



OREGON BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY
Qualifications Committee
Minutes of November 14, 2018

Committee Members Present

Rachelle Quinn (Chair)
Yvette Burling, CPA
Casey Camors, CPA
Haley Fish, CPA
Megan Kurz, CPA
Tonya Moffitt, CPA
Michael Schmidt, CPA (left 11:33 am)
Michael Smoot, CPA

Staff Present

Julie Nadeau, Licensing Manager
Stacey Janes, Licensing Specialist
Ashlie Rios, Licensing Specialist (left 11:05am)

Excused Absence

Ryan Kramer, CPA
Zane Selbak, CPA
Nicholas Van Vleet, CPA

Guests Present

Aswini Subramanian, applicant
Jeremy Waldron, supervisor - Subramanian
Jack Daniels, applicant
Jeff Hart, supervisor – Daniels
Jill Ward, supervisor – Daniels
Aaron Bean, applicant
Kaitlyn Van Alyne, applicant
Venkataramhava Nagaraju, applicant

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Qualifications Committee (QC) convened for a regularly scheduled meeting on November 14, 2018. Rachelle Quinn, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and called the roll.

2. REPORT OF BOARD ACTION

Ms. Nadeau reported that the Board approved the committee's recommendations at their meeting of October 26, 2018.

A. Current Applications

1. Aaron Bean

Mr. Bean passed the Uniform CPA examination in November 2016. Experience was gained at the following employer:

Intel Corporation – 27 Months – All Competencies

Ms. Fish introduced Mr. Bean's application. Ms. Kurz inquired about whether or not all of the experience was gained at Intel and about supervisory practices. Mr. Bean stated that all of the experience mentioned in the narrative was gained at Intel and that there were two layers of review with Mr. Aaron Saito having the final approval of his work.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

Haley Fish moved to find that there is sufficient evidence to make a preliminary finding that Aaron Bean has demonstrated the competencies necessary for initial licensing per OAR 801-010-0065.

MOTION PASSED. 7 Ayes; Michael Schmidt abstained as he is a MoU Committee member at Intel.

2. Jack Daniels

Mr. Daniels passed the Uniform CPA examination in January 2015. Experience was gained at the following employers:

Verity Accountancy – 14 Months, PT work (330 hours total) – All Competencies
WiMAX Forum – 82 months – All Competencies

Ms. Camors introduced Mr. Daniels’ application. She noted that Mr. Daniels submitted his application for review at the May 5, 2015 QC meeting, where his application was deferred. His application was deferred again at the July 22, 2015 meeting, and then denied at the September 23, 2015 Board meeting for a lack of proficiency in competencies B, C, D, E, and G. Ms. Camors indicated that Mr. Daniels’ narrative is broken down between Verity and WiMAX and said that she spoke with Mr. Daniels to clarify the detail of the narrative and examples included. Ms. Camors was initially concerned with Mr. Daniels’ understanding of risk assessment, but her concerns were alleviated after a discussion with the applicant. Mr. Schmidt requested that Mr. Daniels provide a similar explanation to the full Committee. Mr. Daniels discussed his risk assessment work involving a current client, including the audit plan procedures. Mr. Hart, Mr. Daniels’ supervising CPA, added that the audit procedures were identified with his help, but noted that Mr. Daniels performed the field work. Mr. Schmidt inquired about supervisory activities at WiMAX and Mr. Daniels clarified that he worked with Ms. Ward the first year until the office was closed in October 2012 when he began working remotely.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

Casey Camors moved to find that there is sufficient evidence to make a preliminary finding that Jack Daniels has demonstrated the competencies necessary for initial licensing per OAR 801-010-0065.

MOTION PASSED. 8 Ayes.

3. Venkataraghava Nagaraju

Mr. Nagaraju passed the Uniform CPA examination in February 2017. Experience was gained at the following employer:

Cascades Recovery – 20 Months – All Competencies

Ms. Burling introduced Mr. Nagaraju’s application, pointing out that the period of supervision was from July 2017 to July 2018 due to the qualifications of the supervising CPA (Mr. Nagaraju started working at Cascades Recovery in December 2016, but his supervising CPA did not qualify to supervise until July 2017.) Ms. Burling, Ms. Quinn, and Mr. Schmidt expressed concern with competency B, noting that the discussion of performance measures and critical success factors were not explicitly stated. Mr. Nagaraju explained that he performed a feasibility study to identify the impact of market factors and market decline. He was able to identify and address areas of concern. Ms. Quinn stated that it would have been helpful to see technical literature reviewed in competency F.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

Yvette Burling moved to find that there is sufficient evidence to make a preliminary finding that Venkataraghava Nagaraju has demonstrated the competencies necessary for initial licensing per OAR 801-010-0065.

MOTION PASSED. 8 Ayes.

4. Aswini Subramanian

Ms. Subramanian passed the Uniform CPA examination in July 2017. Experience was gained at the following employer:

New World Van Lines – 13 Months – All Competencies

Ms. Quinn introduced Ms. Subramanian’s application in Mr. Kramer’s absence, reading the notes he prepared in advance of the meeting. Ms. Kurz expressed concerns with competencies B, D, E, F, and G. Competency B was lacking in detail, success factors for the organization were not communicated, and the discussion did not include an assessment of the impact. Ms. Moffitt suggested that greater detail in the last paragraph could provide clarity. Ms. Kurz said the information in Competency D is granular and doesn’t articulate the role of financial statements. The Committee felt that Competency E was generally lacking in information and did not address risk assessment from an analytical perspective. Competency F didn’t specifically address accounting standards, talking only briefly about GAAP. Competency G should define management and identify specific management for reporting or discuss working with a higher-level team.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DEFERRAL

Rachelle Quinn moved to defer the application pending more information for competencies B, D, E, F, and G.

MOTION PASSED. 8 Ayes.

5. Kaitlyn Van Alyne

Ms. Van Alyne passed the Uniform CPA examination in May 2016. Experience was gained at the following employer:

Intel Corporation – 22 Months – Competencies A, B, C, E, F, G
Cambia Health – 24 Months – Competencies B, D, F, G

Ms. Kurz introduced Ms. Van Alyne’s application. Ms. Van Alyne has had various positions over her career; positions with two employers and two different supervisors at each company. Ms. Kurz felt that Ms. Van Alyne should provide additional experience and support in regards to competency E, as it didn’t convey on a long-term basis that risk assessment had been incorporated into daily activities, but was more of a routine annual assessment. While the examples in the narrative provided the level of detail that the Committee expects, they weren’t comfortable that two months of supervised work is enough to demonstrate proficiency in risk assessment. Mr. Schmidt, clarified the oversight, explaining that experts in different fields work with the applicants through the MoU program and provided sufficient supervision to document competency. Ms. Kurz asked for clarification as to how Ms. Van Alyne assessed risk. Ms. Van Alyne responded that they started from a fresh environment and would address where they thought they needed to work. Mr. Schmidt added that Intel Corporation has partnered with PWC to refresh their SOX documentation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DEFERRAL

Megan Kurz moved to defer the application pending additional information for competency E.

MOTION PASSED. 8 Ayes.

6. Cheuk Yan (Sandy) Kwan

Ms. Kwan passed the Uniform CPA examination in May 2016. Experience was gained at the following employer:

WSP – 27 Months – All Competencies

Mr. Smoot introduced Ms. Kwan’s application, noting that Ms. Kwan submitted her application for review at the January 18, 2017 Qualifications Committee meeting. Her application was deferred and Ms. Kwan withdrew her application to gain additional experience.

Mr. Smoot said he suggested revisions in the following areas Competency C should include additional discussion surrounding revenue and more detail regarding internal control findings. Competency D should include greater discussion around procedures. Competency E should provide more detail about specific risks identified within Accounts Receivable

Ms. Moffitt confirmed that the experience outlined in the narrative was obtained under the supervising CPA, Ms. Ling. Mr. Schmidt said he struggled to tie the information in competency E to the scope of Ms. Kwan’s job duties, asking if she performs analysis independently. Mr. Smoot said he found portions of the narrative difficult to understand and that he had clarified some areas with Ms. Kwan as he was reviewing the narrative.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DEFERRAL

Mr. Smoot moved to defer the application pending more information for Competency E.

MOTION PASSED: 6 Ayes, 1 Nay (Schmidt).

B. Deferred Applications

1. Michael Stout

Mr. Stout passed the Uniform CPA examination in November 2011. Experience was gained at the following employer:

Clark County Auditor’s Office – 45 Months – All Competencies

Ms. Quinn noted that Mr. Stout’s application was deferred at the September 19, 2018 meeting due to insufficient information for all competencies. Mr. Stout revised his narrative, providing additional information and examples to further support his experience.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

Ms. Quinn moved to find that there is sufficient evidence to make a preliminary finding that Michael Stout has demonstrated the competencies necessary for initial licensing per OAR 801-010-0065.

MOTION PASSED. 7 Ayes.

2. Jiani Wang

Ms. Wang passed the Uniform CPA examination in February 2014. Experience was gained at the following employer:

StanCorp Financial Group – 16 Months – All Competencies

Mr. Smoot noted that Ms. Wang's application was deferred at the September 19, 2018 meeting for competencies D and E. Ms. Wang revised her narrative, streamlining processes, and articulating her understanding of risk assessment.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

Mr. Smoot moved to find that there is sufficient evidence to make a preliminary finding that Jiani Wang has demonstrated the competencies necessary for initial licensing per OAR 801-010-0065.

MOTION PASSED. 7 Ayes.

3. Bryan Chipman

Mr. Chipman passed the Uniform CPA examination in December 2017. Experience was gained at the following employer:

PriceWaterhouseCoopers – 9 Months – All Competencies
The Walt Disney Company – 5 Months – All Competencies

Ms. Fish noted that Mr. Chipman's application was deferred at the September 19, 2018 meeting due to a lack of information on competencies E, F, and G. Mr. Chipman updated both narratives to the satisfaction of the Committee.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

Ms. Fish moved to find that there is sufficient evidence to make a preliminary finding that Bryan Chipman has demonstrated the competencies necessary for initial licensing per OAR 801-010-0065.

MOTION PASSED. 7 Ayes.

5. NEW BUSINESS

2019 Calendar

Ms. Nadeau said the 2019 meeting calendar was modeled after the 2018 calendar and asked committee members to identify potentially problematic dates. Ms. Kurz noted that more frequent meetings in the second half of the year created hardship for members. Staff will revise the meeting dates to be spaced more evenly. Once the Board adopts their 2019 calendar in December, Board staff will poll committee members with the revised dates.

MoUs

All approved programs are required to submit documentation annually. The reports included in the agenda materials are for information only.

6. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 AM.