

# NEVADA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

Minutes  
May 18, 2021

## 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](mailto: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 10:45 A.M. by President, Michael Davis, May 18, 2021 at Gerety & Associates, CPAs Meeting Center, 6823 S. Eastern Ave, Suite 100 Las Vegas NV 89119 and by Teleconference, 1-877-873-8018, Access ID 2972156#.

### Board Members Present:

Michael E. Davis, President	Kerry Eaton, Secretary/Treasurer	
Rick Arpin	Nikki Etherington	Rachael Thomsen
Charles Russell	Jannet Vreeland	

### 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.*

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ 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 March 17, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes (*For Possible Action*)
- \*2. Ratification of Applications for Certified Public Accountant – Non-Appearance (*For Possible Action*):

Marelize Barber	Bennett Billings	Ryan Bowman	Adam Cardon
Patrick Carr	Yan Pui Chan	Gary Davis	Misty Deering
Diana Dwyer	Pradeep Gandhi	James Geary	Josephine Interiano
Zachary Johnson	Tirena Jones	Deborah Kinder	Erin Klein
David Lesser	Jeff Liang	Luna Lu	Ruby Mendoza
Thi Tuyet Nguyen	Catherine Peck	Tanner Peterson	Alissa Qassam-Ali
Austin Rottman	Brittany Stuck	Julio Trejo	Jeffrey Unalp
Landon Welch	Kimberly Williams	Yanmin Zhu-Howard	
- \*3. Approval of Change to License Status (*For Possible Action*):

<u>Retired Status:</u>	John Awad	Beth Kohn Cole	Christopher Obmann
	Tiffany Smith		
- \*4. Review and Approval of Finances (*For Possible Action*)
  - A. Monthly Income & Expense in compliance with NRS 622.234
- \*5. Board Approval of CPA Exam Scores February – March 2021 (*For Possible Action*)
- \*6. Board Approval of Fictitious Name Use (*For Possible Action*)
  - A. 3W Premier Accounting
- \*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: Rick Arpin for Thi Tuyet Nguyen; Nikki Etherington for Adam Cardon, Ruby Mendoza, Tanner Peterson; Charles Russell for Marelize Barber, Erin Klein, Luna Lu, Austin Rottman; Rachael Thomsen for Misty Deering, Alissa Qassam-Ali; Jannet Vreeland for Pradeep Gandhi

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ 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*)

No motions were made under this agenda item

B. Board Review and Determination on Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Disciplinary and Consent Order for Alexandria Yi (*For Possible Action*)

Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Disciplinary and Consent Order for Alexandria Yi with the following provisions:

1. Yi's Certified Public Accountant's Certificate No. CPA-5330 shall be placed on probation until December 3, 2021, the one-year period concurrent with the PCAOB bar from being an associated person of a registered public accounting firm as set forth in its Order issued December 3, 2020.
2. Yi will not associate with a PCAOB registered public accounting firm or accept any engagements to audit any issuer, as defined in Section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78(c)), during the probationary period as set forth in the PCAOB order. If Yi is permitted to associate with a registered public accounting firm after the one-year bar, Yi must comply with the provisions as outlined within the PCAOB Order restricting her role in any audit for a one-year period from the date the bar is terminated. The Board understands that the PCAOB does not find Yi's employment with Prager Metis to be in violation of its Order because Yi does not work on or receive compensation from public company audits, and therefore such employment is not in violation of this provision.
3. Yi will forward copies of any correspondence with the PCAOB or Securities and Exchange Commission or their respective Staffs concerning the PCAOB Order discussed herein to the Board during the probationary period within 10 days of its date.
4. During the probationary period, Yi shall provide quarterly reports to the Board listing the names of new clients in Nevada for which attest services will be provided and the nature of the services to be provided. The report shall be submitted to the Board within thirty (30) days of the end of each quarter and provided under penalty of perjury.
5. If in the employ of a public accounting firm during the probationary period, if performing attest services for non-public clients in Nevada, Yi agrees that her work and any report will be reviewed by a licensed certified public accountant in good standing, even if employed or a partner in that public accounting firm.
6. If Yi leaves the employ of a public accounting firm and either establishes her own practice or joins with other certified public accountants and therefore assumes the primary responsibility for performing attest services for non-public clients in Nevada, Yi agrees to pre-release reviews by a licensed certified public accountant for any attest work as defined in NRS 628.005 until the later of: (a) the end of the probationary period or (b) Yi submits a completed peer review report as issued by the AICPA or Nevada

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Agenda Item 8 (Cont.)

Society of CPAs without comments. The cost of the pre-issuance reviews shall be borne by Yi. The certified public accountant preparing the pre-issuance reviews for Yi shall be approved by the Board. Yi shall submit engagement quality review reports to the Board within thirty (30) days of the issuance of each report.

7. The discipline imposed on Yi shall be binding upon and apply to any firms associated with Yi, including but not limited to any firm formed by Yi.

8. Yi agrees to pay the Board's attorney's fees and costs of \$3,060.50 associated with the Consent Order.

9. Yi's failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions of these Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Disciplinary and Consent Order shall result in the immediate revocation of Yi's CPA Certificate Number CPA-5330 without any further action or proceeding before the Board.

10. This Decision will be published in accordance with NAC 628.450.

C. Board Determination and Approval of Hearing Officer Recommendations based on scheduled hearings held May 10, 2021 against the following licensees for failure to renew the 2021 license and provide the required 2020 continuing education: *(For Possible Action)*

Motion was made, seconded and carried to revoke the licenses of the following individuals for failure to renew the 2021 license and provide the required continuing professional education information and documentation:

Michael Berkovitz	Joseph Comish	Phillip Moore Jr.
Mukesh Pursnani	Jonathan Wyndham	Maria Zuniga
Cheryl Lane/Global Tax Planning LLC		

Motion was made, seconded and carried to dismiss the following formal complaints that were issued for failure to renew the 2021 license and submit CPE based on the following:

R2021.001	Retired Status
R2021.003	Voluntary Surrender
R2021.004	Deceased
R2021.007	Voluntary Surrender
R2021.009	Voluntary Surrender
R2021.010	Retired Status
R2021.011	Voluntary Surrender
R2021.014	Compliance - Renewed License
R2021.016	Inactive Status
R2021.019	Compliance – Renewed License
R2021.020	Compliance – Renewed License
R2021.023	Compliance – Renewed License

Board President Michael Davis, as the hearing officer, abstained from all matters under agenda item 8C.

Agenda Item 8 (Cont.)

- D. Board Determination & Approval of initiating action pursuant to NRS 628.570 and/or NRS 628.580 against Richard Grosvenor for utilizing the CPA designation in Nevada without a license *(For Possible Action)*

Viki Windfeldt provided the Board with a summary of actions taken by Board staff with regard to Richard Grosvenor holding out as a Nevada CPA. No further action will be taken at this time.

Board member Jannet Vreeland abstained from all matters under agenda item 8 based on her participation on the Board's Enforcement Committee.

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

- A. Legislative Update

Legal Counsel provided the Board with 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. Nevada Society of CPAs Peer Review Administering Entity Update

Executive Director provided an update regarding the Nevada Society of CPAs peer review program benchmark summary and oversight report.

- D. Board Interpretation of Code of Conduct Client Records Update

Executive Director provided the Board with the AICPA Revised Records Requests interpretation to identify if changes are needed to the Board's interpretation document of the Code of Conduct. It was determined that no changes were necessary.

- E. 2021 CPE Audit Program Board Direction

Executive Director requested Board direction regarding the 2021 CPE Documentation Audit. Board staff will proceed with conducting the 2021 CPE Documentation audit.

- F. NASBA Executive Director & Legal Counsel Conference Follow Up

Executive Director provided the Board with follow up information from NASBA virtual conference.

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Agenda Item 10 (Cont.)

G. Board Information on UAA Education & Experience Language for discussion and possible regulation changes  
Executive Director provided the Board with draft regulation changes. Additional changes were recommended and additional information was requested which will be provided at the next Board meeting

H. NASBA Regional Conference Agenda  
Executive Director provided the Board with the agenda for the NASBA Regional Virtual Conference to be held June 22 – June 23, 2021.

Agenda Item 11 Board presentation of the New Model for Licensure CPA Evolution

A. Daniel Dustin, CPA, NASBA Vice President, State Board Relations

**Appearance 1:30 PM**

Dan Dustin presented the Board with an informational summary of CPA Evolution.

Agenda Item 12: Board Review & Approval of Application for CPA Certification  
*(For Possible Action)*

A. Rebecca Hirst

Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Application for CPA Certification for Rebecca Hirst based on the experience provided and the individual review performed.

Agenda Item 13: 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.

Agenda Item 14: Board approval of amendment to the Personnel & Salary Benefits Policy *(For Possible Action)*

The Board reviewed the amended language to the Personnel & Salary Benefits Policy. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the amended language as provided.

Agenda Item 15: Board approval of staff vacation time payout based on Board policy *(For Possible Action)*

The Board reviewed a vacation payout request by Viki Windfeldt. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve 336 hours of vacation payout to Viki Windfeldt immediately. Board staff was reminded and encouraged to take at least 40 hours of vacation time annually.

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Agenda Item 16: Board approval of language to amend NAC 628.020 and NAC 628.055 to reduce financial accounting course requirement from 9 to 6 semester hours *(For Possible Action)*

Motion was made, seconded and carried to reduce the financial accounting course requirement from 9 to 6 semester hours and to reduce the accounting elective requirement from 12 to 9 hours, for a total of 24 semester hours of accounting above the introductory level.

Agenda Item 17: Board approval of employment agreements for the following *(For Possible Action)*:

- A. Glenn Bougie, CPA – Board Investigator
- B. Harry Parsons, CPA – Board Investigator
- C. Patrick Thorne, CPA – Board Investigator

Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the contracts for employment for the above investigators.

Agenda Item 18: Board consideration & approval of UNLV Vita Program toward the Experience Requirement *(For Possible Action)* **Appearance 2:30 PM**

Debra Biordi, CPA from the University of Las Vegas came forward to discuss the VITA Program and whether it would satisfy the required experience for licensure. The Board discussed the VITA Program. The Board asked for additional information regarding other states acceptance of this experience which will be provided at the next Board meeting.

Agenda Item 19: Election of Board Officers *(For Possible Action)*

Election of Officers for the Nevada State Board of Accountancy was held. Nominations were opened for President. Kerry Eaton was nominated. There being no other nominations, a motion was made, seconded and carried that the nominations be closed. Kerry Eaton will be elected by acclamation. The record reflects Kerry Eaton as President of the Board for a one-year term effective July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.

Nominations were opened for Secretary/Treasurer. Jannet Vreeland was nominated. There being no other nominations, a motion was made, seconded and carried that the nominations be closed. Jannet Vreeland will be elected by acclamation. The record reflects Jannet Vreeland as Secretary/Treasurer of the Board for a one-year term effective July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.

Board Member Jannet Vreeland was re-appointed to the Board's Enforcement Committee for a one-year term effective July 1 2021 – June 30, 2022.

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Agenda Item 20: President's Report (*For Possible Action*)

Nothing was discussed under this agenda item.

Agenda Item 21: Next Board Meeting: July 21, 2021 Reno NV

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

Anna Durst from the Nevada Society of CPAs informed the Board that the New Licensee Recognition dinners will be held this year in Reno on October 27<sup>th</sup> and in Las Vegas on October 28<sup>th</sup>,

D. Adjournment



