

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY
MINUTES
August 2, 2019

The Mississippi State Board of Public Accountancy met at the Board office at 5 Old River Place, Suite 104, Jackson, Mississippi on August 2, 2019, beginning at 8:30 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

Legal Counsel Present

Onetta Whitley, Deputy Attorney General

Others Present

Ed Jones, MSCPA Representative
Dan Dustin, NASBA

I. General

1. The Board opened the meeting with an invocation from Charles Prince.
2. The minutes from the May, 2019 meeting were approved. Angela Pannell abstained from the vote.
3. The CPA certificates of licensure from the May, 2019 meeting were signed by the Board members.
4. The Board noted that Jimmy Burkes will be the keynote speaker for the November 2019 CPA Ceremony.

I. General (Continued)

5. The Board reviewed tentative meeting/activity dates for 2019:

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 Reports* for June and July 2019 were discussed.
2. The NASBA announcement regarding the formation of “ARPL” was discussed.
3. The Board heard an update from NASBA’s Dan Dustin.

III. Administration

1. The MSBPA Balance Sheets, Funds 3845 and 3850, as of June 30, 2019 were reviewed.
2. The FY 2019 Budget to Actual Comparison – Fund 3845, for the twelve months ended June, 2019 was reviewed.
3. The Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, Fund 3845 for the twelve months ended June 30, 2019 was reviewed.
4. Additional per diem days were approved.
5. The Board entered into a closed Executive Session for purpose of discussion of potential litigation. The Board came out of Executive Session and resumed the open meeting by announcing no action was taken in Executive Session.

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms

1. The Board noted staff approval of 138 candidate applications (28 initial, 110 reexam) for 185 Sections of the computerized CPA examination received since the April 26, 2019 meeting.
2. The Board considered and denied a special request by candidate number 11822 related to good moral character.
3. Window 2 (Apr – June, 2019) examination scores for 212 candidates, 271 examination sections were accepted by the Board.
4. 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
Michelle A. Batie	7795	Approved
Hailey Renyta Chisolm	7796	Approved
Jacob Daniel Clark	7797	Approved
Sydney Elyse Cumberland	7798	Approved
Brett Stewart Davis	7799	Approved
Purnima Dhillon	7800	Approved
Tyler Martin Flores	7801	Approved
James Andrew Hurd	7802	Approved
Lindsey Hope May	7803	Approved
James Jarrod Moore	7804	Approved
LaToya Shonta Moye-Bush	7805	Approved
Mary Elizabeth Scott	7806	Approved
Kyle Austin Stoner	7807	Approved
Marielle Bianca Suarez	7808	Approved
John Michael Tull	7809	Approved

Applications for Reciprocal CPA License

Name	Number	Action
Marvin Lynn Bouillon	R7810	Approved
Michael Dan Castleberry	R7811	Approved
Reed Burgess Clayton	R7812	Approved
Timothy Ayres Courts	R7813	Approved
Daina D. Davis-Boyd	R7814	Approved
Charles Franklin Dowling	R7815	Approved

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms (continued)

4. Applications (continued)

Applications for Reciprocal CPA License

Name	Number	Action
Caitlynn J. Eldridge	R7816	Approved
Lauren Katherina Hanat	R7817	Approved
Lynn Morris Holland	R7818	Approved
Catherine Margaret Konkel	R7819	Approved
James Robert Slater	R7820	Approved

Applications for Reinstatement of CPA License

Name	Number	Action
Jessica Killens Lott	5968	Approved
Matthew Neal Malone	6384	Approved
David James Manifold	R1598	Approved
Todd M. Tournillon	R3473	Approved

Applications for CPA Firm Permit to Practice

Name	City, State	Number	Action
Carrie Ainsworth, CPA	Madison, MS	7783	Approved
Eide Bailly LLC	Sioux Falls, SD	7784	Approved
Carter & Company CPA LLC	Destin, FL	7785	Approved
Caitlynn Eldridge CPA, LLC	Bellevue, NE	7786	Approved
Deborah J. Gilbert, CPA	Ridgeland, MS	7787	Approved
Ranjeet Koirala CPA, PC	Irving, TX	7788	Approved
Diane Langham, CPA	Florence, MS	7789	Approved
Donna Mitchell, CPA	Collins, MS	7790	Approved
Carolyn A. Nolan, CPA	Moss Point, MS	7791	Approved
Patricia Rasberry, CPA	Hattiesburg, MS	7792	Approved
Ted Soileau, CPA LLC	Baton Rouge, LA	7793	Approved
White and Associates LLC	Brookhaven, MS	7794	Approved

Amendments to Registered Firms

No.	Name	City, State	Change
F1530	Kennedy CPA Firm, PLLC	Blue Springs, MS	Name Change from Kennedy & Kennedy, CPAs
F0536	Montgomery & Associates PLLC	Jackson, MS	Name Change from Montgomery & Bivins PA

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms (continued)

4. Applications (continued)

Amendments to Registered Firms

No.	Name	City, State	Change
F1004	Payn & Leggett CPAs PC	Brookhaven, MS	Name Change from Lowery Payn & Leggett CPAs
F1391	K.S. Phillips, PLLC	Columbus, MS	Name Change from Kallie S. Phillips, CPA
F1357	Adrienne L. Tompkins, CPA PLLC	Lucedale, MS	Address Change

Application for Reinstatement of a CPA Firm Permit to Practice

Number	Name	City, State	Action
F1174	D. Scott Nieman, CPA	McComb, MS	Approved

5. The Board members present took the following actions to approve requests for 2019 CPE extensions that include deficit and penalty hours:

Name	Number	Total Hours	Extension Date
Peyton Atchley	5555	6	8/31/19
Joan Bartik	3052	6	8/31/19
David Bassett	R2704	32.8	8/31/19
Serge Boldyrev	6277	60	8/31/19
Mitch Boleware	3779	6	8/31/19
Jonelle Brown	4882	6	8/31/19
William Brown	2209	6	8/31/19
Troy Browning	2871	6	8/31/19
Bridget Butler	6335	22	8/31/19
Kenya Collier	6215	30	8/31/19
Kevin Curren	7583	9	8/31/19
Meredith Fletcher	6312	4	8/31/19
Kimberly Fontan	4983	6	8/31/19
David Gladden	1685	6	8/31/19
Songhee Han	5752	6	8/31/19
Ken Hardwick	5561	7	8/31/19
Ashley Herrington	5843	6	8/31/19
Eric Love	R2494	6	8/31/19
Gene Magee	2210	6	8/31/19
Paula McCluskey	5775	6	8/31/19

IV. CPA Examination, Licensing & Firms (Continued)

5. 2019 CPE compliance granted extensions (continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>	<u>Extension Date</u>
Jonathan McFadden	4939	51.5	8/31/19
Joseph Michel	5391	6	8/31/19
Jan Miller	4205	.5	8/31/19
Nora Miller	3424	1.5	8/31/19
Paul Ogden	3110	6	8/31/19
Shellie Perrigan	R7727	60	8/31/19
Larry Pirkle	R2759	6	8/31/19
Scott Stone	3802	6	8/31/19
Lauren Trussell	6055	3	8/31/19
Justin Walley	7097	6	8/31/19
Douglas Whittington	5796	60	8/31/19
Heather Witten	7741	48	8/31/19

6. The Board members present took the following actions related to requests for amendments to the 2019 CPE compliance requirements and granted extensions with penalty waivers to the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>	<u>Extension Date</u>
Jonathon Barnett	3806	40	8/31/19
Taylor Corso	7427	36	8/31/19
Larry Horn	3834	0	Medical Waiver
Robert Kirkpatrick	1126	0	Medical Waiver
Ricardo Merlos	5491	0	Medical Waiver
Vijay Patel	5287	4	8/31/19
Michelle Stonestreet	5158	4	8/31/19

7. 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
Beacon Hill Financial Educators (QAS) 1. Ethics for Accountants: Mississippi	Online Self Study	4 Ethics (3 General 1 Rules)	Approved
Becker Professional Education (QAS) 1. Mississippi Ethics	Online Self Study	3.5 Ethics General	Approved
Becker Professional Development Corporation operating as Becker Professional Education (QAS) 1. Ethics, Integrity and AICPA Code of Professional Conduct	Online Self Study	4 Ethics General	Approved
Delta Chapter of CPAs 1.2019 Accounting and Auditing Update (For Nonissuers)	5/7/2019	8	Approved
Department of Revenue 1. Corporate Income and Franchise Tax Training	5/21/2019	7	Approved
Frances Rushton Memorial Scholarship Fund 1. Frances Rushton 25 th Annual CPE Seminar	5/17/2019	8	Approved
Illumeo, Inc. (QAS) 1. Mississippi State Specific Ethics Course	Online Self Study	4 Ethics (3 General 1 Rules)	Approved
Jackson Braswell Mullins & Bailey 1. Department of Labor – Fair Labor Standards Act	6/7/2019	3	Approved
MSCPA 1. Executive Education: Ethics Leadership for Mississippi CPAs	6/27/2019	4 Ethics (3 General 1 Rules)	Approved
Petroleum Accountants Society of MS 1. COPAS in Combat: Litigating COPAS Accounting Procedures 2. What's Happening in MS Oil & Gas Public Policy	1/23/2019 6/3/2019	1 1	Approved
Sequoia CPA 1.Ethics for Mississippi CPAs	Online Self Study	4 Ethics (3 General 1 Rules)	
William F. Taylor, CPA 1. Ethical Considerations for the Accounting Profession	5/22/19	4 Ethics (3 General 1 Rules)	Approved

V. Continuing Professional Education

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

Sponsor/Title	Dates	Hours	Action
Business Education Innovation Journal 1. Introduce Non-GAAP Metrics to Business Students <i>Requested by V. Brooks Poole</i>	Published Article	40	Approved
Southeast Case Research Journal 1. Fraud Case: Green and Black Vehicle Dealership, LLP <i>Requested by Nancy Swanson</i>	Published Article	40	Approved

VI. Rules and Regulations

1. The Board was updated on the MSBPA rules changes approved by the OLRC.
2. The Board discussed out-of-state licensees with Legal Counsel.

VII. Regulatory Matters

1. The Board heard a report from Associate Director Sharee Brewer regarding the regulatory activities from June 1, 2019 to August 2, 2019:

Activity	Number
Cases Opened Beginning of Period	30
Cases Opened	15
Cases Closed ①	13
Cases Open End of Period	32
Open Cases Referred to Members	1

① **Cases Closed:**

VII. Regulatory Matters (continued)**Closed Cases (continued)**

Case 2018.03 Case opened to investigate a CPA Firm for performing work subject to peer review but undeclared on the firm permit renewal application resulting in multiple false statements before the Board. Trial Board Hearing held at May, 2019 Board meeting resulting in a \$4,000 financial penalty plus costs. This case was reported as discipline against the firm permit. Matter was closed.

Case 2018.25 Case opened to investigate a former licensee who allowed license and firm permit to close without renewal. Former licensee purportedly held out to a client that they were still a CPA. Multiple attempts were made to locate this individual without success. Learned home address was in foreclosure per internet search. Matter was closed.

Case 2018.78 Case opened to investigate a CPA Firm for performing work subject to peer review but undeclared on the firm permit renewal application resulting in multiple false statements before the Board. Trial Board Hearing held at May, 2019 Board meeting resulting in an \$8,000 financial penalty plus costs. This case was reported as discipline against the firm permit. Matter was closed.

Case 2018.126 Case opened to investigate complaint from a former client against a CPA Firm for purportedly revealing personal medical information to someone other than the client. Investigation determined the complaint wasn't valid. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.02 Case opened to investigate complaint from an employer in industry who had an audit which determined the CFO (who was a CPA) had embezzled upwards of \$200,000. CFO was arrested and indicted and entered a pre-trial diversionary agreement for restitution of more than \$150,000. A Consent Order was agreed to which called for revocation of the individual's license and \$1,000 financial penalty. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.03 Case opened to investigate complaint of CPA Firm receiving a fail rating on an engagement peer review. A Stipulation and Consent Order was agreed to by the firm and approved at the May, 2019 Board meeting. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.07 Case opened to investigate a CPA Firm for performing work subject to peer review but undeclared on the firm permit renewal application resulting in one false statement before the Board. A Stipulation and Consent Order was agreed to and approved at the May, 2019 Board meeting resulting in an \$500 financial penalty. This case was not reported as discipline against the firm permit. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.22 Case opened to investigate complaint from a former client against a CPA Firm for malpractice. Investigation determined the complaint appeared baseless and complainant was provided additional time to provide documentation supporting claim. Firm was offered a chance to respond as well. Conclusion reached that there was no evidence to support the complaint. Matter was closed.

VII. Regulatory Matters (continued)

Closed Cases (continued)

Case 2019.33 Case opened to investigate complaint from BOC of a review report completed by a non-licensed firm. Firm responded that they understood the law as it was explained after being brought to their attention and would not perform another review engagement. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.37 Case opened to document a medical waiver for an individual licensee of the Board to not obtain deficient CPE hours. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.38 Case opened to document an active-duty military service waiver for an individual licensee of the Board to not obtain deficient CPE hours. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.49 Case opened to report results to LARS and ALD of case **2018.03** against a sole proprietor's CPA Firm so results would appear against the individual license as well. This has been the practice in the past if the firms are sole proprietorships. Matter was closed.

Case 2019.50 Case opened to report results to LARS and ALD of case **2018.78** against a sole proprietor's CPA Firm so results would appear against the individual license as well. This has been the practice in the past if the firms are sole proprietorships. Matter was closed.

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

VIII. Trial Board

Trial Board Hearing Continuance:

Presentation of Order granting motion for Continuance to September meeting in **Case 2019.06** (Bridgers Investigative Committee)

The Board meeting was then adjourned.

MSBPA Minutes

August 2, 2019

APPROVED:

Chair

Board Member

Vice Chair

Board Member

Secretary

Board Member

Board Member