



**Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration
BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**

**Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2022**

The District of Columbia Board of Accountancy (Board) held its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, May 13, 2022. This was a call in/virtual meeting.

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The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Board Chair, Robert Todero, and attendance was taken.

Board Members Present: Robert Todero, Dr. Joseph Drew, Bridgett Gagne, and (Angela Avant, Joined 10:06)

Board Members Absent: Antonia Browning Smiley

Staff Present: Meggett-Strudwick, Board Administrator; Kevin Cyrus, Education Coordinator; Leon Lewis, Executive Director

Legal Counsel: J. Patrick White, Office of the General Counsel

Public Consumers Present: Kari Bedell, Greater Washington Society of CPAs

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Agenda Item: Comments from the Public:

There were no comments from the public at this meeting.

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Agenda Item: Acceptance of Draft Minutes

Upon motion duly made by member, Dr. Joseph Drew, and seconded by Bridgett Gagne, the Board voted to approve the March 4th, 2022, draft Board meeting minutes. (Ms. Avant was not present to vote currently)

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

Upcoming Events

[27th Annual Conference for Board of Accountancy Legal Counsel](#)

April 25-27, 2022, Clearwater Beach, FL

[40th Annual Conference for Executive Directors and Board Staff](#)

April 25-27, 2022, Clearwater Beach, FL

[Western Regional Meeting](#)

June 7-9, 2022, Colorado Springs, CO

[Eastern Regional Meeting](#)

June 27-29, 2022, White Sulpher Springs, WV

[115th NASBA Annual Meeting](#)

October 30-November 2, 2022, San Diego, CA (tentative)

“Reserve the date”

June 27-29 & October 30 – November 2, 2022

Proposed 2022 Board Meeting Dates – The scheduled board meeting dates and upcoming conferences as listed.

January 07	February 11	March 04	April 01 (Recess)
May 13	June 03	July 01	August 05
September 02	October 07	November 04	December 02

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Agenda Item: Report - Applications for Licensure

Upon motion duly made by board member Dr. Joseph Drew, and seconded by Bridgett Gagne, the Board voted unanimously to approve the May 13th, 2022, list of accountancy applications for licensure, attached hereto and made a part of the May 13, 2022, minutes.

Agenda Item: Old Business

- A. Exploring avenues to legislative process for expanding the board: Board agreed to attend meetings scheduled by board staff in efforts to move forward with board expansion. At least one member from the Board will attend meetings which may include Chairman Todero. An invitation will always be extended to the Chairman to attend, in the event one of the board committee members is unable to attend.

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Agenda Item: New Business

- A. 40th Annual ED & Board Staff Summary: Angela Meggett-Strudwick presented a summary report of the 40th Annual ED & Board Staff Conference attended in Clearwater Beach, Florida on April 25-27, 2022. She briefly summarized the sessions she attended with the Board and provided a summary of each session for the Board to review. Mr. Lewis later offered a summary on the sessions he attended, as well.
- B. Exam fees comparison in other industries: The Board compared two (2) industries provided by the board staff for comparison to CPA exam fees. The comparison industries included Architect and Auxiliary LSAT fees. It was decided that the fees were comparable with the CPA exam fees. However, CPA exam costs could escalate for students having to re-test and may adversely impact students testing for the exam and their ability to pay.

Dr. Joseph Drew wants to explore how fees impact students that sit for exams and how those costs affect opportunities for re-exams. Chairman Todero suggested he bring it up or pursue it with NASBA considering the significant issue with the passage rate reported in the Q1 Summary report.

- C. NASBA’s response to Ukraine Crisis for International CPAs: Angela Meggett-Strudwick reported on hearing nothing from NASBA on the Ukrainian crisis. NASBA does not address it on the website or their social media platforms. No response has been received yet to a direct request from Ms. Strudwick to Boards contact at NASBA. Kari Bedell also indicated she had not seen or heard anything from NASBA addressing the Ukrainian crisis. Dr. Joseph Drew would like to see NASBA take a formal stance on the crisis and Chairman Todero would like to address it in the upcoming Eastern Region Meeting. The Board has decided to address it on a case-by-case basis if Ukrainian CPAs present to the DC Board for licensure as has always been the practice in the past per Mr. Lewis.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

This session was not held at this meeting due to no outstanding complaints, legal matters, and technical applications to be presented.

Agenda Item: Technical Review and Reinstatement Application/s:

None

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Agenda Item: Legal Matters: None



There were no legal matters to review.

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Agenda Item: Correspondence:

- *CPA Exam Performance Summary: Q -1*

The Board discussed the correspondence regarding the passing rate of DC candidates. Dr. Joseph Drew suggested exploring lowering the passing score or making the test easier, especially considering the low passing rate of the re-exam takers. Ms. Bedell agreed that the costs to become a CPA may present a hurdle, but she would not advocate for making the test any easier. Ms. Bedell emphasized that it is important to maintain the standard for the industry.

The CPA Exam Overall Statistics, 1st Quarter Exam Statistics also show that DC only had 1% of foreign residents as a path to licensure. Dr. Joseph Drew was given permission to write to NASBA by the Board to find out what the barrier to licensure with the District of Columbia could be.

Adjourn

Upon motion duly made by board member, Dr. Joseph Drew, and properly seconded by board member, Bridgett Gagne, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:26 am.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Accountancy will be June 3, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Toder".

Robert Toder, Chair

8/12/2022

Date

Recorder: Angela Meggett-Strudwick, Board Administrator