

# *Annual Report*

---

## *Fiscal Year 2021*

### **ALASKA BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY**



**Department of Commerce, Community  
and Economic Development**

---

**Division of Corporations, Business  
and Professional Licensing**

This annual performance report is presented in accordance with  
Alaska statute AS 08.01.070(10).

Its purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the  
past and present needs of the licensing program.

**Board of Public Accountancy  
FY 2021 Annual Report**

**Table of Contents**

Identification of the Board	<b>Page 1</b>
Identification of the Staff	<b>Page 2</b>
Narrative Statement	<b>Page 3</b>
Budget Recommendations	<b>Page 4</b>
Proposed Legislative Recommendations	<b>Page 11</b>
Regulatory Recommendations	<b>Page 12</b>
Goals and Objectives	<b>Page 13</b>
Sunset Audit Recommendations	<b>Page 18</b>

**Board of Public Accountancy  
FY 2021 Annual Report**

**Identification of the Board**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Duty Station</b>	<b>Date Appointed</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
<b>Donovan Rulien II, CPA</b>	Anchorage	Mar 01, 2013	Mar 01, 2021
<b>Leslie Schmitz, CPA</b> Chair	Anchorage	Mar 01, 2014	Mar 01, 2022
<b>Karen Smith</b> Public Member	Anchorage	Mar 01, 2018	Mar 01, 2023
<b>Marja Beltrami, CPA</b>	Anchorage	Mar 01, 2017	Mar 01, 2021
<b>Wesley Tegeler, CPA</b> Secretary/Treasurer	Wasilla	Mar 01, 2018	Mar 01, 2023
<b>Donald Vieira, CPA</b>	Palmer	Mar 01, 2020	Mar 01, 2024
<b>Lance Johnson</b> Public Member	Anchorage	Oct 21, 2020	Mar 01, 2024
<b>Rachel Hanks, CPA</b>	Fairbanks	Mar 01, 2021	Mar 01, 2025
<b>Steven Jordan, CPA</b>	Eagle River	Mar 01, 2021	Mar 01, 2025

**Board of Public Accountancy  
FY 2021 Annual Report**

**Identification of Staff**

**Cori Hondolero – Executive Administrator**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 269-4712

**Dawn Bundick – Investigator**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 269-7189

**Amber Whaley – Senior Investigator**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 269-0168

**Greg Francois – Chief Investigator**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 269-7901

**Jun Maiquis – Regulations Specialist**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
Post Office Box 110806  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806  
(907) 465-2537

# Board of Public Accountancy FY 2021 Annual Report

## Narrative Statement

The Board's mission is to protect the public interest by ensuring that only qualified persons are licensed and appropriate standards of competency and practice are established and enforced. The Board's activities included approving candidates to sit for the Uniform CPA Examination, auditing CPE records, reviewing and approving applications and supporting documents for licensure of Certified Public Accountants and firms, for reinstatements of licensure and for Out-of-State permits to practice in the State of Alaska. Disciplinary matters were dealt with, in accordance with Alaska State statutes, and all regulatory matters were accomplished following established procedures.

Significant issues in fiscal year 2021 included:

- With the onset of the Covid Pandemic and the State travel restrictions, the Board travel was non-existent. Members did not physically participate, at any level Nationally or locally, at their desired level as outlined in its previous annual reports. The Board feels the inability to travel at the desired level impacts the Board's participation at the National level and creates barriers to staying involved with industry changes/updates. In addition, the inability to travel at the desired level in the State impacts the Board's ability to interact on a direct level with licensees regarding their concerns. The individuals and firms regulated by this Board are diverse and spread throughout the State. By holding meetings in the different regions of our State, the Board is able to be available to the licensees and hear their concerns on a face to face level. The Board weighs the value and impact of each request for travel to various in-State locations and does not take lightly the request for travel.
  - Under **Sec 08.04.025 Meetings of Board**. The board shall hold a minimum of four meetings a year.
  - Under **Sec 12 AAC 04.130 MEETINGS**. The board will hold at least four meetings each year at times and places designated by the board.

As noted last year, the current State Travel Policy appears to conflict with this Board's mandate, as directed by State Statute and State Regulation.

- The Board is awaiting further discussions with the Division regarding the 2021 Fee renewal. This will allow for the Division's calculated equity balance for the Board to remain positive in non-renewal years. The Board will continue to monitor revenues/expenditures and make recommendations for future changes.
- The Board continues to monitor investigative turnover and the costs (time/money) associated with training new investigators. The Board has stated that it will continue to closely monitor investigative expenses and will seek additional information/assistance from management as necessary.
- The Board completed its Sunset Review process this fiscal year. The Board was granted the full 8-year extension by the State Legislature in FY21 (HB 126).
- Covid-19 and State budget issues impacted the legislative session this fiscal year and the prior fiscal year. The Board was not able to finalize the drafted legislation (HB44) through the Legislature as it had hoped to pass this session. The Board will continue to move the project forward with the next session. HB44 did clear the House and will start out the next session in the Senate.
- The Board began a review of the regulations this year by identifying various regulations that should be updated to provide clarity to the public and the licensees.
- Covid-19 also impacted exams around the world. The Board took action to extend both scores and NTS through the end of calendar year 2020 and then provided an additional blanket score extension through June 30, 2021 for those scores that were impacted at the height of the pandemic. The Board is working with NASBA and will continue to closely monitor the situation.

**Submitted by Leslie Schmitz, Chair  
For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021**

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022**

The Budget Recommendations section anticipates the board’s fiscal priorities for the upcoming year. Please complete all parts of this section with details about anticipated meetings, conferences, memberships, supplies, equipment, to other board requests. Meeting expenses that are being funded through third-party reimbursement or direct booking must be identified separately from expenses paid through license fees (receipt-supported services or RSS). Be sure to explain any items listed as “other” so they may be tracked appropriately.

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
August 26-27, 2021	Anchorage	7	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$300.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$150.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$50.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$150.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$650.00</b>

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
November 8-9, 2021	Anchorage	7	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$300.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$150.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$50.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$150.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$650.00</b>

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
February 2022	Juneau	7	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$2,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$150.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$850.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$5,000.00</b>

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022**

The Budget Recommendations section anticipates the board’s fiscal priorities for the upcoming year. Please complete all parts of this section with details about anticipated meetings, conferences, memberships, supplies, equipment, to other board requests. Meeting expenses that are being funded through third-party reimbursement or direct booking must be identified separately from expenses paid through license fees (receipt-supported services or RSS). Be sure to explain any items listed as “other” so they may be tracked appropriately.

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
May 2022	Anchorage	7	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$300.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$150.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$50.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$150.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$650.00</b>

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$0.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$0.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

**Travel Required to Perform Examinations**

Not applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
Varies	Anchorage/Fairbanks	1-7	1

**Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:**

Board completes exam site visits in Anchorage and Fairbanks. These are typically done in conjunction with quarterly Board meetings, so there is no additional cost. If we travel to Fairbanks to do a site visit, there will be expenses (could make it a day trip).

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$800.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:	\$100.00

Describe "Other" (break out all sections): M&IE and travel booking fees

**Total Estimated Cost:** **\$960.00**

**Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel** (Rank in order of importance)

#1 Rank in Importance or  Not Applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
Oct 31 – Nov 3, 2021	San Diego, CA	3	1

**Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:**

National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) – Annual Meeting. Participation required to keep Board up to date with industry standards and national trends. \*One member may be eligible for 3rd party reimbursed travel (if the State would not otherwise be represented).

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$2,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$2,780.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,780.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):	M&IE and travel booking fees			
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$8,780.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$8,780.00</b>



### Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#2 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
April 2022	TBD	0	1	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>				
National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) – Executive Directors Conference. Special conference specifically for Board Executive Directors. <i>*May be able to request 3rd party reimbursement for majority of costs.</i>				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$695.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$695.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):		M&IE and travel booking fees		
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$2,645.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,645.00</b>

### Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#3 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
June 7-9, 2022	Colorado Springs, CO	3	1	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>				
National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) – Regional Meeting. Participation required to keep the Board up to date with industry standards and national trends. If there are new Board members, they may be eligible for a scholarship for first time attendance at the conference or if the Board would not otherwise be represented.				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$2,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$2,780.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,780.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):		M&IE and travel booking fees		
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$8,780.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$8,780.00</b>

### Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#4 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
May/June 2022	TBD	1-7	1	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>				
Alaska Society of CPAs Annual Meeting. Board presents update of current issues and answers questions from Society members. May be possible to do a day trip; reducing hotel/M&IE expenses (depending on location of meeting).				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):		M&IE and travel booking fees		
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$1,750.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,750.00</b>

### Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#5 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

**Non-Travel Budget Requests**

- Not Applicable                       Resources                       Examinations  
 Membership                       Training                       Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Annual Membership	National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA)	\$3,200.00

**Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:**

Membership required to help keep the Board up to date with industry standards and national trends.

**Non-Travel Budget Requests**

- Not Applicable                       Resources                       Examinations  
 Membership                       Training                       Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Teleconference	Zoom or GCI	\$300.00

**Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:**

The Board will sometimes need to meet via Zoom/teleconference between quarterly meetings; this will typically happen 1-3 times per fiscal year.

**Non-Travel Budget Requests**

- Not Applicable                       Resources                       Examinations  
 Membership                       Training                       Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
		\$0.00

**Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:**

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

<b>Other Items with a Fiscal Impact</b>		<b>Cost Per Event:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable		<b>Number of Events:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Product or Service</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	
		\$0.00	
<b>Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>			

<b>Other Items with a Fiscal Impact</b>		<b>Cost Per Event:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable		<b>Number of Events:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Product or Service</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	
		\$0.00	
<b>Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>			

<b>Summary of FY 2022 Fiscal Requests</b>	
Board Meetings and Teleconferences:	\$6,950.00
Travel for Exams:	\$960.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel:	\$21,955.00
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training:	\$3,500.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets:	-\$0.00
Other:	\$0.00
<b>Total Requested:</b>	<b>\$33,365.00</b>

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Legislation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2022**

**No Recommendations**

The Board has no recommendations for proposed legislation at this time.

---

**Recommendations**

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

HB44 introduced in FY21; ongoing

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Regulation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2022**

**No Recommendations**

The Board has no recommendations for proposed regulations at this time.

---

**Recommendations**

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed regulations:

If the Board has legislation pass during FY22, they will need to work on regulation updates for any sections impacted and will also review for general cleanup.

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives**

**Part I**

**FY 2021's goals and objectives, and how they were met:**

**Goal 1. Monitor legislation, evaluate and review statutory/regulatory changes related to:**

- a. Review of UAA through a coordinated effort with the AKCPA for recent changes and identify additional areas where Alaska statutes and regulations differ and evaluate impact of differences to include:
  - 1. Adopt UAA attest definition
  - 2. Adopt UAA firm definition
  - 3. Update peer review requirements
  - 4. Adopt firm mobility
- b. Review requirements for CPA firm permits.
- c. Monitor NASBA discussion re: required years of experience.
- d. Review and monitor potential changes to how we use the peer review reports in the future.
- e. Review statutes and regulations for areas of clarification with AKCPA.
- f. Monitor NASBA committee activity.

The Board worked with both AICPA and the State Society on legislation (HB44) that was introduced in FY21 (a, b, e). All audit issues from the FY20 renewal have been forwarded to the Division paralegal for additional action; the Board will continue to review/monitor the mandatory audits (d). The Board continued to participate in NASBA meetings to hear what is happening nationally (c, f).

**Goal 2. Review and evaluate National Association of State Board of Accountancy (NASBA) services.**

- a. Continue to monitor NASBA CPA Exam Services (CPAES).
- b. Evaluate and analyze other services offered by NASBA.
  - 1. Inquire with the communications department to see how they can assist with an electronic newsletter and possibly other items, such as social media, announcements and the website.

The Division/Board will review/amend the contract as necessary before each renewal. The Board may compile a list of topics for a future newsletter and will work with NASBA on a final version (b).

**Goal 3. Ensure Alaska CPA candidates have positive examination opportunities.**

- a. Monitor testing experiences by visiting sites and using the post-testing survey for all candidates testing at the Anchorage and Fairbanks sites. Monitor that the surveys are delivered timely.
- b. Follow-up on concerns indicated in the surveys.
- c. Keep the AKCPA and the public abreast of new developments.

The Board reviews exam surveys at their quarterly meetings and will resume conducting test site visits at both Alaska locations (Anchorage and Fairbanks) when test centers reopen to non-test takers (a). The Board will elevate issues to NASBA/CPAES as necessary (b). The State Society usually has a representative in attendance at the Board meetings, so they are able to hear any concerns or updates that come up regarding testing at Alaska locations (c).

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives (continued)**

**Part I (continued)**

**FY 2021's goals and objectives, and how they were met:**

**Goal 4. Monitor Covid-19 impacts on exam candidates.**

- a. Continue to monitor NTS and exam score extensions.
- b. Monitor status of Alaska Prometric sites.

The Board granted blanket extensions for all Alaska exam candidates who had sections expiring during the peak of the pandemic and will continue to work with NASBA/CPAES to review extension requests for scores expiring after June 2021 (a). The Board continues to monitor both in State test centers for closures/capacity issues and will elevate issues to NASBA as necessary.

**Goal 5. Evaluate and address changes in the professional environment to continue to fulfill our mission to protect public interests.**

- a. Review new rules proposed by NASBA and the AICPA for impact on Alaska CPAs and make changes to Alaska statutes and regulations as needed.
- b. Represent Alaska CPA concerns at regional, annual, and special meetings and support NASBA committee participation.
  1. Promote attendance by staff and new Board members at regional, special and annual meetings to provide understanding of current regulatory issues being dealt with at a national level and a state-by-state level.
  2. Promote attendance of continuing Board members at regional and annual meetings to provide input and to obtain information at both national and state levels regarding matters impacting Alaska CPAs.
- c. Mentor executive administrator in developing procedures and goals for timely response to public, CPAs and CPA candidate requests.

The Board reviews proposed changes to the Uniform Accountancy Act (UAA) and updates Alaska statutes/regulations as appropriate (a). The Board continues to request both staff and Board members attend NASBA meetings/conferences but were not approved to participate at their desired level in FY21 (pandemic travel restrictions) (b). Response time has been maintained within Division standards and requests/correspondence requiring Board action were addressed at quarterly meetings (c).

**Goal 6. Work with the Division regarding:**

- a. Future licensee fee structure; fees must cover monitoring expenses and operating costs while not being cost prohibitive to licensees.
- b. Board and staff travel and participation at NASBA/AICPA meetings including:
  1. Executive Administrator attendance at NASBA annual and regional meetings and the NASBA Executive Director conference.
  2. No less than four (4) Board members will attend the NASBA regional conference or the annual NASBA meeting.
  3. One Board member and/or the Executive Administrator will attend any special NASBA or AICPA meetings as they arise.



**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives (continued)**

**Part I (continued)**

**FY 2021's goals and objectives, and how they were met:**

- c. One or two Board members and the Executive Administrator will attend the Alaska Society of CPAs annual meeting.
- d. Continue outreach to licensees by holding Board meetings in various State locations.
- e. Ongoing improvements and maintenance of the Board website.
- f. Use of MyLicense for renewal and communication with licensees.
- g. Conduct CPE random audits and complete timely review and resolution of CPE audits.
  - 1. Explore mandatory use of a CPE tracking software program.
- h. Obtaining more information with fiscal reports, including personnel and legal costs.
- i. Work with Division on cost saving measures.
- j. Complete a review of firm/licensee renewal forms and processes.

The Board reviews all fee change proposals from the Division and offers feedback (a). The Board continues to outline travel requests in the annual report and to submit travel requests, but has been unable to meet the goals as outlined above due to ongoing travel restrictions (b). The Board attempts to list relevant information and links to external sources on its website (c). The Division has an online system for licensees/applicants called MyLicense (accessed through MyAlaska); when a person "opts-in" their email address is collected and can be used as official means of communication (d). The executive administrator/Board attempt to notify licensees of their selection for random CPE as soon as possible and the Board always attempts to be timely with their review of CPE audits. There are only a couple files still requiring resolution from the 2019 renewal (e). The Board reviews all quarterly financials prepared by the Division and asks for additional detail if there are questions (f). The Board complies with required State policies and is also mindful of expenses. For in person meetings, members travel on the day the meeting starts, carpools and attempts to save costs wherever they can (g). Staff works with the the publications team to update forms and online renewals (h).

**Goal 7. Continue Board oversight and public awareness of enforcement activities.**

- a. Timely update of investigative information and statistics on the Board website.
- b. Interact with the investigative unit regarding consistency and monitoring of cases.
- c. Continue participation with the NASBA Accountancy Licensee Database (ALD).
  - 1. Work with Division on automatic reporting of license action.
- d. Executive Administrator to provide enforcement decisions to the general public.
- e. Continue dialog with investigative management regarding investigative costs and investigator turnover.

Board actions are updated on the Division website and can now be linked to individual license records that can be viewed using the public license search (a, d). The Board investigator provides quarterly reports, and the Board will ask for additional information when necessary (b). The Board has continued to participate with the ALD database (c). The Board continues to monitor investigative costs and turnover and will request to speak with senior Division management as necessary when there are concerns (e).

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives**

**Part II**

**FY 2022's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.**

**Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:**

**Goal 1. Monitor legislation, evaluate and review statutory/regulatory changes related to:**

- a. Review of UAA through a coordinated effort with the AKCPA for recent changes and identify additional areas where Alaska statutes and regulations differ and evaluate impact of differences to include:
  1. Adopt UAA attest definition
  2. Adopt UAA firm definition
  3. Update peer review requirements
  4. Adopt firm mobility
- b. Review requirements for CPA firm permits.
- c. Monitor NASBA discussion re: required years of experience.
- d. Review and monitor potential changes to how we use the peer review reports in the future.
- e. Review statutes and regulations for areas of clarification with AKCPA.
- f. Monitor NASBA committee activity.
- g. Monitor progress of CPA evolution project.

**Goal 2. Review and evaluate National Association of State Board of Accountancy (NASBA) services.**

- a. Continue to monitor NASBA CPA Exam Services (CPAES).
- b. Evaluate and analyze other services offered by NASBA.
  1. Inquire with the communications department to see how they can assist with an electronic newsletter and possibly other items, such as social media, announcements and the website.

**Goal 3. Ensure Alaska CPA candidates have positive examination opportunities.**

- a. Monitor testing experiences by visiting sites and using the post-testing survey for all candidates testing at the Anchorage and Fairbanks sites. Monitor that the surveys are delivered timely.
- b. Follow-up on concerns indicated in the surveys.
- c. Keep the AKCPA and the public abreast of new developments.

**Goal 4. Monitor Covid19 impacts on exam candidates.**

- a. Continue to monitor NTS and exam score extensions.
- b. Monitor status of Alaska Prometric sites.

**Goal 5. Evaluate and address changes in the professional environment to continue to fulfill our mission to protect public interests.**

- a. Review new rules proposed by NASBA and the AICPA, for impact on Alaska CPAs and make changes to Alaska statutes and regulations as needed.
- b. Represent Alaska CPA concerns at regional, annual, and special meetings and support NASBA committee participation.
  1. Promote attendance by staff and new Board members at regional, special and annual meetings to provide understanding of current regulatory issues being dealt with at a national level and a state-by-state level.

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives (continued)**

**Part II (continued)**

**FY 2022's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.**

**Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:**

2. Promote attendance of continuing Board members at regional and annual meetings to provide input and to obtain information at both national and state levels regarding matters impacting Alaska CPAs.
- c. Mentor executive administrator in developing procedures and goals for timely response to public, CPAs and CPA candidate requests.

**Goal 6. Work with the Division regarding:**

- a. Future licensee fee structure; fees must cover monitoring expenses and operating costs while not being cost prohibitive to licensees.
- b. Board and staff travel and participation at NASBA/AICPA meetings including:
  1. Executive Administrator attendance at NASBA annual and regional meetings and the NASBA Executive Director conference.
  2. No less than four (4) Board members will attend the NASBA regional conference or the annual NASBA meeting.
  3. One Board member and/or the Executive Administrator will attend any special NASBA or AICPA meetings as they arise.
  4. One or two Board members and the Executive Administrator will attend the Alaska Society of CPAs annual meeting.
  5. Continue outreach to licensees by holding Board meetings in various State locations.
- c. Ongoing improvements and maintenance of the Board website.
- d. Use of MyLicense for renewal and communication with licensees.
- e. Conduct CPE random audits and complete timely review and resolution of CPE audits.
- f. Explore mandatory use of a CPE tracking software program.
- g. Obtaining more information with fiscal reports, including personnel and legal costs.
- h. Work with Division on cost saving measures.
- i. Complete a review of firm/licensee renewal forms and processes.

**Goal 7. Continue Board oversight and public awareness of enforcement activities.**

- a. Timely update of investigative information and statistics on the Board website.
- b. Interact with the investigative unit regarding consistency and monitoring of cases.
- c. Continue participation with the NASBA Accountancy Licensee Database (ALD).
  1. Work with Division on automatic reporting of license action.
- d. Executive Administrator to provide enforcement decisions to the general public.
- e. Continue dialog with investigative management regarding investigative costs and investigator turnover.

**Board of Public Accountancy  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Sunset Audit Recommendations**

**Date of Last Legislative Audit:** 4/8/2020  
**Board Sunset Date:** 6/30/2029

**Audit Recommendation:** DCBPL's Chief investigator should ensure investigations are completed timely.

**Action Taken:** An additional senior investigator has been hired; this should bring the section closer to the State of Alaska average of four personnel assigned to one supervisor. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) #4 has been updated to reflect established *target* windows for supervisor/Chief review.

**Next Steps:** Continue to monitor case completion timeliness.

**Date Completed:** Ongoing monitoring by Board & Division.