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Board of Public Accountancy

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OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Public Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2022

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Not Present:

Staff Members Present:

Catriona Taylor, *Executive Director*
Lynn Read, *Board Counsel*

All Board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Ms. Taylor.

BOARD BUSINESS

Public Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2022: After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Mr. Grueter to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2022 as written, seconded by Mr. Redmond. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Executive Session Minutes of June 23, 2022. Voting on the minutes of the Executive Session held June 23, 2022 was tabled to the September 22, 2022 Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Education Subcommittee: Ms. Taylor reported on the proposed education subcommittee to help the Board prepare for the upcoming new January 1, 2024, CPA exam and provide insights into course acceptance questions. The Board reviewed the proposed scope, meeting frequency and makeup of the new subcommittee, which will include professors. The Board also agreed to work with MA CPAs in recruitment of these non-voting subcommittee members. After this discussion, a MOTION was made by Mr. Redmond to move forward the formation of the committee, seconded by Mr. Grueter. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.



New CPA Exam Credit Extension: In anticipation of the new CPA exam format, the Board reviewed NASBA's guidance on providing credit extension for candidates who have Uniform CPA Examination credit(s) on January 1, 2024. After this discussion, a MOTION was made by Mr. Grueter for any candidate with Uniform CPA Examination credit(s) on January 1, 2024, to extend such credit(s) to June 30, 2025, seconded by Mr. Redmond. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Website Updates on License Mobility: Ms. Taylor reported to the Board that in the last few months she has worked with Board Counsel Lynn Read to review the website for mobility information updates. Ms. Read has drafter revisions to some pages and Ms. Taylor will work on getting those pages updated in the coming weeks.

Executive Director Update: Ms. Taylor shared with the Board that this meeting was her last Public Accountancy meeting in which she will serve as Executive Director. Ms. Fraga will continue to serve as a contact for Board member inquiries

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT

Executive Order re: Reproductive Rights: Board Counsel Lynn Read reviewed the Governor's Executive Order re: Reproductive Rights. She let the Board know that the Division of Occupational Licensure is reaching out to all Boards to implement policies that ensures the Executive Order is implemented. Ms. Read will keep the Board updated on any suggested updates to the Board's CORI policy.

CORRESPONDENCE

Email dated 6.29.2022 from Peggy Kruse on CohnReznick LLP: Read and Filed.

Email dated 5.26.2022 from Karen Turner, NASBA on Academic Evaluation for Certification Report for Massachusetts: The Board reviewed the information provided about the course. After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by Mr. Redmond asking the Board staff to respond to the email stating this is a good course for the IT component of the accounting program, seconded by Ms. Kwan. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BOARD DISCUSSION

NASBA Q2 Report and overall statistics: The Board reviewed the report. Read and filed.

AICPA Solicits Feedback on CPA Exam Exposure Draft: The Board reviewed communication asking for feedback on the CPA Exam Exposure Draft. The Board will continue their discussion on what feedback they could provide at the September meeting

Firm license renewal language (Peer Review): The Board discussed the current rules stating that if a firm is no longer having peer reviews, and they provide attest services, they need to have a peer review within 18 months. Board Counsel Lynn Read lead a discussion of draft language of a warning the Board could look at including during the renewal process. At the September meeting, Ms. Read will provide more information about what is asked and provided in the current renewal process and the Board will continue this discussion.

EXAMINATION CREDIT EXTENSION REQUESTS: - None

OPEN SESSION FOR TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR
48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF MEETING: - None

Adjourn Public Meeting, Enter Executive Session (Closed) under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 66, s. 10, G.L. c. 4, s. 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, s. 1B (medical record information), and then enter Quasi-Judicial Session (Closed Session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 18) and Investigative Conference (Closed under G.L. c. 112, s. 65C)

At 10:50 a.m., a MOTION was made by Mr. Grueter, seconded by Mr. Redmond, to: (1) exit the public meeting; (2) enter a closed executive session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 66, s. 10, G.L. c. 4, s. 7, para. 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, s. 1B to review sensitive medical information in CPA Examination extension requests; (3) then enter closed Investigative Conference under G.L. c. 112 s. 65C; and not return to the public meeting. The Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

See separate minutes of Executive Session.

QUASI-JUDICIAL SESSION (Closed Session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 18) began at 11:21 a.m.

None

INVESTIGATIVE CONFERENCE (CLOSED SESSION UNDER G.L. C. 112, S. 65C)
began at 11:21 a.m.

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

The Board conducted an Investigatory Interview and determined no action was needed.

PCAOB: Invite Firm to next meeting

AICPA: Read and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:51 p.m., a MOTION was made by Mr. Grueter, seconded by Mr. Redmond to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on September 22, 2022.



Angela Parziale, Chair

List of Documents Used by the Board at Open Meeting:

Draft Public Meeting Minutes for June 23, 2022
Proposed MA CPA Education Subcommittee
CPA Evolution Transition Recommendation 2022
Executive Order to Protect Access to Reproductive Health Care Services , with Press Release
Academic Evaluation for Certification Report for the Massachusetts
2022 Q-2 OA Candidate Performance
2022 Q-2 Overall Statistics
Massachusetts 2022 Q2
AICPA Solicits Feedback on CPA Exam Exposure Draft
Draft for Firms Renewing a Massachusetts License