State of Maryland

Board of Certified Public Accountants

Business Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

*In Person and Via Google Meets Teleconference*

**MEMBERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Jan Williams, Chair

Tamara Bensky, Secretary

James Marshall

Joseph Petito

Macon M. Ware III

Barrett E. Young

Brian Dunne

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**DLLR OFFICIALS/STAFF:** Christopher Dorsey, Executive Director

Robert Pambianco, Legal Counsel

Shemirra Massie, Administrative Officer I

Sharron McNeill, Office Supervisor

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mary Beth Halpern, MACPA

Kausar Syed

Paul Demers

Eldiiar Amankulov

The November 14, 2023, meeting of the Maryland Board of Public Accountancy was called to order at 9:01 AM by Dr. Jan Williams, Chair.

Upon a motion **(I)** by Mr. Young and seconded by Ms. Bensky, the minutes of the October 3, 2023, meeting were unanimously approved with corrections.

**Chairman’s Report**

1. Commissioner Dove, Mr. Marshall, Ms. Bensky, Mr. Dorsey, Mrs. McNeill, and Mrs. Massie all attended the MACPA’s swearing-in ceremony for 60 newly licensed CPAs.
2. NASBA emailed the exam candidates about the credit relief initiative extension. The records should be updated in 30 days for the 319 Maryland candidates who had exam credits that expired during the pandemic extended.
3. Dr. Williams, Ms. Bensky, and Mr. Petito attended NASBA’s annual conference in New York City from October 29 – November 1.
4. Ms. Bensky, Board Secretary, summarized the topics discussed at the NASBA annual conference.

Upon a motion **(II)** by Mr. Petito and seconded by Mr. Ware, the Chairman’s Report was unanimously approved.

**Executive Director’s Report**

1. Mr. Dorsey announced that Shemirra Massie was promoted to the position of Administrative Officer I.
2. At the December 5th meeting the Board will take the final vote for the regulatory proposal for the credit extension from 18 to 30 months and the educational requirement changes.

Upon a motion **(III)** by Mr. Young and seconded by Mr. Dunne, the Board unanimously approved the Executive Director’s report.

**Exam Appeals**

There were no exam appeals.

**Education Committee Report**

Mr. Marshall presented the Education Report for October. There were 0 **(0)** Transfer of Grades application approvals and zero **(0)** Transfer of Grades application denials.

Upon a motion **(IV)** by Ms. Bensky and seconded by Mr. Dunne, the Board unanimously approved the Education Committee Report.

E**xperience Committee Report**

Ms. Bensky presented the Experience Report. There were fifteen (15)Maryland candidate license application approvals and zero (0) Maryland candidate application denials.

Thirteen (13) Reciprocal application approvals originated from the following jurisdictions: eight (8) from VA, two (2) from PA, one (1) from NY, one (1) from FL, and one (1) from DC.

There were zero (0) Reciprocal application denials.

Upon a motion **(V)** by Mr. Petito and seconded by Mr. Dunne, the Board unanimously approved the Experience Report.

**Firm Permit Committee Report**

Mr. Dunne presented the Firm Permit Committee Report for November 2023. There were two (2) firm approvals and zero (0) firm closures.

Upon a motion **(VI)** by Mr. Ware and seconded by Mr. Young, the Board unanimously approved the Firm Permit Report.

**Peer Review Oversight Committee Report**

Mr. Ware reported the following: Three (3) newly enrolled firms in the Peer Review Program; Eight (8) firms had reviews accepted; zero (0) first-time passes with deficiencies, zero (0) first-time fail; and zero (0) firms were dropped or terminated.

Upon a motion **(VII)** by Mr. Young, and seconded by Ms. Bensky, the Board unanimously approved the Peer Review Report.

**New Business**

1. The 2024 CPA Board meeting dates were announced and will be placed on the Board’s website.
2. The Board discussed having in-person meetings at least once per quarter or twice a year and the possibility of having a meeting on a college campus. NASBA has a pipeline tool kit for the Board to use for such meetings. Mr. Young recommended that the board have in-person meetings possibly in the spring and one in the fall.

**Old Business**

**None**

**Correspondence**

None

**Closed Session**

Upon a motion **(VIII)** by Mr. Petito, and seconded by Mr. Young, the Board went into a Closed Session at 9:45 AM via a Google Meets teleconference, where log-in information was only provided to Board members and staff. This session is permitted to be closed pursuant to Section 3-305(b) (7) of the General Provisions Article, Maryland Annotated Code.

**Return to Open Session**

Upon a motion **(IX)** by Mr. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Ware, the Board unanimously approved the motions made during the Closed Session.

Upon a motion **(X)** by Mr. Young and seconded by Mr. Petito, the Board adjourned at 9:53 AM.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, **December 5, 2023**, via Google Meets teleconferencing at 9:00 AM

\_\_\_\_With corrections \_\_\_x\_\_Without corrections

\_\_\_Signature on file\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_February 20, 2024\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman Date