

MINUTES

SC Department of Labor, Licensing, & Regulation
Board of Accountancy

Board Meeting

August 22, 2019

SYNERGY OFFICE PARK
KINGSTREE BUILDING, ROOM 108
110 CENTERVIEW DRIVE
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29210

NOTE: These minutes are a record of the motions and official actions taken by the Board and a brief summary of the meeting.

1. Call to Order

Todd Dailey, CPA, Chair, was present and called the meeting of the South Carolina Board of Accountancy to order on August 22, 2019, at 10:02 am., with a quorum present. Other Board members present were: Mark Crocker, CPA, Tanya Greenlee, CPA, Ellen Adkins, CPA, David Nichols, Accounting Practitioner, Brian Johnson, CPA, Michael Putich, CPA, Gale Bell, Accounting Practitioner, and Bob Wood, Public Member. LLR staff members participating in the meeting included: Susanna Sharpe, CPA, Administrator, Chelsea Buchanan, Program Coordinator, Courtney Wise, Program Assistant, Mary League, Advice Counsel, Courtney Crosby, Investigator, Rodney Pigford with the Office of Investigations and Enforcement, and Ashley Thompson, Prosecuting Attorney with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

2. Consideration of Excuses for Absences of Board Members

Motion

No absences.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion

Michael Putich made a motion to approve the agenda. Tanya Greenlee seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion

Michael Putich made a motion to approve of the meeting minutes for December 18, 2018, April 30-May 1, 2019, and June 26, 2019 with revisions. Gale Bell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Office of Investigation & Enforcement Report

A. Number of Open Complaints

Rodney Pigford briefed the Board on the OIE report. He reported that there are currently 17 active investigations as of August 16, 2019. Three

cases are from 2018. Five cases have been closed, five are do not open cases, and three are pending board action.

B. Investigative Review Committee (IRC Report)

Motion

David Nichols made a motion to approve the IRC report. Ellen Adkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

6. Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report

Erin Baldwin presented the report. As of August 22, 2019, there are 13 active cases. Six cases are open, three are pending action, one is closed, one is pending an appeal from an order, and one is pending Board review.

8. MOA

A. 2019-15

Erin Baldwin requested for the Board to approve of the combined factual information being presented for this MOA with Johnny Walker and his in-state firm application hearing taking place directly after so that the factual information may be heard only once to avoid repetitiveness. The Board granted their approval but would make decisions for the MOA and application hearing separately.

Motion

Tanya Greenlee made a motion to enter executive session to receive legal advice. Brian Johnson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Motion

Gale Bell made a motion to come out of executive session. David Nichols seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Motion

Ellen Adkins made a motion to accept the MOA for one sanction and that Johnny Walker be placed on probation from doing attestations until he is formally released from his restrictions by the Board in California. Bob Wood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. Application Hearing

A. Johnny Walker

The applicant applied for an in-state firm application in South Carolina.

Motion

Michael Putich made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice. David Nichols seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Motion

Tanya Greenlee made a motion to come out of executive session. Gale Bell seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Motion

Michael Putich made a motion to approve of the in-state firm application pending his payment of a penalty fee for \$200.00 and for his probation from attestation work until California removes the restriction on him. David Nichols seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

9. Chair's Remarks

N/A

10. Administrator's Report

A. Remarks

Susanna Sharpe announced the date and time for the next Oath Ceremony. The ceremony will be held at USC's Darla Moore School of Business on November 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Board members are encouraged to attend.

Susanna Sharpe also announced that the Board Newsletter will be reinstated and sent out for the 3rd quarter.

B. Financial Report

Susanna Sharpe presented the financial report for June and July 2019. The Board also reviewed the new format for financial reports and expressed interest in seeing the more detailed financial reports as they are used to.

C. Licensee Update

Susanna Sharpe stated that the licensee count has increased by about 150.

11. Old Business

A. WGU Update

Alan Clarkson and Brentni Langdon gave a report to the Board on the school's current status. Alan Clarkson discussed the audit that took place and provided the Board with the official press release from the Department of Education. Brentni Langdon provided an updated status of the student statistics.

B. Regulation Task Force Report

Susanna Sharpe provided an update on the Task Force Committee meetings. She briefed that the Committee met on July 30, 2019 and covered a good bit of the regulations. Susanna stated that the next meeting would be held on August 27, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and that a special meeting may be needed later this year for the Board's formal review of the changes.

C. Legislative Update

N/A

D. Timeframe for Return of Records to Client

Susanna Sharpe requested that the Board confirm their interpretation on statute 40-2-190C.

Motion

Ellen Adkins made a motion confirm the Board's unchanged interpretation of statute 40-2-190C. Tanya Greenlee seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

12. New Business

A. Expert Witness Recommendations

Todd Dailey requested that the Board continue forwarding their recommendations to Susanna.

B. Second Quarter 2019 Exam Scores

Brian Johnson made a motion to approve of the second quarter 2019 exam scores. David Nichols seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

C. Travel for NASBA Annual Meeting

Michael Putich made a motion to approve of the administrator, chair and vice chair to attend the NASBA Annual Meeting. Mark Crocker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

D. Renewal Forms Approval

Tanya Greenlee made a motion to approve of the renewal forms for 2019-2020 pending revisions. Bob Wood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

14. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

15. Adjournment

Motion

With no further business to be discussed at this time, Gale Bell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:57 p.m. on August 22, 2019. David Nichols seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.