (AB319)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enforcement								
	Complaints - Licensee	1	7	3	1	4	4	1
	Complaints - Non-Licensee	1	2	1	0	0	1	2
	Complaints - Firms	3	1	1	1	5	1	0
	CPE Shortage Complaints	0	33	20	2	2	4	42
	Stipulated Agreements/Formal Complaint	1	24	4	0	1	1	0
	Disciplinary Hearings	0	0	0	6	0	1	0
	Peer Review Compliance Monitoring	24	17	17	25	31	30	30
	Pending Litigation Monitoring	28	18	18	18	18	18	18
	Fingerprint/Background Processing	39	19	26	22	22	25	39
Peer Review								
	Submissions				90	155		
	Exemptions				587	1005		
CPE Audit								
	Submissions							
	Exemptions							
	Out of State							
Renewals								
	Individual CPA Renewal						2161	3382
	Firm Renewal						485	708
Meetings/ Training								
	FARB Executive Director Training							
	FARB Board Member Training							
	Combined Occup/Prof Boards Meetings							
	Board of Accountancy Mtgs	1	1	0	1	1	1	1
	Certified Contract Manager Course							