Minutes of the South Carolina Board of Accountancy Wednesday, January 25, 2006, at 10:00 AM in Meeting Room 108 (Regulations) Thursday, January 26, 2006, at 9:00 AM in Meeting Room 108 Synergy Office Park, Kingstreee Building, 110 Centerview Drive Columbia, South Carolina

Charles L. Talbert, III, CPA, CPA, Chairman, called the meeting of the South Carolina Board of Accountancy to order at 9:00 a.m. with a quorum present. Other Board members present Donald H. Burkett, CPA, Vice-Chairman, Joseph S. Cone, Accounting Practitioner, H. McRoy Skipper, Jr, CPA, Mark T Hobbs, CPA, Bobby R Creech, Jr., CPA, Wendell Lunsford, Accounting Practitioner, and Joyce Green.

Based on advance notice, the absence of Jamison W. Hinds, Esq. was excused.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Doris E. Cubitt, Administrator; Michael Teague, Administrative Assistant.

The Chairman announced the meeting was being held in accordance with section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act by notice mailed to The State Newspaper, Associated Press, WIS-TV and all other requesting persons, organizations, or news media. In addition, notice was posted on the bulletin board at the main entrance of the Kingstree Building.

A moment of silence was observed after which Donald Burkett led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1. On motion by Bobby Creech, seconded by Donald Burkett, and unanimously passed, an agenda was adopted for the meeting.
- 2. On motion by Bobby Creech, seconded by Donald Burkett, and unanimously passed, the minutes of the meeting held on December 8, 2005 were approved.
- 3. Dismissal Report:

The list of new complaints was presented and received as information by the Board. The following cases were approved for dismissal on motion by H. McRoy Skipper, seconded by Mark Hobbs, and unanimously passed: Case Nos. 2005-24, 2005-29, 2005-32. Case No 2005-21 is tabled pending further investigation

Mark Hobbs expressed his concerns in several areas, and the other members of the BOA supported the same concerns:

- A) At the October board meeting the General Counsel for LLR, Lynne Rogers, talked to the Board about the investigative process at LLR. She stated that the investigators could investigate any case. She stated that she wasn't sure that all of the investigators were qualified to handle the technical issues presented in BOA cases. The BOA members feel that this issue should be addressed.
- B) The Board is concerned that we do not have a formal program to follow up on people that have been issued a cease and desist for unlicensed practice. Currently, there is no follow-up unless a subsequent complaint is filed.

- C) The Board is concerned that the legal representation does not always understand the technical issues in cases that are presented to the BOA.
- 4. Disciplinary and Personnel Matters:

None

- 5. Information Update
 - A. Chairman's remarks: A work session was held yesterday to continue drafting regulations and will continue after today's Board meeting.
 - B. There were no advisory opinions.
 - C. There was no legislative update.
 - D. The Administrator's report was received as information and contained the following:

National Committees – Any committees that the Board members would like to serve on, please let the Board staff know after this meeting.

Eastern Regional Meeting is June 21 - 23, 2006 in Puerto Rico and will have a new member orientation at the meeting. A formal request will be submitted for those newly appointed members to attend.

National NASBA Meeting will be October 29 through November 1, 2006 in Atlanta, GA. There will be a Legal conference as well as the Executive Directors conference the week of February 13, 2006 in Tucson, AZ.

The Board Member forum is scheduled on February 17 from 9am to 1pm at the Fire Academy. Chief Justice Kittrell of the ALC Court will speak on the appeal process. They will demo a Board Member website that will be available to all board members.

E. The Financial Report was received as information.

On motion by Donald Burkett, seconded by Mark Hobbs, and unanimously passed, that for NASBA Meetings travel requests should be submitted for all members interested in attending. Budgeted funds should be used for this purpose.

In order to serve more effectively as the Board supervising the Accounting profession in this state the BOA should exercise more fiscal authority in several areas including the hiring of technically qualified investigators, legal counsel, and attendance at NASBA meetings.

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> As an example, the NC BOA not only approves travel for all board members to attend NASBA meeting, they expect the members to attend. Issues discussed at NASBA meetings affect the practice of accounting in all states, therefore, making attendance at NASBA meeting essential to regulation.

- 6. Old Business. There was no old business
- 7. New Business

Regulation/Legislative Committee

Review of Proposed Regulation – Meeting is to follow Board meeting.

Reviewed proposed revision of Engine Bill – Revision to the Engine Bill was withdrawn.

- A. Peer Review Committee: No Report
- B. Report of Education/Experience Committee:

Consideration of Tamara Lawson's request to accept the experience she has obtained regardless of the completion of the four main accounting courses. Donald Burkett made the recommendation that Ms Lawson's request is to be handled administratively as determined by board policy and there are no exceptions.

- C. Report of CPE Committee: No Report
- D. Report of Examination/CBT Committee: No Report
- E. Other Professional Issues Committee: No Report
- F. Report of Qualification for Licensure Committee:

On motion by Donald Burkett, seconded by Mark Hobbs and unanimously passed, the exam grades for the October/November testing window were reviewed and accepted by the Board.

On motion by Donald Burkett, seconded by H McRoy Skipper, and unanimously passed, the CPA and Accounting Practitioner Certificates issued December 9, 2005 through January 26, 2006, were approved. A copy of the list is attached to these minutes.

G. Report of Character and Fitness Committee: No Report

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8. Public Comment:

Erin Hardwick; Executive Director of the South Carolina of CPA's (SCACPA)

Ms. Hardwick supports the members of the BOA in their efforts to administer more fiscal control of the BOA budget in order to ensure that appropriate allocations are made for such needs as technically qualified investigators and legal counsel. Such expertise is necessary to understand if there has been a breach of professional conduct. She also concurs that all board members who request it should be approved for travel to NASBA meetings to take advantage of opportunities for professional development and to enable them to stay current with regulatory changes in the accounting profession. Ms. Hardwick stated for the record, on behalf of SCACPA, that SCACPA is willing to voice their support and do whatever possible to assist the BOA in obtaining the necessary resources and fully utilizing their current resources.

9. Executive Session:

On motion by Donald Burkett, seconded by McRoy Skipper, and unanimously passed, the Board went into executive session concerning Fiscal and Administrative issues, and the Board received related information from Randy Bryant.

The Board came out of executive session on motion by Donald Burkett, seconded by Mark Hobbs, and unanimously passed. No votes were taken.

10. The next meeting dates are as follows:

For the year 2006: February – No Meeting; March – No Meeting; April 26-27, Room 108; May – No Meeting; June 28, Room 201-03; July – No Meeting; August 24, Room 108; September – No Meeting; October 26, Room 108; November – No Meeting; December 7, Room 108.

Members are to reserve the afternoon before each meeting in the event a hearing is scheduled.

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11. The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 am by the Chairman.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Cubitt, Administrator

Approved at the April 27, 2006 Board Meeting.

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Charles L. Talbert, III, CPA, Chairman

Jamison-W. Hinds, Esq., Secretary