

The mission of the Board of Accountancy is to protect Oregon consumers by ensuring only qualified licensees practice public accountancy in accordance with established professional standards and promulgated rules.

BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY September 30, 2022

Members Present:

Nancy Young-Oliver, CPA, CISA, CFE, Chair Joseph Sullivan, CPA, Vice Chair Stuart Morris, PA Jason Robinson CPA, Treasurer Haley Lyons, CPA Logan Steele, Public Member

Members Excused:

Raul Valdivia, CPA

Staff Present:

Martin Pittioni, Executive Director Jeremiah Leppert, CPA, CFE, Investigator Lorrie Gordon, Licensing Specialist Mela Cooper, Board Staff Chihiro Friedman, Board Staff Andrew Barlow, Licensing Coordinator Angie Hunt, AAG

Guests Present:

Dan Dustin, NASBA
Pat Hartman, NASBA
Amanda Fels, OAIA
Sherri McPherson, OSCPA
John Hawkins, OSCPA
Amber Daniels, HR
Ray Johnson
Marilyn Johnson
Kate White

Summary of Motions Regarding Investigations Heard in Executive Session

No investigations were brought before the Board at this meeting.

Agenda Review and Approval

Add Item 12c Approval of April 11, 2022 Board Minutes. The Board reviewed and approved the revised public agenda.

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to approve the revised public agenda.

VOTE: 6 Ayes MOTION PASSED

Settlement Agreements

The Board reviewed and approved the following settlement agreements:

22-001 Brian D. Larson

22-002 Jeffrey Moore / Hansen Hunter & Co PC

22-003 Paul Peterson / Armanino LLP

22-004 Barbara Sena / Marcum LLP

NASBA Services

The Board discussed solutions offered by NASBA to state boards of accountancy, with information provided by Ms. Hartman.

CPA Examination Services (CPAES) is currently in place in 35 states. CPAES includes receipt and processing of exam applications and has availability outside of the Board's normal business hours for support. If the Board signed onto CPAES, it should not negatively affect staff. Costs would be covered by applicants' fees.

Legal Counsel stated that there would need to be a rule change to make this change.

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to have NASBA take over the CPA Examination process in the role of CPAFS.

VOTE: 6 Ayes MOTION PASSED

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to initiate rulemaking, temporary and permanent, to facilitate NASBA to take over examination processing via CPAES.

VOTE: **6** Ayes **MOTION PASSED**

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to transition to NASBA for CPE audit services for two renewal cycles.

VOTE: 6 Ayes MOTION PASSED

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to initiate rulemaking, temporary and permanent, to facilitate

NASBA to take over CPE audit processing.

VOTE: 6 Ayes MOTION PASSED

The Board discussed NASBA's other licensing services (wall certificates, permit cards) but deferred a decision to the December board meeting.

Sitting for CPA Exam at 120 versus 150 hours

Mr. Dustin presented information about jurisdictions that allow applicants to sit for the CPA Exam at 120 credit hours vs 150 hours.

Counsel stated that the 120 hours requirement is in statute and would require a statutory change.

Ms. McPherson stated that OSCPA Board of Directors intends to advance legislation allowing CPA candidates to sit for the CPA Exam at 120 hours, with licensure remaining at 150 hours.

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to support a change of statutory language to allow CPA candidates to sit for the CPA Exam at 120 hours but leave licensure unchanged at 150 hours.

VOTE: 6 Ayes **MOTION PASSED**

Experience Verification

Of 10 states that require a writeup on experience for licensure, only Oregon requires the applicant to draft that narrative. Other states require the supervisor licensee to sign off on applicant's experience. Oregon also processes applicants with industry experience through a separate process, going through the Qualifications Committee.

Mr. Johnson provided some historical context of the industry experience verification process.

Counsel stated that this change would have to go through a full rulemaking process, not a temporary rule change.

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to require only CPA supervisor licensee attestation form verifying

applicant competencies.

VOTE: 6 Ayes **MOTION PASSED**

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to initiate rulemaking, temporary and permanent, to facilitate the

change to require only supervisor licensee attestations.

VOTE: 6 Ayes MOTION PASSED

Substantial Equivalency and Reciprocity

Discussion of how different jurisdictions approach reciprocity between states, and how to respond to Qualifications Committee's memorandum on reciprocity. Additional duties not assigned to committee at this time.

CPE Reciprocity

CPE reciprocity is an arrangement in which a licensee licensed in multiple states has their principal state of business given precedence when considering CPE requirements of the multiple states. For example, if a licensee is licensed and practices in Tennessee and is also licensed in New York, meeting Tennessee's requirements means the licensee has automatically met the New York requirements.

This item was passed to the Laws and Rules Committee for consideration.

Refund Policy and Municipal Auditor Renewal fees

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to initiate rulemaking to adopt a rule on a refund policy.

VOTE: 6 Ayes MOTION PASSED

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to change municipal auditor renewal fee to \$100.

VOTE: 6 Ayes **MOTION PASSED**

Report of OSCPA

Mr. Hawkins stated that OSCPA is working on their 2023-2024 CPE curriculum, continuing in a hybrid format.

Report of OAIA

Ms. Fels reported that OAIA is offering their continuing education in a hybrid format, with many of their attendees preferring an online presentation.

<u>CPA Evolution – Exam Exposure Draft Comments</u>

Ms. Lyons found nothing in the content of the Exposure Draft that would warrant a comment.

Laws and Rules Committee

The Board discussed the requirements of forming the Laws and Rules Committee and what will be expected. Mr. Pittioni asked for direction on what the makeup of the committee should look like. Legal Counsel notified the Board of legal requirements concerning demographics of a rulemaking body.

Board Leadership Elections

Elections for Board leadership positions will be held at the December 15, 2022 board meeting.

Review and Approval of Minutes

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to approve Board minutes from January 28, 2022.

VOTE: 6 Aves MOTION PASSED

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to approve Board minutes from April 11, 2022.

VOTE: **6** Ayes **MOTION PASSED**

Report of Chair

Ms. Young-Oliver and Mr. Pittioni have been meeting regularly to make sure transition and rebuilding of the Board has been going well.

Report of Vice Chair

Mr. Sullivan thanked the staff for keeping the Board going through this transition period.

Report of Treasurer

Even in a downturn in the economy, the Board's fiscal position is strong. It would a good time to address major one-time financial needs, such as replacing the database.

Report of Executive Director

Mr. Pittioni discussed the agency's budget submission.

Staff has been rebuilt thanks to assistance from DAS HR. Board staff has processed approximately 80% of estimated renewals, and the backlog of unprocessed exam applications has been caught up.

Ratification Requests

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to ratify the issuance of new CPA licenses as presented.

VOTE: 6 Ayes MOTION PASSED

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to ratify the firm registrations as presented.

VOTE: 6 Ayes **MOTION PASSED**

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to ratify the issuance of new industry applicants as presented.

VOTE: 6 Ayes **MOTION PASSED**

BOARD ACTION: Moved by Mr. Robinson and carried to ratify the issuance of new municipal roster applicants as

presented.

VOTE: 6 Ayes **MOTION PASSED**

Announcements and Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be December 15, 2022.

ORS 673.015 Statement of public interest in regulating practice of accountancy

The public interest requires:

- (1) The promotion of reliable information used for guidance in financial transactions and accounting for, or assessing the financial status or performance of, commercial, noncommercial and governmental enterprises:
- (2) That persons professing special competence in accountancy or offering assurance as to the reliability or fairness of presentation of such information demonstrate their qualifications to do so, and that persons who have not demonstrated and maintained such qualifications, including public accountancy professionals not in public practice, not be permitted to hold themselves out as having special competence or to offer such assurance; and
- (3) That the conduct of persons licensed as having special competence in accountancy be regulated in all aspects of their professional work and that the use of titles relating to the practice of public accountancy that have the capacity or tendency to mislead or deceive the public as to the status or competence of the persons using the titles be prohibited.