

**State of Alaska
Department of Commerce, Community and
Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing**

BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

**MINUTES OF MEETING
December 17, 2024**

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2), and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Public Accountancy was held December 17, 2024.

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Rachel Hanks, at 9:04 a.m. Those present, constituting a quorum of the Board were:

Mark Diehl, CPA
Rachel Hanks, CPA
Beth Stuart, CPA
Steven Jordan, CPA
Donovan Neal, CPA

Present from the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, were:

Cori Hondolero, Executive Administrator
Roger Rouse, Investigator III
Alison Osborne, Regulations Specialist II (agenda item #3)

Visitors present included:

Crista Burson – Alaska Society of CPAs (AKCPA)

Agenda Item 1 – Review Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda and made no changes.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Diehl seconded by Ms. Stuart, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the agenda as written.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment

There was no one present that made a request to address the Board.

Agenda Item 4 – Statute/Regulation Projects

Legislation Update

Ms. Stuart informed the Board that Representative Schrage has agreed to sponsor the legislation for the requested statute changes. It was noted that three topics would be addressed:

- 150 semester credit hours
- Firm mobility
- Moving guardrails from statute to regulation

Ms. Stuart will work to answer any questions from Representative Schrage and once a bill has been drafted, the Board can support it. It was noted that the big four have an accountant's coalition and they are willing to support the legislation as needed.

Regulations Update

Ms. Osborne, Regulations Specialist 2 was present to review and discuss the current regulations project with the Board.

The status of the project is that it is still under review by Department of Law. It has gone through the first stage and the hope is that the project can still be able to go out for public comment in January.

The Board thanked Ms. Osborne for the update.

Agenda Item 4 – Application Review

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Diehl, seconded by Mr. Jordan, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to enter into executive session for the purpose of reviewing application matters.

The Board entered executive session at 9:34 a.m.

The Board went back on the record at 10:07 a.m.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Jordan seconded by Mr. Diehl, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to table the application of Sidhi Gaur; additional information needed.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Jordan seconded by Mr. Diehl, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve Sophia Landeis and Matthew Ward for licensure by exam.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Jordan seconded by Mr. Diehl, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the firm licenses of BDMP Assurance, LLP, Justin Carr, CPA and Matthew Ward Accounting.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Jordan seconded by Mr. Diehl, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve Michael Foster's CPE audit.

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Jordan seconded by Mr. Diehl, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to accept the Charter College education for Stephanie Groppe to allow her to sit for the CPA exam.

The Board requested that the NASBA CPE registry be contacted regarding the number of hours that can be earned in a day; are there limits that providers must follow? The Board is concerned that excessive amounts of hours are being earned/claimed for the same date.

UAA Proposed Changes

The Board reviewed the UAA exposure draft (response deadline 12/30/24). Ms. Hondolero had included copies of other Board responses in the meeting packet.

Section 5(c)(2) – The Board does not support the competency-based experience option but does agree with alternative education models.

Section 5(f)(1) – ok with 2 years and 150 credit hours.

Section 5(f)(2) – Board would eliminate this section.

Section 23 - Regarding automatic mobility – Board supports this regardless of substantial equivalency.

Article 2 Definitions – An update to the definitions will not change the experience required in AK.

Article 6 – not necessary since the Board is not supporting.

Ms. Hanks will draft a comment letter referencing the discussion at the meeting and the Nebraska letter and send it to Ms. Hondolero, so that it can be sent to the full Board for review/comments before the final comment letter is sent to NASBA.

Agenda Item 5 – Administrative Business

Confirm Upcoming Meeting Dates/Locations

- February 6-7, 2025
- April 25, 2025
- August 22, 2025
- November 14, 2025

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Diehl seconded by Mr. Neal, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Cori Hondolero
Executive Administrator

Approved:



Rachel Hanks, Chair
Alaska Board of Public Accountancy

Date: 2/7/25