
State of Maryland
Board of Certified Public Accountants
Business Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 1, 2023
In Person and Via Google Meets Teleconference

MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Jan Williams, Chair
Tamara Bensky, Secretary
James Marshall
Macon M. Ware III
Joseph Petito
Barrett E. Young
Brian Dunne

DLLR OFFICIALS/STAFF:

Christopher Dorsey, Executive Director
Jessica Praley, Legal Counsel
Robert Pambianco, Legal Counsel
Kausar Syed, Deputy Commissioner
Sharron McNeill, Office Supervisor
Shemirra Massie, Administrative Specialist III

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mary Beth Halpern, MACPA
Rebekah Olsen, MACPA
Hudson Taylor, Exam Candidate

The August 1, 2023, 2023, Maryland Board of Public Accountancy meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Dr. Jan Williams, Chair.

Upon a motion **(I)** by Mr. Petito and seconded by Mr. Ware, the June 6, 2023 meeting minutes were unanimously approved with corrections.

Chairman's Report

- A. Dr. Williams thanked Mr. Marshall for his past leadership as chair of the Board.

www.dllr.state.md.us/license/cpa/

- B. Dr. Williams informed the board that the MACPA will have a CPA Swearing-in Ceremony on October 24, 2023.
- C. NASBA will be having its annual meeting on October 29 -November 3, 2023 in New York City.

Upon a motion **(II)** by Ms. Bensky, and seconded by Mr. Ware, the Chairman's Report was unanimously approved.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dorsey has submitted paperwork for the open Administrative Officer I position and hopes for it to be posted soon. Also, he discussed attending the MACPA Foundation Celebrate Fundraiser on June 22, 2023.

Upon a motion **(III)** by Mr. Petito, and seconded by Mr. Dunne, the Board unanimously approved the Executive Director's report.

Exam Appeals

There was one Exam Appeal. Mr. Hudson Taylor presented his case to the Board. The Board advised Mr. Taylor that there would be a discussion in a closed session, and he would be informed by the Board staff, in writing, of the decision.

Education Committee Report

Dr. Williams presented the Education Report. There were four **(4)** Transfer of Grades application approvals: 2-PA, 1-MT, and 1-DE. There was one **(1)** Transfer of Grades application denial: 1-MA.

Upon a motion **(IV)** by Mr. Marshall, and seconded by Ms. Bensky, the Board unanimously approved the Education Report.

Experience Committee Report

Ms. Bensky presented the Experience Report. There were twenty-three **(23)** Maryland candidate license application approvals and one **(1)** Maryland candidate application denial.

There were **(19)** Reciprocal application approvals that originated from the following jurisdictions: 12-VA, 2-NC, 1-WV, 1-NY, 1-GA, 1-SC, and 1-CA.

There was one **(1)** Reciprocal application denial that originated from the following jurisdiction: FL.

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

Firm Permit Committee Report

Mr. Dunne presented the Firm Permit Committee Report. There were three (3) firm approvals and zero (0) firms closed.

Upon a motion (VI) by Mr. Young and seconded by Ms. Bensky, the Board unanimously approved the Firm Permit Report.

Peer Review Oversight Committee Report

Mr. Ware reported the following: seven (7) newly enrolled firm in the Peer Review Program; seven (7) firms had reviews accepted; zero (0) first time passes with deficiencies, zero (0) first time failed; and zero (0) firms were dropped or terminated.

Upon a motion (VII) by Ms. Bensky, and seconded by Mr. Marshall, the Board unanimously approved the Peer Review Report.

New Business

- A. A document was presented from the MACPA requesting a change in the current policy regarding Advanced Placement (AP) credits. The MACPA proposed that AP credits be accepted when they are included on an applicant's official transcripts from an accredited college or university, eliminating the requirement for Exam applicants to submit separate AP credit score reports. Mr. Young made a motion to change the policy and language on the website to note that original transcripts for AP scores may be sent only to see recognition for work not listed on college transcripts, which was seconded by Mr. Petito.
- B. Mr. Petito announced that he would like to have a discussion on his efforts with CLEP and experiential learning at the September meeting.
- C. The Board requested that Mr. Dorsey provide a list of duties pertaining to the vacant Administrative Officer I at the September meeting and explain how those duties compare to the services provided by NASBA.

Old Business

- A. A proposed 12.5% increase in licensing fees was discussed. It was determined that the Secretary will have the final say and approval of the fee increase. The Board requested budget data for Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022 at the September meeting.
- B. The Board requested an updated proposal for NASBA services and Deputy Commissioner Syed's timeline for the proposed increase.

Correspondence

None

Closed Session

Upon a motion (VIII) by Ms. Bensky, and seconded by Mr. Petito, the Board went into a Closed Session at 9:59 AM via a Google Meets teleconference, where log-in information was only provided to Board members and staff. 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.

Return to Open Session

Upon a motion **(IX)** by Mr. Young and seconded by Ms. Bensky, the Board unanimously approved the motions made during the Closed Session.

Ms. Praley announced that this would be her last meeting as Legal Counsel for the Board and that her replacement is Robert Pambianco.

Upon a motion **(X)** by Mr. Young , and seconded by Mr. Marshall, the Board adjourned at 11:10 AM.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, **September 12, 2023**, via Google Meets teleconferencing at 9:00 AM

With corrections Without corrections

**SIGNATURE APPEARS
ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**

Chairman

9/25/23

Date