

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY
MINUTES
April 26, 2019

The Mississippi State Board of Public Accountancy met at the Board office at 5 Old River Place, Suite 104, Jackson, Mississippi on April 26, 2019, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The following record of that meeting was maintained.

Board Members Present

Willie Sims, Jr., Chair
Rick Elam, Vice Chair
David Bridgers, Secretary
Angela Pannell
Mark Peach
William Kelly
Charles Prince

Board Staff Present

Andy Wright, Executive Director
Sharee Brewer, Associate Director, Investigations
Lane McNeal, Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Ed Jones, MSCPA Representative

I. General

1. The Board opened the meeting with an invocation from Charlie Prince.
2. The minutes from the March, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.
3. The CPA certificates of licensure from the March, 2019 meeting were signed by the Board members.
4. The Board determined who will attend the NASBA Regionals and the MSCPA Convention for registration purposes.

I. General (Continued)

5. Board Members were reminded that the Ethics Commission Statement of Economic Interest is due April 30, 2019.
6. The Board reviewed tentative meeting/activity dates for 2019:

April 27	New CPA Ceremony
May 31	8:30 a.m. Board Meeting
June 11-13	NASBA Eastern Regional, Washington, DC
June 18-20	NASBA Western Regional, Salt Lake City, UT
June 20-23	MSCPA Annual Convention, Destin, FL
August 2	8:30 a.m. Board Meeting
September 20	8:30 a.m. Board Meeting
October 27-30	NASBA Annual Meeting, Boston, MA
November 1	10:00 a.m. Board Meeting
November 2	New CPA Ceremony
December 6	8:30 a.m. Board Meeting

II. National Regulatory Concerns

1. The NASBA *State Board Report* for April 2019 was discussed.
2. The Executive Director presented highlights of the recent NASBA Executive Directors Conference.
3. The NASBA Comment Letter to IASSB was discussed.

III. Administration

1. The MSBPA Balance Sheets, Funds 3845 and 3850, as of March 31, 2019 were reviewed.
2. The FY 2019 Budget to Actual Comparison – Fund 3845, for the nine months ended March 31, 2019 was reviewed.
3. The Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, Fund 3845 for the nine months ended March, 2019 was reviewed.
4. Additional per diem days were approved.

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms

1. The Board noted staff approval of 64 candidate applications (8 initial, 56 reexam) for 83 Sections of the computerized CPA examination received since the March 22, 2019 meeting.
2. The following actions on applications for CPA licenses, reciprocals, reinstatements, and CPA firm permits were unanimously approved by the Board unless otherwise noted:

Applications for Original CPA License

Name	Number	Action
Tanner James Pace	7738	Approved
Justin Paul Poole	7739	Approved
Adam Daniel Rylander	7740	Approved
Heather Lynn Witten	7741	Approved

Applications for Reciprocal CPA License

Name	Number	Action
Nicole S. Adams	R7742	Approved
James Barry Burt	R7743	Approved
Steven P. Collins	R7744	Approved
Emilie Faith Cornell	R7745	Approved
David Michael Denegri	R7746	Approved
Maria Helen Huff-Compretta	R7747	Approved
Joseph B. Jones	R7748	Approved
Howard Worth Jordan	R7749	Approved
Michael Joseph Magee	R7750	Approved
Joseph A. Peyrefitte	R7751	Approved
Jamie N. Steen	R7752	Approved
Amanda Marie Stone	R7753	Approved
James M. Walden	R7754	Approved
Heidi Lynn Webb	R7755	Approved
Charlotte Ross Welch	R7756	Approved
Lewis Edwin Williams	R7757	Approved

Applications for Reinstatement of CPA License

Name	Number	Action
Robert J. Brown	3752	Approved
Hugh W. Cooper	5640	Approved
Julia Gates Hines-Mabus	2725	Approved
David S. Nieman	R3365	Approved

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms (continued)

4. Applications (continued)

Applications for CPA Firm Permit to Practice

Name	City, State	Number	Action
Sikich, LLP	Naperville, IL	7735	Approved
H. Benton Watkins, CPA LLC	Brandon, MS	7736	Approved
LeeAnn Watts-Bonney, CPA	Long Beach, MS	7737	Approved

Amendments to Registered Firms

No.	Name	City, State	Change
F0618	L Reeves, CPA, PLLC	Vicksburg, MS	Organization Change

5. The AICPA Board of Examiners meeting highlights were discussed.

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
Accountants Education Group 1. Mississippi Ethics	Online Self Study	4 Ethics 3 General 1 MS Rules	Approved
Alexander Van Loon Sloan Levens & Favre 1. 21 st Annual Accounting & Auditing Update with Ethics	5/30-31/19	12 including 4 Ethics (3 General 1 MS Rules)	Approved
BKD, LLP 1. BKD CPE Day – Ethics, Accounting Standards and Tax Reform	5/13/2019	7 including 4 Ethics (3 General 1 MS Rules)	Approved
Beacon Hill Financial Educators, Inc. 1. Ethics for Accountants: Mississippi	Online Self Study	4 Ethics 3 General 1 MS Rules	Approved

V. Continuing Professional Education

1. Sponsor Applications (continued)

Sponsor/Title	Dates	Hours	Action
CPA SelfStudy.com 1. Mississippi Ethics for CPAs	Online Self Study	4 Ethics 3 General 1 MS Rules	Approved
Central MS Chapter of Certified Fraud Examiners 1. Ethical Dilemmas, Ethics the Game Shoe, Tales From the Darkside, Financial Analysis in Criminal Investigations	5/10/2019	8 including 2 General Ethics	Approved
Continuing Academics CPE Tutor 1. Mississippi Ethics	Online Self Study	4 Ethics 3 General 1 MS Rules	Approved
Hardy Reed, LLC 1. Fiduciary Essentials for Defined Contribution Plans	5/7/2019	3.5	Approved
MasterCPE LLC 1. Ethics for Mississippi	Online Self Study	4 Ethics 3 General 1 MS Rules	Approved
Professional Educations Services 1. Ethics and Professional Conduct for Mississippi CPAs	Online Self Study	4 Ethics 3 General 1 MS Rules	Approved
Surgent McCoy CPE, LLC 1. Mississippi Ethics for CPAs	Online Self Study	4 Ethics 3 General 1 MS Rules	Approved
The University of Alabama 1. 43 rd Annual American Institute on Federal Taxation	6/19-21/19	19.5	Approved

2. The Board members present unanimously authorized the following actions concerning CPE request from individuals.

Sponsor/Title	Dates	Hours	Action
Billy Morehead 1. Mississippi Ethics <i>Requested by Billy Morehead</i>	Various	4 Ethics 3 General 1 MS Rules	Approved
Corporate Compliance Insight 1.12 Steps to Reveal and Reduce Cyber-Breach Risk <i>Requested by Gary Patterson</i>	Published Article	20	Approved

VI. Rules and Regulations

1. The Board discussed the MSBPA rules changes pending before the OLRC.
2. Proposed changes to UAA Model Rules regarding peer review were discussed.
3. Enacted legislation of interest was discussed.
4. The Board discussed credentials offered from the American Board of Forensic Accounting.

VII. Regulatory Matters

1. The Board heard a report from Associate Director Sharee Brewer regarding the regulatory activities from March 23, 2019 to April 26, 2019:

Activity	Number
Cases Opened Beginning of Period	28
Cases Opened	5
Cases Closed ①	5
Cases Open End of Period	28
Open Cases Referred to Members	0

① Cases Closed:

Case 2018.122 Case opened to manage request from sole proprietor for waiver of final peer review requirement. Medical documentation received documenting Parkinson’s disease. License and firm permit were cancelled for 2019. Board granted medical waiver. Matter was closed without discipline.

Case 2019.01 Case opened to address the second time a former CPA had held out as currently licensed when license was cancelled in 2012. A short biography was placed in a journal that stated the former licensee was a CPA. A stern letter of warning was issued by the Executive Director. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.12 Case opened to address CPA firm using name on letterhead and signage at firm physical location that did not match name on firm permit issued by the Board. Firm requested name change from the Board to match all items and was approved at the March Board meeting. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.16 Case opened when licensee was convicted on 11 counts of federal tax related charges. Consent Order agreed to by full Board which included revocation of license and firm permit as well as civil penalty (\$8,750.00) and cost recovery (\$900.00) totaling \$9,650.00. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.17 Case opened when newspaper reporting on the above court case for 2019.16 reflected there was a potential failure to report income by a CPA. Investigation determined that there was no evidence to support a charge since an amended tax return had been completed. Matter was closed.

2. Ms. Brewer then discussed the open cases presented on the active case log.

VIII. Trial Board

Trial Board Hearing Continuances:

Presentation of Order granting motion for Continuance to May Meeting in **2018.03**
(Bridgers Investigative Committee)

Presentation of Order granting motion for Continuance to May Meeting in **2019.02**
(Elam Investigative Committee)

APPROVED:

Chair

Board Member

Vice Chair

Board Member

Secretary

Board Member

Board Member