

**STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY
EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2019**

LOCATION: 500 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Third Floor Conference Room

MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE: James E. Marshall, Jr. Acting Chair
Leslie Mostow
Edward J. Helmstetter, Jr
Macon M. Ware, III
Dr. Jan L. Williams
Barrett Young, Jr.
Ferdinand Greeff

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

DLLR OFFICIALS/STAFF: Shanai Jordan, Executive Director
Christopher Dorsey, Assistant Executive Director
Matthew Lawrence, Legal Counsel
Norbert Fenwick, CE Consultant
Linda L. Rhew, Administrative Officer
Sharron McNeill, Board Secretary
Alexandra Quinn-Bean, Investigator

CALL TO ORDER

Upon a motion (VIII), by Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Ware, the Board went into a closed Executive Session in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, 500 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 at 10:45 AM. The purpose of this session was to consult with counsel. This session is permitted to be closed pursuant to Section 3-305(b) (7) of the General Provisions Article, Maryland Annotated Code

Complaint Committee Report

Mr. Helmstetter, Jr. reported the Complaint Committee has 38 open complaints broken down as follows: twenty-three (23) CE audit failures, three (3) PCAOB/DoL/Agency complaints and twelve (12) consumer complaints. Twenty-one (21) complaints are currently in pre-charge: sixteen (16) CE audit failures, two (2) PCAOB referrals, and three (3) consumer complaints.

Upon a motion (IX) by Mr. Ware, and seconded by Mr. Young, the Board returned to the regular business meeting at 11:36 AM.

Dan Dustin, NASBA State Board Relations Representative

Dan Dustin, State Board Relations at NASBA presented updates to the Board reminding the Board of the upcoming meetings and encouraged them to attend each meeting. He informed our three new Board members they would be able to obtain scholarships to attend the Eastern Regional meeting which will be held in White Sulphur Springs, WV, June 9-11, 2020.

Mr. Dustin discussed topics concerning NASBA Tools and Services which included, the Accountancy License Database (ALD) /CPA verify, Accountancy Licensing Library (ALL), the CPE Audit Tool, Legislative tracking, NASBA International Evaluation Services (NIES), strategic planning, candidate performance books and communications which encompassed the newsletters, renewal reminders and social media.

Mr. Dustin discussed the Diversity plan which included NASBA's Strategic Plan for 2018-2021, increasing women and minority representation, engaging professional societies and associations meeting attendance and participation and he encouraged State board communication with State Societies.

Mr. Dustin showed how various states are moving towards firm mobility. He has indicated that 13 states have recently signed into law, firm mobility. Twenty-five (25) jurisdictions require firm registration under mobility, 25 jurisdictions are not requiring firm registration under mobility, seven (7) states including Maryland have active firm mobility legislation in 2019 that was filed in 2018 and one (1) state has Board and Society approved draft to be file in 2019.

CPE is being accepted in Blended and Nano learning programs although not all jurisdictions accept both or either program and require the traditional CPE courses and credits only. It was explained that NANO learning was 10 minute courses, and blended courses are interactive courses.

Mr. Dustin shared information on the 2019 anti-regulatory legislation being filed, the 2019 criminal conviction legislation progress. He introduced the Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL) founded by NASBA and AICPA and in coalition of national associations that represents highly complex, technical professions and their national licensing boards. He spoke of the UAA Committee, which consisted of 10 members from NASBA and AICPA. Continuous exam testing was shared explaining there would be no black out days beginning July 1, 2020. He mentioned the peer review exposure draft, noncompliance with laws and regulations (NOCAR) task force, report signing and education. Mr. Dustin shared the EvolutionOfCPA.org which has guiding principles, CPA evolution, FAQs and feedback can be found on the website. Code of professional conduct and CPE reciprocity was discussed as well.

Election of Chairman

Election for the position of Chairman of the Maryland Board of Accountancy was held between two Board members, Mr. James E. Marshall, Jr. and Mr. Leslie Mostow. Each candidate made a presentation and provided their background information and presented to the Board members their plans for the future of the Board.

After their presentations, each Board member anonymously wrote their candidates name on a piece of paper. Ms. Jordan collected and counted the ballots to reveal Mr. Marshall received four (4) votes

and Mr. Mostow received three (3) votes. The Board congratulated Mr. Marshall for his position as the Chairman of the Board.

Barret Young made a nomination for Mr. Macon Ware to become the Secretary/Treasurer to the Board. Mr. Ware accepted the nomination and Mr. Mostow seconded the nomination.

Upon a motion **(II)** by Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Mostow, the Board unanimously approved the nomination and acceptance of Mr. Ware being the Secretary/Treasurer for the Board, which means, Mr. Ware will be acting Chair should the current Chair, Mr. Marshall not be in attendance at a meeting during his tenure.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Jordan introduced Alex Quinn whom joined the Board last Wednesday as an investigator. Ms. Jordan reported the next newsletter would be released next month and that the continuous testing concept sheet was approved by the Secretary's office. Ms. Jordan stated she was informed the CPA Swearing in Ceremony sponsored by MACPA would be held on November 14, 2019, at the Maryland Live Casino.

Ms. Jordan confirmed, Chair Marshall, Dr. Williams and herself would be attending the NASBA Annual meeting in Boston, MA. October 27-30, 2019.

Upon a motion **(III)** by Mr. Young and seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board unanimously approved the Executive Director's Report.

Exam Appeals

There was one exam appeal this month, EA-0919-01, in which the applicant was appealing the denial of her application to sit for the CPA exam due to lacking three (3) semester credit hours in ethics.

Upon a motion **(IV)** by Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Mostow, the Board approved the Exam Appeal. Two Board members, Dr. Williams and Mr. Greeff, opposed the approval.

Education Report

Dr. Williams presented the Education Report. There was two (2) Transfer of Grades applications approved. The transfer of grades applications originated from ME-1, and NY-1. There was three (3) Transfer of Grades application denials. TGD 0918-01 was denied due to lacking three (3) semester credit hours in ethics and in US federal income tax and was short 270 work experience hours. TGD 0918-02 was denied due to lacking three (3) semester credit hours in ethics. The third transfer of grades application was closed as the applicant stated he was not ready to submit documentation for his application to be processed.

Upon a motion **(V)** by Mr. Ware, and seconded by Mr. Young, the Board approved the Education Report.

Experience Report

Mr. Mostow presented the Experience Report. There were 19 (nineteen) Reciprocal applications approved, zero (0) Reciprocal application denials. The 19 (nineteen) reciprocal license applicants were licensed in the following states: CA-2, CO-1, DC-1, FL-1, IL-2, MN-1, NC-1, NY-1, PA-1, and VA-8. There were thirty (30) Maryland candidate license application approvals and zero (0) Maryland candidate application denials.

Upon a motion (VI) by Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Greeff, the Board unanimously approved the Experience Report.

Firm Permit Report

Mr. Ware presented the Firm Permit Report. There were five (5) firm permit applications approved. One (1) originated from each of the following states: FL, NY, PA, VA and MD. No firm permit applications were closed this month.

Upon a motion (VII) by Dr. Williams, and seconded by Mr. Young, the Board unanimously approved the Firm Permit Report.

Peer Review Oversight Committee Report

There was not a Peer Review Committee report today.

New Business

Mr. Helmstetter asked whether there has been any movement in regards to the meetings being able to be recorded. Mr. Lawrence, Attorney to the Board stated he believed in order for them to be recorded, the Board meetings would have to be able to be live streamed, which is not feasible at this time. Mr. Helmstetter asked if it would be possible for the Board to receive an organizational chart for staff including job descriptions.

Old Business

There was no Old Business this month.

Correspondence

There was no Correspondence this month.

Executive Session

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AM. The purpose of this session was to consult with counsel. This session is permitted to be closed pursuant to Section 3-305(b) (7) of the General Provisions Article, Maryland Annotated Code. It returned to the regular business meeting at 11:36 AM upon a motion **(IX)**, by Mr. Ware, and seconded by Mr. Young.

Return to Open Session

Upon a motion **(X)** by Mr. Mostow, and seconded by Mr. Greeff, the Board unanimously approved the Complaint Committee Report.

Mr. Young was asked to be on the Complaint Committee and on the Firm Committee by Chairman Marshall. Mr. Greeff was asked to be on the Experience Committee, both accepted assignments to their committees.

Mr. Lawrence reminded Board members he would conduct a Board Training at October's meeting.


Upon a motion **(XII)** by Mr. Helmstetter, and seconded by Mr. Young, the Board adjourned at 11:48 AM.

NEXT MEETING: October 1, 2019, 500 North Calvert Street, Third Floor, 9:00 AM

With corrections Without corrections

**SIGNATURE ON
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**

 Chairman


Date