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Division of Occupational Licensure
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AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
REGULATION

SARAH R. WILKINSON
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Board of Public Accountancy
Public Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2025

Board Members Present:

Richard H. Grueter, CPA, *Chair*
Lunetta Kwan, CPA, *Secretary*
Angela Parziale, CPA, MST, *Member*
James Redmond, CPA, *Member*

Staff Members Present:

Kerry Cassidy, *Executive Director*
Jennifer Fraga, *Program Coordinator*
Lynn Read, *Board Counsel*

All Board Members and staff appeared by video conference.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Jennifer Fraga.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Public Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2024. After a brief discussion, Mr. Grueter made a note of required revisions, a MOTION was made by Ms. Parziale to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2024, pending two corrections, seconded by Ms. Kwan. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Executive Session Minutes of November 21, 2024. After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Mr. Redmond to approve the Executive Session Minutes of November 21, 2024, seconded by Ms. Parziale. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS. Program Staff Ms. Fraga briefed the Board and meeting attendees that the Division of Occupation Licensure is moving their location in March 2025 to One Federal Street, Boston,

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT:

Status of Regulations 252 CMR 2.00 Board Counsel Lynn Read informed the Board of the agency-wide initiatives taking place regarding regulatory changes that may affect the status of



the board's revised regulations status. Ms. Read will monitor the changes and report back as more information becomes available.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL VOTE:

Draft Guidance on Continuing Education Requirements Board Counsel Lynn Read presented the pending draft from the last discussion by the Board at the November 21, 2024, meeting. The drafted guidance addresses the continuing education requirements for CPA license renewals. During this review, the Board discussed the importance of noting that the 80 hours acquired during the two-year license cycle is not permitted to carry over for the next cycle. A MOTION was made by Mr. Redmond to approve the draft changes, seconded by Ms. Kwan. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Massachusetts Association of CPAs – Upcoming Mobility Changes

Proposed Changes to the UAA and CPA Licensure Pathway Zachary Donah and Molly Sullivan of the Massachusetts Association of CPAs addressed the Board on their proposal to begin filings with legislation, as they are advocating for an additional pathway to CPA licensure. Ms. Sullivan spoke about the multiple states advocating for a similar change that would allow for an additional pathway for CPA candidates who have passed the exam. In short, while maintaining the existing licensure requirements for education and experience, a new additional pathway would allow for a candidate to become eligible through a bachelor's degree and two years of work experience. Mr. Donah mentioned that 35 other States are submitting similar proposals, and the national AICPA is changing the Uniform Accountancy Act. The Board, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Donah and Ms. Read spoke about the possible effects on mobility here in Massachusetts if not all states require 150 hours of educational credits and "substantial equivalency" currently between all states is lost. This item will remain on the agenda for further discussion and updates.

New Beneficial Ownership Information (BOI) Reporting Requirements Ms. Sullivan from the Massachusetts Association of CPAs followed up from the last meeting providing a run-down on recent activity surrounding this topic. As of present, businesses were and are voluntarily encouraged to file their reports as the deadline given was December 23, 2024, through January 1, 2025. Ms. Sullivan mentioned that this issue is still evolving under investigation with the Supreme Court.

Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting: None

Adjourn Public Meeting, Enter

Investigative Conference (Closed under G.L. c. 112, s. 65C).

At 11:00 a.m., a MOTION was made by Ms. Kwan, seconded by Mr. Redmond, to: (1) exit the public meeting; (2) enter closed Investigative Conference under G.L. c. 112 s. 65C; and not return to the public meeting except to adjourn. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Investigative Conference CLOSED under G. L. c. 112, § 65C

During the investigative conference, the Board took the following action:

Cases:

2024-000616-IT-ENF	Dismissed.
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CPE Audit:

2024-207568-FI-ENF	Remand to Compliance for information.
2024-207566-FI-ENF	Medical Exemption.
2024-207351-FI-ENF	Remand to Compliance for information.
2024-207318-FI-ENF	CE Approved.
2024-207317-FI-ENF	Dismissed with an Advisory.
2024-207161-FI-ENF	CE Approved.
2024-207163-FI-ENF	CE Approved.
2024-207165-FI-ENF	CE Approved.
2024-206996-FI-ENF	CE Approved.
2024-206990-FI-ENF	CE Approved.
2024-206994-FI-ENF	CE Approved.
2024-206998-FI-ENF	CE Approved.
2024-206995-FI-ENF	CE Approved.

PCAOB:

Read & filed.
Tabled a Report.

AICPA:

None.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:01 p.m., a MOTION was made by Mr. Redmond, seconded by Ms. Kwan to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on February 20, 2024.


Kerry Cassidy, Executive Director

List of Documents Used by the Board at Open Meeting:

Agenda for January 16, 2024
Draft Public Minutes of November 21, 2024
Draft Executive Session Minutes of November 21, 2023
Draft Guidance on Continuing Education Requirements