

Vermont Secretary of State
Office of Professional Regulation
BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

APPROVED MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2001

Board members present: William Fisk, Sherry Prehoda, Pamela Douglass, Jeffrey Graham, Francine Chittenden; Office Staff present: Nancy Morin, Christopher Winters; Others present: Mark Oettinger, Esq. Masood Sayeedi, Sheldon Harnetz, George Haegele, AAG

1. Meeting was called to order at 9:24 a.m.
2. Moved to approval the minutes of November 30, 2000. So voted
3. Complaints
 - a. APP-AC-07-0600- Pre-denial hearing for Masood Sayeedi - Christopher Winters, Esq. presided for the Board. George Haegele, AAG represented the State. Masood Sayeedi was present and represented by Mark Oettinger, Esq. Sheldon Harnetz was present and testified for Masood Sayeedi. Board moved to go into deliberative session. So voted. After coming out of deliberative session Christopher Winters stated that a decision would be issued in writing.
4. Reports
 - a. Board discussed the proposed Statutes and Rules and no major changes was made.
5. Licensing

Board moved to approve the following applicants for licensure as a Certified Public Accountant. So voted.

 - a. Mr. Thomas Dettre, appeared before the Board to discuss his CPA experience and continuing education. Moved to approve Mr. Dettre as a Certified Public Accountant.
 - b. Joseph Skutnik by Endorsement
 - c. David Philo by Endorsement
 - d. Jeffrey Morin by Endorsement
 - e. Todd Wimette by Examination
 - f. Harold Lechner by Examination
 - g. Angela Russell by Examination
 - h. Karen Glew by Score Transfer
 - i. John Gabranski by Endorsement
 - j. Ronda Devino by Examination
 - k. Moved to approve Maureen Bunnell's application for a Certified Public Accountant by endorsement pending verification she meets the 5 in 10 year rules. Staff will verify and if Ms. Bunnell meets the qualifications a license will be issued and the Board will sign off on the application at their April 2001 meeting. So voted.
 - l. Moved to table Scott Coyle's application for licensure as a CPA by Score Transfer and request that Mr. Coyle submit further documentation. So voted.

6. General Correspondence

- a. Board reviewed a letter from Rebecca L. Lake (Christoffel) requesting that the Board grant her approval to reinstate her lapsed license based on Section 8.3 Hardship Exception. The Board moved that Ms. Lake would need to submit further information prior to the Board making a decision on the reinstatement of her license. The Board requests that Ms. Lake submit information on what type of work she has been doing since her license lapsed, and how that work experience relates to the experience requirements under Rule 5.10. So voted.
- b. Board reviewed a letter from North Dakota State Board of Accountancy requesting the Board's support for Harris Widmer for the position of NASBA Chair-elect. Staff was requested to send a letter of support.
- c. Board reviewed a letter from Peter Hyndman, PC asking if it is the practice of law without a license for an accountant to provide the service of incorporating businesses to clients. Board requested staff to send Mr. Hyndman a letter advising the Board feels that the Vermont Bar Association could better answer his question.
- d. Board noted the report from the California Board of Accountancy regarding the audit of the AICPA Uniform CPA Examination Program.
- e. The Board reviewed a E-Mail from George Gray CPA requesting information on non-disclosure compilation reports. The Board requested that Staff send Mr. Gray a letter advising him that they cannot tell him how to conduct his business but that if he is using the CPA designation he should follow all laws and rules that govern CPAs.
- f. Board noted the letter from the Florida Board of Accountancy regarding their position on the SEC Lookback Agreement
- g. Board discussed the letter from Arizona State Board of Accountancy regarding concerns on the proposed computerized exam fee. Staff was requested to draft a letter for the Chair to sign noting the Board concerns regarding the increase in examination fees.
- h. Board noted the copy of the signed "Memorandum of Understanding" from CGA Canada
- i. Board reviewed the memo from A.V. Powell and Associates regarding CPE credits and what needs to be issued to the licensee as proof of attendance and requested staff respond that individuals would need to have a certificate which included the name of the course, the provider, the instructor and include the hours of the course and how much continuing education was granted.
- j. Board noted the letter from the Society of Management Accountants of Canada requesting a meeting with the Board at their April meeting. The Board agreed to allow time on the April agenda to meet with the Society of Management Accountants of Canada. Staff is instructed to send a letter requesting that the Board, prior to the Board meeting, be provided with information on the qualifications that a candidate must possess to be a member of the Society of Management Accountants of Canada for the past twenty (20) years. The information should include the educational requirements as well as the experience requirements for the past twenty (20) years.

7. NASBA Correspondence
 - a. Board noted the State Board Report for December 2000
 - b. Board noted the information on the NASBA Sixth Annual CPE Conference to be held on March 18-20, 2001 in San Diego, CA
 - c. Board noted the CPA Examination Services Report on the November 2000 examination.
 - d. Board tabled the discussion NASBA Ethics Resource Task Force on Ethics Study and will discuss it at a later meeting. So voted.
 - e. Board noted the letter from CPA Examination Services requesting permission to offer on-line registration over the Internet beginning with the May 2001 examination
 - f. Board noted the letter from John Peace, CPA Chair regarding nominations for the 2002 Nominating Committee.
8. AICPA Correspondence
 - a. Board noted the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct and Bylaws.
 - b. Board noted the AICPA "The CPA Exam Alert" newsletter.
 - c. Board noted the letter from AICPA regarding printing errors in two separate questions on the FARE section of the examination.
 - d. Board noted the memo from AICPA Examinations Team extending an invitation to the Board and Administrator to visit a Prometric Test Center. Board will make arrangements individually to visit the Test Center.
9. Board noted the miscellaneous correspondence.
10. Moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 p.m. So Voted.

NEXT MEETING: Scheduled for April 18, 2001, Heritage Building, 81 River Street, Montpelier, Vermont.