

**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 21, 2008**

The Mississippi State Board of Public Accountancy met at the Board office at 5 Old River Place, Suite 104, Jackson, Mississippi, on March 21, 2008, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The following record of that meeting was maintained.

Board Members Present

Willie B. Sims, Jr., Chair  
Rick Elam, Vice Chair  
David Clarke, Secretary  
Jim E. Burkes  
Diane S. Day  
Angela L. Pannell  
Jean T. Shepherd

Board Staff Present

Susan M. Harris, Executive Director  
Ransom C. Jones, Investigator

Legal Counsel Present

Joan Myers, Special Assistant Attorney General

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**I. General**

1. The Board opened the meeting with an invocation from Willie Sims.
2. The Board acknowledged and accepted the oath of office for Board member Jimmy E. Burkes reappointed by Governor Haley Barbour for the five year term - 2008 - 2012.
3. The Board members unanimously approved the minutes from the February 22, 2008, meeting.
4. The Board members signed the CPA certificates of licensure from the February 22, 2008, meeting.

I. General (Continued)

5. The Board members present set the start time for the next meeting and reviewed the tentative meeting dates and activities for the first of 2008.

April 25	10:00	Meeting
April 26	9:30	CPA Presentation Ceremony
May 30		Meeting
June 11 - 13		NASBA Eastern Regional
June 18 - 20		NASBA Western Regional
June 26- 29		MSCPA Annual
July 25		Meeting

6. The Board members noted their committee assignments for 2008 as assigned by Chair Willie Sims, as follows:

National Regulatory Concerns

Jim Burkes, Chair  
Diane Day  
Jean Shepherd

Administration (Ex Officio Board officers)

Willie Sims, Chair  
David Clarke  
Rick Elam

CPA Examination, Licensing and Firms

Angela Pannell, Chair  
Rick Elam  
Jean Shepherd

Continuing Professional Education

Jean Shepherd, Chair  
Jim Burkes  
David Clarke

Rules and Regulations

Rick Elam, Chair  
Jim Burkes  
Jean Shepherd

Regulatory matters are discussed by all members and investigative matters are handled by members on a rotating basis. The Trial Board President is served by the Board Chair and the Trial Board Clerk is served by the Board Secretary.

**I. General (Continued)**

7. The Board reviewed information concerning the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) May 19, 2008 Conference on the State of the Examination and unanimously approved attendance by Vice Chair Rick Elam and Executive Director Susan Harris. The Board also unanimously approved Susan Harris's attendance at the NASBA Ethics Committee meeting May 20, 2008. Travel for both meetings is funded by NASBA.
8. The Board members unanimously approved attendance of the members, Executive Director, Investigator, and the Board's Legal Counsel to attend the NASBA Eastern Regional Meeting, June 11 - 13, 2008, Asheville, North Carolina.
9. The Board heard report from Executive director concerning NASBA Executive Directors Conference.
10. The Board members noted that the *Statement of Economic Interest Manual* is due to the Mississippi Ethics Commission by May 1, 2008.

**II. National Regulatory Concerns**

1. The Board members approved its responses to the NASBA Focus Questions for return by April 2, 2008.
2. The Board reviewed and discussed the February 2008 NASBA *State Board Report*
3. The Board discussed the March 1, 2008, email from the NASBA Legislative Support Committee announcing its new web page.
4. The Board reviewed and discussed the Public Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) Release entitled *PCAOB Proposes New Auditing Standard: Engagement Quality Review*.
5. The Board discussed preliminary recommendations from the Department of Treasury's Advisory Committee on the Auditing Profession.

**III. Administration**

1. The Board reviewed the SAAS Summary Trial Balances as of February 29, 2008, for Treasury Funds 3845 and 3850, and the Treasury Fund 3845 SAAS Appropriation/Actual Expenditures for the eight months ended February 29, 2008.
2. The Board reviewed and discussed Senate Bill 3147 - FY2009 Budget, as passed the Senate.
3. The Board noted the State of Mississippi mileage reimbursement rate increased to .505 effective March 19, 2008.
4. The Board members unanimously approved six additional per diem days for David Clarke's Investigative Committee work.
5. The Board members unanimously approved the Executive Director's participation in the State's MAGIC (Mississippi Accountability System for Government Information and Collaboration) committees and task forces.

**IV. CPA Examination, Licensing and Firms**

1. The Board members present unanimously accepted the listing of candidate applications for the computerized examination (12 initial, 15 reexam) received since the February 22, 2008, meeting.
2. The Board unanimously acted upon the applications for CPA licenses, reciprocals, reinstatements, and CPA firm permits as presented herein:

**Applications for Original CPA License**

File				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Approved</u>
11536	James Francis Bunyard	5899	03/21/08	Yes
11888	Jason Todd Catt	5900	03/21/08	Yes
11635	Robert Allen Hearn	5901	03/21/08	Yes
12251	Justice Marie O'Keefe	5902	03/21/08	Yes
11768	Julie A. Powell	5903	03/21/08	Yes
11953	Kimberly Renae Sandifer	5904	03/21/08	Yes

## IV. CPA Examination, Licensing and Firms (Continued)

## 2. Applications (Continued)

Applications for Reciprocal CPA Licenses

File Number	Name	Number	Date	Approved
12232	Paul Gregory Alford	R3355	03/21/08	Yes
12252	Phillip Stone Hodges	R3356	03/21/08	Yes
12241	Patrick G. Lanza	R3357	03/21/08	Yes
12248	Jillian Farmer Ledet	R3358	03/21/08	Yes
12233	Scott Franklin Lunsford	R3359	03/21/08	Yes
12250	Christopher Scott Robin	R3360	03/21/08	Yes
12253	Arthur Lonnie Sparks, Jr.	R3361	03/21/08	Yes
12254	Margaret M. Thompson	R3362	03/21/08	Yes
12169	Richard Dale Wagner	R3363	03/21/08	Yes

Applications for Reinstatement of CPA Licenses

File Number	Name	Number	Approved
1419	Robert Sean Brennan	3003	Yes
5322	James White Richter	3769	Yes
9332	Michael Everett Youngblood	5131	Yes

Applications for CPA Firm Permit to Practice

Name	Number	Approved
Eide Bailly LLP Tulsa, OK	F1170	Yes
Maddox & Associates Baton Rouge, LA	F1171	Yes
Clifford S. Russell, CPA, PLLC Brandon, MS	F1172	Yes
Norman L. Smith Ellisville, MS	F1173	Yes

**IV. CPA Examination, Licensing and Firms (Continued)**

3. The Board reviewed amendments to registered CPA firms, as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, LLP Atlanta, GA	F1040	Address Change
Gay & Co., CPA Firm PA Forest, MS	F0324	Address Change
J. M. Melvin, CPA Tupelo, MS	F1054	Address Change
Geoffrey Mullen CPA, PLLC Clinton, MS	F0967	Address Change

4. The Board discussed the April 26, 2008, CPA Presentation Ceremony. The ceremony is scheduled to be held in the Old Supreme Court Chamber in the State Capitol. William (Bill) Simmons has agreed to be the key speaker.
5. The Board discussed various information related to the CPA Examination:
- February 22, 2008, NASBA email addressing Improving the CPA Exam,
  - Winter/Spring 2008 *Uniform CPA Examination Alert*,
  - March 7, 2008, NASBA email concerning New Research Format.
6. The Board members reviewed and unanimously approved a letter to the NASBA CPA Licensing Examinations Committee providing requested feedback concerning the examination.

**V. Continuing Professional Education**

1. The Board members present unanimously authorized the following actions on CPE sponsor programs submitted for approval.

	<u>Sponsor/Program Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Approved</u>
A.	Electric Power Association of MS			
	1. EPAs of MS - Accounting and Finance Meeting	10/11-12/07	8	Yes
B.	Institute of Internal Auditors			
	1. Building an Anti-Fraud Framework	4/8/08	4	Yes

V. Continuing Professional Education (Continued)

1. CPE Sponsor Applications: (Continued)

	<u>Sponsor/Program Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Approved</u>
C.	MS Society of CPAs -Central Chap.			
	1. Tax Audit Program and Methods of the State Tax Commission	2/21/08	1	Yes
D.	MS Institutions of Higher Learning			
	1. University Financial Reporting for Public Institutions	3/11-12/08	15	Yes
E.	Mississippi State Tax Commission			
	1. New Auditors Training	12/4-6/07	19 2.5 Ethics General	Yes
	2. Audit Procedures	1/31/08	7	Yes
	3. Petroleum Tax Training	3/4-7/08	19	Yes
F.	University of MS - Patterson School of Accountancy	4/25/08	1	Yes
	1. Ethics - Rules & Regulations (Dr. Steve Wells)		Ethics Rules	

2. The Board members heard a report from Executive Director Susan Harris concerning NASBA's new CPE Tracking system. The system allows individual licensees to input and monitor their CPE in accordance with the requirements of each jurisdiction in which they are licensed. It has a Boards' tools aspect where jurisdictions can monitor each licensee's compliance and receive related reports. The Board members unanimously determined to request NASBA to submit a proposal for its valuation concerning the system.

**VI. Regulatory Matters**

1. The Board heard a report from Investigator Ransom Jones and approved the regulatory activities that have occurred from February 22 to March 21, 2008:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Number</u>
Cases Opened	5
Cases Closed	11
Cases referred to Members	None
Total Cases Open	19

2. The Investigator reviewed the closed case log (Exhibit 1) and reported on the investigative activities.
3. The Board reviewed but denied a request from CPA Tela Lawrence-Hemenway for a waiver of the peer review requirement on past work since she is no longer a sole practitioner. Ms. Lawrence-Hemenway is now employed with another CPA firm but needs to continue with the peer review process on the work that she had performed while self-employed.

**VII. Trial Board**

1. The Board members present unanimously voted to convene as the Trial Board for the purpose of considering matters related to disciplinary cases.
2. The Board did convene as Trial Board for the purpose of considering a prior February 22, 2008, Trial Board action wherein Andrew Wells, Complaint No. 2007.35-164 was erroneously released from a consent order with the Board. Upon motion by Jean Shepherd with second by Angela Pannell, the Trial Board unanimously approved a motion to rescind the February 22, 2008, action. Votes were - For: Willie Sims, Rick Elam, Jim Burkes, Diane Day, Angela Pannell, Jean Shepherd; Recused: David Clarke; Against: None; and Absent: None.

Upon motion by Angela Pannell with second by Jean Shepherd, the Trial Board then unanimously approved an "Order of Remand to the File" for execution by the Board President concerning Andrew Wells noncompliance with the consent order related to CPE noncompliance. Votes were - For: Willie Sims, Rick Elam, Jim Burkes, Diane Day, Angela Pannell, Jean Shepherd; Recused: David Clarke; Against: None; and Absent: None.

3. Upon conclusion of Trial Board business, the Board adjourned as Trial Board.

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**APPROVED:**

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Chair

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Board Member

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Vice Chair

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Board Member

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Secretary

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Board Member

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Board Member