MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY
MINUTES
March 23, 2018

The Mississippi State Board of Public Accountancy met at the Board office at 5 Old River Place, Suite 104, Jackson, Mississippi on March 23, 2018, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The following record of that meeting was maintained.

Board Members Present
Angela L. Pannell, Chair
Mark P. Peach, Vice Chair
Willie B. Sims, Jr., Secretary
Rick Elam
David Bridgers
William Kelly
Charles Prince

Board Staff Present
Andy Wright, Executive Director
Sharee Brewer, Associate Director, Investigations

Legal Counsel Present
Onetta Whitley, Deputy Attorney General

Others Present
Josh Norris, MSCPA Representative
MS State Auditors – Elivia Tate and Alisa Evans

I. General

1. The Board opened the meeting with an invocation from Willie Sims.

2. The Board members present unanimously approved the minutes from the January, 2018 meeting.

3. The Board members present signed the CPA certificates of licensure from the January, 2018 meeting.

I. General (Continued)

4. The Board reviewed tentative meeting/activity dates for 2018:

April 27, 2018	10:00 a.m. Board Meeting
April 28, 2018	New CPA Ceremony
June 1, 2018	8:30 a.m. Board Meeting
June 5-7, 2018	NASBA Eastern Regional, Orlando, FL
June 21-24, 2018	MSCPA Annual Convention, Destin, FL
June 27-29, 2018	NASBA Western Regional, Olympic Valley, CA
August 3, 2018	8:30 a.m. Board Meeting
September 7, 2018	8:30 a.m. Board Meeting
November 9, 2018	10:30 a.m. Board Meeting
November 10, 2018	New CPA Ceremony
October 28-31, 2018	NASBA Annual Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ
December 7, 2018	8:30 a.m. Board Meeting

II. National Regulatory Concerns

1. The Board members discussed the NASBA *State Board Report* for February, 2018.

2. The Board members discussed the NASBA *State Board Report* for March, 2018.

3. The Board reviewed the NASBA Legislative E-news for January 2018.

4. The Board reviewed the Texas State Board Report and discussed the AICPA Exposure Draft on NOCLAR.

5. The Board discussed a request from the AICPA Peer Review program. The Board instructed the Executive Director to draft a letter addressing the issue with review of the letter by Board lawyer. Final draft of the letter should be presented to Board at its next meeting.

6. The Board reviewed and discussed the AICPA's March, 2018 Peer Review Update.

7. The Board reviewed and discussed the NASBA/ICAS/AICPA Mutual Recognition Agreement.

8. The Board discussed the NASBA Vice Chair position and unanimously approved the letter of support for Jim Burkes' nomination.

III. Administration

1. The Board members present reviewed the MSBPA Balance Sheets, Funds 3845 and 3850, as of February, 2018.

2. The Board reviewed the FY 2018 Budget to Actual Comparison – Fund 3845, for the eight months ended February 28, 2018 and eight months ended February 28, 2017.

3. The Board reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, Fund 3845 for the eight months ended February 28, 2018.

4. The Board reviewed the engagement letter of the State Auditor's compliance audit of MSBPA.

5. In other business:
   - The Board members present approved additional per diem days.

6. The Board discussed a dismissed litigation.

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms

1. The Board members noted staff approval of 125 candidate applications (31 initial, 94 reexam) for 206 Sections of the computerized CPA examination received since the January 26, 2018 meeting.

2. The Board members present considered and approved a special request by candidate number 14005 related to extension of expired score.

3. The Board members unanimously acted upon the applications for CPA licenses, reciprocals, reinstatements, and CPA firm permits as presented herein:

Applications for Original CPA License

File	Name	Number	Action
13660	Alana Lindsey Harmon	7547	Approved
13041	Amy Marie Harrington	7548	Approved
14143	Gregory Douglas Higginbotham	7549	Approved
13563	Isaac J. Ison	7550	Approved
12422	Jacqueline D. Miller	7551	Approved

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms (Continued)

Applications for Reciprocal CPA License

File	Name	Number	Action
14509	Robert David Gravatt	R7552	Approved
14475	Melinda A. Poag	R7553	Approved

Applications for Reinstatement of CPA License

File	Name	Number	Action
11470	Ann W. Bemis	1338	Approved
10626	Leslie Ann Brewer	5531	Approved
14059	Erin Meador Johnson	R7257	Approved
14355	Gregory Steven Kurth	R7439	Approved
09522	Laura Ann Peebles	5121	Approved
10961	Mischel Pharabey Romero	5698	Approved
07709	Christopher A. Savage	4478	Approved
09892	Bradley Scott Sinclair	5400	Approved
10630	Christi H. Whitten	5457	Approved

Applications for CPA Firm Permit to Practice

Name	City, State	Number	Action
Sylvia C. Alger, CPA	Oxford, MS	7537	Approved
Sabrina G. Baio, CPA, PLLC	Perkinston, MS	7538	Approved
Ann W. Bemis, CPA	Jackson, MS	7539	Approved
Burke & Associates, PLLC	Madison, MS	7540	Approved
Robert David Gravatt, CPA	Como, MS	7541	Approved
Jarrell Group, PLLC	Tupelo, MS	7542	Approved
Dave V. John, LLC	Tamarac, FL	7543	Approved
John Jordan, CPA	Ridgeland, MS	7544	Approved
Lisa J. Meade, CPA	Ridgeland, MS	7545	Approved
Christopher D. Murphy, CPA	Booneville, MS	7546	Approved

Amendments to Registered Firms

No.	Name	City, State	Change
F0136	Brown, Ewing & Co., P.A.	Ridgeland, MS	Name change from Banks Finley White & Co.
F1105	Kemp, Williams, Steverson & Bernard PA	Meridian, MS	Address Change

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms (Continued)

Application for Reinstatement of a CPA Firm Permit to Practice

Number	Name	City, State	Action
F1584	The Bradley CPA Firm	Ocean Springs, MS	Yes

4. The Board noted the AICPA's notification of inclusion date for new tax law on CPA Exam.

5. The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed "Expanded Pathway to CPA".

6. The Board discussed NASBA's Exam Gateway 2.0 Issues.

V. Continuing Professional Education

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

Sponsor/Title	Dates	Hours	Action
GranthamPoole PLLC 1. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: Major Provisions 2. Individual Income Taxes – Federal, State, and Foreign Student Filings	 1/23/18 1/23/18	 1 2	 Approved Approved
Internal Revenue Service 1. Territory 2 "S Corporation Basis Workshop"	3/22/18	3	Approved
Mississippi Rural Health Association 1. 2018 The Rural Health Clinic Conference	4/6/18	6.5	Approved
NABA Greater Jackson 1. Lunch & Learn Tax Talk: Tax Reform – How It Affects You	1/30/18	1	Approved
The University of Alabama, College of Continuing Education 1. 42nd Annual American Institute on Federal Taxation	6/27-29/18	20	Approved

VI. RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Board members discussed Proposed legislation that died - MS House Bills 690, 1058; Senate Bill 2775.

2. The Board members discussed proposed legislation – MS House Bill 1175 & Senate Bill 2526.

3. The Board members discussed adopted legislation – MS Senate Bill 2980.

4. The Board members discussed the summary of changes in the Eighth Edition of the Uniform Accountancy Act (UAA).

VII. Regulatory Matters

The Board heard a report from Associate Director Sharee Brewer regarding the regulatory activities from January 27, 2018 to March 23, 2018:

Activity	Number
Cases Opened Beginning of Period	18
Cases Opened	17
Cases Closed ①	4
Cases Open End of Period	31
Open Cases Referred to Members	6

VII. Regulatory Matters(continued)

① ***Cases Closed:***

Case 2017.02 Case opened March 31, 2017 after revocation of license when ex-CPA found to be holding out as a CPA. Case followed arrest and plea deal. Ex-CPA paid $15K as part of plea. Case had been assigned to a former board member and decision made after consultation to close case and open a new one to be used to manage the new and continuing problems with this former licensee.

Case 2017.12 Case opened July 20, 2017 upon learning licensee had completed a review of financial statements for a general contractor which was filed with the State Board of Contractors. Licensee did not have a firm permit. Per the engagement report completed, this was the only engagement. Licensee did not want a firm permit. A Stipulation and Consent with fine was approved by the full board in January, 2018. Fine was paid and matter closed.

Case 2017.73 Case opened August 17, 2017 when out of state firm sent in a copy of their PRP which was a 2nd pass with deficiencies. The firm did not do audits in Mississippi and didn't even need a firm permit as it turned out. They canceled their firm permit and the matter was closed.

Case 2018.11 Investigator input error in opening case in LARS under a non-accounting firm for record keeping. Only way to correct error was to close case and close company and reopen company with correct case.

Sharee Brewer then discussed the active cases as presented on the *Open Case Log*.

VII. TRIAL BOARD

Stipulation and Consent Orders for Board Approval related to deficient peer review report:

A Stipulation and Consent Order in **Case 2017.71** was approved by the Board, involving a firm with a fail on a peer review report. The firm fully cooperated with the investigation and peer review program. The order requires the firm to schedule an accelerated peer review with a date acceptable to the board if they become engaged to perform reviews or audits of financial statements. (Sims Investigative Committee)

A Stipulation and Consent Order in **Case 2017.181** was approved by the Board, Involving a firm with a fail on a peer review report. The firm fully cooperated with the investigation and peer review program. The order requires the firm to schedule an accelerated peer review with a date acceptable to the board if they become engaged to perform compilations, reviews or audits of financial statements. (Kelly Investigative Committee)

APPROVED:

_____	_____
Chair	Board Member
_____	_____
Vice Chair	Board Member
_____	_____
Secretary	Board Member
	_____
	Board Member