

# NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

April 27, 2022

## Meeting Minutes New York State Education Department 89 Washington Ave, Room 201 Albany, NY

Chair Mr. Langowski called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

<u>The following members were present:</u>	
Charles Abraham, CPA	Crisy Geerholt
Anthony Basile, CPA	William Kahn, CPA
Anthony Bracco, CPA	Stephen Langowski, CPA
Elizabeth Bush, CPA	Joseph Maffia, CPA
Scott Cheslowitz, CPA	Maria Moran, CPA
Ann Burstein Cohen, CPA	Heather Mowat, CPA
Andrew Cohen, CPA	James Schnell, CPA
Mark Ferm, CPA	Shelly Taleporos, CPA
<u>Members absent:</u> Carney AuYeung, CPA Alexander Buchholz, CPA Cynthia Foy Brian Krist, Esq Kevin Richards, CPA Thomas Sciametta, CPA	

### Others in attendance:

Jennifer Winters, Executive Secretary, NYSED  
Julie McLoughlin, NYSED  
Casey Fenton, Ostroff Associates  
John McCarty, Bolton-St. John's

The Board moved into Executive Session at 11:05 a.m., based on a motion made by Ms. Cohen and seconded by Ms. Moran. The Board had a demonstration of the new Board Members Only SharePoint site; discussed the new peer review rules and regulations as it relates to unprofessional conduct; and discussed the disciplinary cases.

Executive Session adjourned at 11:59 a.m. based on a motion made by Mr. Kahn and seconded by Mr. Basile. The Chair moved the Board into Public Session at 12:08 p.m. based on a motion by Mr. Schnell and seconded by Ms. Moran.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Based on a motion made by Ms. Cohen and seconded by Ms. Mowat, the Board approved the minutes of the January 26, 2022, Board meeting.

## **Board Member update**

The Board members welcomed new member Mr. Abraham. All in attendance introduced themselves. Ms. Winters presented a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Cohen who will be resigning from the Board in June. Mr. Langowski and Ms. Winters thanked Mr. Cohen for all his hard work and professionalism.

In lieu of Ms. Foy's absence, Ms. Moran presented the nominations committee report to the full board. Based on a motion by Mr. Cohen, and seconded by Mr. Cheslowitz, the Board approved Mr. Langowski as Chair for the second one-year term and Ms. Cohen as Vice Chair for an initial one-year term.

As a result of Ms. Cohen becoming the Vice Chair the position of the Education Committee Chair is now vacant. Ms. Winters will consult with Mr. Langowski and Ms. Cohen to identify a new Education Committee Chair.

## **Board Office Update**

Ms. Winters reported that work on the e-licensing OP modernization project is ongoing. Ms. Winters noted that the Drupal website redesign is anticipated to be launched in the Spring 2022.

Ms. Winters noted that the Office of the Professions assembled an annual report that was included in the board packet.

## **Legislative update**

Ms. Winters informed the Board that the Non-CPA ownership bill did not pass in the budget. As noted in January, the bills were auto reintroduced in the current legislative session in the Senate and Assembly. Ms. Winters noted that the same technical comments were provided by the Government Relations office to the legislature. Ms. Winters will monitor and report back to the Board.

The Open Meetings Law was amended in the Governor's Budget. The details and nuances need to be reviewed by the Department. Ms. Winters noted that until the law can be properly reviewed by the Department, the Board meetings will need to be held in person.

## **Regulatory Update**

Ms. Winters noted that the updates on the exam, education, and experience within the Regulations of the Commissioner part 52.13, 70.2, 70.3, and 70.4 was under review by the Office of Counsel and the Office of Professions' attorney. The regulations are slated to be presented to the Board of Regents this Spring. Ms. Winters noted that the items regarding the recent experience were not supported by the counsel and will not be included in the regulation updates.

## **Education Committee**

Ms. Cohen reported that a few Board members, Ms. Winters and McLoughlin attended a meeting with the NYSSCPA's Education Committee in February. Ms. Cohen reported that Ms. Winters received a letter from the NYSSCPA's Education Committee late last night; however, there was not time to review the letter prior to the Board meeting. Ms. Cohen noted that the Education Committee would need to be convened to discuss the letter and the remaining outstanding items.

## **Practice Committee**

No report this month.

## **Licensing Committee**

Ms. Mowat summarized the review conducted by the licensing committee regarding an endorsement applicant's experience.

## **Examination Committee**

Ms. Moran outlined the various requests that have been received for the extension to the 18-month exam condition requirement. Ms. Moran reviewed the Examination Committee's recommendation to further extend the international candidate's 18-month window from 6/30/2022 to 12/31/2022. Based on a motion made by Mr. Basile and seconded by Mr. Maffia, the Board approved the extension as per the Examination Committee's recommendation.

Ms. Moran noted the changes to the CPA exam are on track for January 2024. She reported the planned infrastructure changes to the exam that will also take place simultaneous with the CPA Evolution changes. Also included in the packet were the quarterly exam statistics and the upcoming fee changes.

## **NASBA Developments**

Mr. Langowski noted that NASBA will host two regional meetings in June and encouraged attendance for the virtual portions. Ms. Winters noted that there will be several items of interest, including on-going discussions with NASBA regarding the principal place of business being further clarified due to virtual work locations.

## **New Business**

None.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the location will be 1411 Broadway, New York City at the Office of Professional Discipline.

The public session adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer B. Winters, CPA  
Executive Secretary