



Occupational and Professional Licensing BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

Meeting Minutes January 6, 2023

The District of Columbia Board of Accountancy (Board) held its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, January 6, 2023. This was a call in/virtual meeting.

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The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Board Chair, Robert Todero, and attendance was taken.

Board Members Present: Robert Todero, Dr. Joseph Drew, and Antonia Browning Smiley

Board Members Absent: Angela Avant, Bridgett Gagne

Staff Present: Meggett-Strudwick, Board Administrator, Kendra Covington, Program Support Specialist, and Kevin Cyrus, Education Coordinator

Legal Counsel: Marc Nielsen, Office of the General Counsel

Public Consumers Present: Paul Thrasher, Greater Washington Society of CPAs, Matthew Arovas, CPA

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Agenda Item: Comments from the Public:

Paul Thrasher communicated that Kari Bedell, Greater Washington Society of CPAs President, was unable to join the meeting today, but she conveyed to Paul that she likes the idea of the Board targeting Howard, UDC and GW for a spring meeting and has offered her assistance to devote whatever resources are needed to as the Board moves forward in their plans.

Chairman Todero asked Matthew Arovas to join today's meeting and to speak about his educational background and his role in the industry and how that is being applied in his job as an auditor for a large firm.



Mr. Arovas spoke eloquently about his role as a new CPA. He became licensed as a CPA in Virginia and DC in 2022. Mr. Arovas indicated that his first introduction to the accounting profession was in high school where he learned basic principles. He decided to pursue a career in accounting his first year at university after taking an accounting course. Mr. Arovas graduated with an Accounting and Information Systems degree because he could see the direction in which the profession was heading in technology and the reliance on IT systems for storing big data. He also attended a specialized master's program with a huge focus on not only accounting, but data and analytics. The program emphasized the importance of the next generation in having the accounting and technology skillset needed to succeed in today's accounting.

Mr. Arovas communicated about the intersection of technology and data analytics in the industry today and how he uses these tools to assist in his duties to work more efficiently and make his job much easier than it would be without those tools. He gave the board a few examples of how those tools are used in his role as an auditor and concluded with his excitement about where the profession is going with the new technology at their disposal.

Chairman Todero opened the floor up to the public and the board to ask questions and to express their thoughts on Mr. Arovas' s presentation. The board members and staff were very pleased with his presentation and felt it was very informative. Board member Dr. Drew asked if Mr. Arovas had a suggestion on how the District of Columbia could make the profession more attractive to students in becoming CPAs. Mr. Arovas suggested the career may be more appealing to candidates if the board spoke to the long-term benefits of a CPA career in their outreach efforts. He felt that if the Board focused more on the positive side of the profession instead of the barriers to entry such as, 150 credit hours and the CPA license, it would attract more students to the profession. Also, emphasizing how powerful getting the certification could be instead of focusing on the barriers would be of tremendous benefit to the board's efforts.

Agenda Item: Acceptance of Draft Minutes

Upon motion duly made at 9:37 a.m. by board member Dr. Joseph Drew, and properly seconded by board member Antonia Browning - Smiley, the Board unanimously voted to approve the December 9, 2022, draft board meeting minutes, as amended during the meeting.

Agenda Item: Correspondence:

- *22Q4 Score Release*
- *AICPA Unveils Blueprints for Redesigned CPA Exam*

Chairman Todero summarized the correspondence and expressed a need to share this information about the new pathway with the candidates. Paul Thrasher agreed and stated he would pass it on to Kari Bedell to offer a course or something to the candidates.

The board requested a summary detailing the differences in education for the next meeting.



- *NASBA, AICPA Issue Proposed Revisions to CPE Provider Standards*

The board requested a summary for the next meeting.

- *UAA_Rule_5.7_Proposed_Amendments_Approved_by_NASBA_Board_for_Exposure_FINAL10112022, (To be reviewed in the February 3rd meeting when Patrick White returns)*

The board postponed an update by J. Patrick White, General Counsel, on the UAA Rule until his return for the February 3rd, 2023, meeting.

Agenda Items: 2022/2023 NASBA Conferences/Meetings Calendar Meetings & Events

Upcoming Events

[28th Annual Conference for Board of Accountancy Legal Counsel](#)

Feb. 27 – March 1, 2023, Tucson, AZ

[41st Annual Conference for Executive Directors and Board Staff](#)

Feb. 27 – March 1, 2023, Tucson, AZ

[Eastern Regional Meeting](#)

May 31 – Jun 2, 2023, Savannah GA

[116th NASBA Annual Meeting](#)

Oct. 29 – Nov. 1, 2023, New York, NY

“Reserve the date”

February 27 – March 1, 2023

Upon motion duly made at 9:52 a.m. by board member Antonia Browning Smiley, and seconded by board member Dr. Joseph Drew, the board unanimously voted to approve that all board staff and board members attend the Eastern Regional Meeting, May 31 – Jun 2, 2023, in Savannah, GA.

Proposed 2023 Board Meeting Dates – The scheduled board meeting dates and upcoming conferences as listed.



January 06 **February 03** **March 03** **April (Recess)**
May 05 **June 02** **July 07** **August 04**
September 01 **October 06** **November 03** **December 01**

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Agenda Item: Report - Applications for Licensure

Upon motion duly made at 10:04 a.m. by board member Dr. Joseph Drew, and seconded by board member Antonia Browning Smiley, the board unanimously voted to approve the January 6, 2023, list of accountancy applications for licensure, attached hereto and made a part of the December 9, 2022, minutes.

Agenda Item: Old Business

- *Accountancy Board Outreach Efforts*

Chairman Todero and the Board expressed a desire to include outreach in high schools. The board staff will provide an update on efforts to contact the high schools in the DC area at the February 3, 2023, board meeting.

- *Board Legislative Committee*

Update on progress of committee to come at the February 3rd, 2023, board meeting.

- *BOA Newsletter- Pictures (Board Luncheon)*

Luncheon is on hold until a photographer can be found to take pictures for the Board. Update to follow by Angela Meggett-Strudwick before the February 3rd board meeting.

Agenda Item: New Business

None

Agenda Item: Technical Review and Reinstatement Application/s:

| TECHNICAL REVIEW APPLICATION | | |
|------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| NAME | APPROVED | INCOMPLETE / DEFERRED |
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|--------------------------|---|---|
| PRICE WATERHOUSE COOPERS | X | |
| ERNST & YOUNG | X | |
| COHNREZNICK LLP | X | |
| RYAN DOBENS | X | |
| DAVID ALLISON | X | |
| ELAINE CONOLY | X | |
| JAMES SCOTT | X | |
| KELLY DAVIS | X | |
| KATTELL & COMPANY, PLLC | | X |
| KPMG LLP | | X |

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Agenda Item: Legal Matters: None

There were no legal matters to discuss currently.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made by board member Dr. Joseph Drew, and properly seconded by board member Antonia Browning Smiley, the board unanimously agreed to enter closed session at 10:08 a.m. pursuant to the authority of D.C. Official Code Section 2-575(b) (4) (A) to seek the advice of counsel, D.C. Official Code Section 2-575(b) (9) to discuss disciplinary matters, and D.C. Official Code Section 2-775(b)(13) to deliberate upon a decision in an adjudication action or proceeding.

The following actions were taken due to the discussion during the closed session:

Upon motion duly made at 11:23 a.m. by board member, Antonia Browning Smiley, and properly seconded by board member, Dr. Joseph Drew, the board voted to approve the technical review applications above.

Upon motion duly at 11:24 a.m. made by board member Dr. Joseph Drew, and properly seconded by board member Antonia Browning Smiley, the board agreed to approve the NTS extension of the CPA candidates below.

1. Yilang Wu – extend credited scores to 12/31/2023.



2. Christian Young – extend credited scores to 12/31/2023.

Upon motion duly made at 11:24 a.m. by board member Dr. Joseph Drew, and properly seconded by board member Antonia Browning Smiley, the Board agreed to accept the professional educational credits to meet the compliance requirements and be applied towards the applicants 2022 renewal period.

1. James Liechty 23 CPEs accepted for compliance in the 2022 renewal period.


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Adjourn

Upon motion duly made by board member Antonia Browning Smiley, and seconded by board member Dr. Joseph Drew, the Board voted to adjourn at 11:25 am.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Accountancy will be February 3, 2023, in person.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Todero, Chair

April 10, 2023

Date

Recorder: Angela Meggett-Strudwick, Board Administrator