

MINUTES

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

Board Meeting

February, 8, 2019

SYNERGY OFFICE PARK
KINGSTREE BUILDING, ROOM 204
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 February 8, 2019, at 1:10p.m., with a quorum present. Other Board members present were: Charles Alvis, CPA, Vice Chair, Mark Crocker, CPA, Tanya Greenlee, CPA, David Nichols, Accounting Practitioner, Ellen Adkins, CPA, Brian Johnson, CPA, Michael Putich, CPA, and Bob Wood, Public Member. LLR staff members participating in the meeting included: Susanna Sharpe, CPA, Administrator, Chelsea Buchanan, Program Coordinator, Courtney Wise, Administrative Assistant, Mary League, Advice Counsel, Courtney Crosby, CPA, Investigator, Rodney Pigford with the Office of Investigations and Enforcement, Ashley Thompson, Prosecuting Attorney with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, and Katie Phillips, Governmental Affairs.

2. Consideration of Excuses for Absences of Board Members

Motion

David Nichols made a motion to excuse Gale Bell, Accounting Practitioner, and Ron Hollins, Public Member, from the meeting. Charles Alvis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Gale Bell joined by phone conference just before public comments.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion

Bob Wood made a motion to approve the agenda. Ellen Adkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. Office of Investigation Report

A. Number of Open Complaints

Rodney Pigford briefed the Board on the OIE report. He reported that there are currently 24 active investigations. 5 have been closed, 21 pending IRC, 5 pending board action, and 10 do not open cases.

B. Investigative Review Committee (IRC Report)

Rodney Pigford presented the report, which showed recommendations for 2 dismissals, 2 dismissals with cease and desist orders, 1 letter of caution, and 1 for formal complaint.

Motion

Tanya Greenlee made a motion to approve the IRC report. Charles Alvis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. Chair's Remarks

Todd Dailey did not have any remarks.

6. Administrator's Report

-Susanna Sharpe presented a licensee update showing the number of active licensees and firms with the note that the numbers may change as license renewals only ended January 31st.

-Ms. Sharpe mentioned that annual renewals are one of the busiest times of the year for Board staff so she hopes that progress on various projects like the NASBA CPETracker program, the Board newsletter, etc. will pick up again

-Ms Sharpe presented a draft of the SC-specific ethics course that is being created with NASBA's Center for the Public Trust and encouraged Board members to email her with any comments or concerns.

7. Old Business

A. Legislative Update

Katie Phillips from Governmental Affairs at LLR gave a brief presentation on recent legislative activities.

B. Appoint Regulation Task Force

Susanna Sharpe presented the list of volunteers who had agreed to serve on a regulation task force to review the previously proposed regulation changes to allow for more input.

Motion

Tanya Greenlee made a motion to accept the list of task force members presented, with the request to seek a representative of the Banker's Association or similar organization. Michael Putich seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

C. Website Updates

Motion

Charles Alvis made a motion to accept the changes suggested for the education requirements document on the Board website. David Nichols seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

8. New Business

A. 4th Quarter 2018 CPA Exam Scores

Motion

Ellen Adkins made a motion to approve the scores for the 4th quarter 2018 CPA exam window. Brian Johnson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

B. CPA Exam Application Process

Susanna Sharpe presented an idea that has been discussed by the education committee to help improve the CPA exam application process for SC candidates. The suggestion is to collect relevant information about the accounting curriculum and programs, particularly of in-state schools in order to reduce the amount of time staff spends finding that information for each application and possibly make the resulting information available to prospective exam candidates to better inform their choices.

Motion

Ellen Adkins made a motion to approve staff to work with schools to collect this information to help improve processing times. Charles Alvis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

C. Parameters for Extending Investigation

Motion

Bob Wood made a motion to grant the Board Administrator authority to authorize a 60-day extension to investigate an open case. Further extensions may only be granted by the Board. Tanya Greenlee seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

15. Public Comment

Representatives from SCACPA each spoke briefly on various topics, including the CPA exam application process, support for adoption of the NASBA CPETracker program, and comments about the avenues for issues to be heard by the Board.

16. Adjournment

Motion

With no further business to be discussed at this time, Charles Alvis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:30p.m. on February 8, 2019. Ellen Adkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.