Connecticut State Board of Accountancy Meeting Minutes November 3, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John H. Schuyler, CPA, at 10:05 A.M. in Room 119 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Board Members Present:	John H. Schuyler, Chairman Marcia L. Marien Peter J. Niedermeyer Dannell R. Lyne Timothy F. Egan via Teleconference Karla H. Fox, Esq. via Teleconference Mark Aronowitz	Certified Public Accountant Certified Public Accountant Certified Public Accountant Certified Public Accountant Certified Public Accountant Public Member Public Member
Board Members Absent:	Martha S. Triplett, Esq.	Public Member
Board Vacancies:	Public Member	
DCP Staff Present:	Jonathan Harris, Commissioner Michelle Seagull, Deputy Commissioner Frank Virnelli, Manager Howard Osden Robin Washbond Denise Diaz	
Public Present:	Art Renner, CPA, Executive Director, CT Society of CPAs Robert Boudreau, President, CT Society of CPAs Mark Zampino, Public Affairs Director, CT Society of CPAs	

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

Richard M. Hurlburt, Director: <u>dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov</u> for minutes and agenda items Agency Web site: <u>www.ct.gov/dcp</u>

Licensing/Certification: <u>dcp.licenseservices@ct.gov</u>

Enforcement issues: dcp.accounting@ct.gov

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mr. Niedermeyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2016 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lyne. All present board members voted in favor.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY

None

OLD BUSINESS

NASBA Annual Meeting

Mr. Aronowitz and Mr. Virnelli reported on the highlights of the 109th NASBA Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas on October 30-November 2, 2016. Among the topics discussed were: Proposed Peer Review changes; Continuing Professional Education advances; New CPA exam; North Carolina Dental case and Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) title.

Status of CPE Audit Group

Mr. Virnelli reported that the CPE Audit group is moving forward; meetings have been scheduled to discuss the process and requirements with Director Maloney and the coordinator of the audits, Joseph Piechta.

NEW BUSINESS

Initial CPA Certification and License Applications with Industry Work Experience

Allyson Elise Brown – 2 years' work experience with United Technologies Corporation – 2/16/12 through 2/13/15

Ms. Marien made a motion to approve the application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Aronowitz. All present board members voted in favor.

Richard Gabriel – 2 years' work experience with the Mohegan Tribe – 10/7/14 through 10/7/16

Mr. Lyne made a motion to approve the application. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fox. All present board members voted in favor.

Omar Alejandro Palanco – 2 years' work experience with XL Catlin – 7/7/14 through 7/30/16

Ms. Marien made a motion to table this matter for follow-up and verification that the supervisor was a licensed CPA for the period of 7/7/14 through 7/30/16. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lyne. All present board members voted in favor.

2017 Board of Accountancy Meeting Dates

450 Columbus Blvd, Hartford

January 2017– *No meeting due to DCP move* Thursday, February 2, 2017 Tuesday, March 7, 2017 Thursday, April 6, 2017 Tuesday, May 2, 2017 Thursday, June 1, 2017 July – No Meeting Thursday, August 3, 2017 Tuesday, September 5, 2017 Thursday, October 5, 2017 Tuesday, November 7, 2017 December – No Meeting

The Board reviewed the 2017 meeting schedule and noted that the meetings will be held at the Department of Consumer Protection's new location at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford.

ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLAINTS

Enforcement Update

Mr. Virnelli provided an enforcement update and reported that there were: thirty-nine (39)-Failure to renew individual license/certificate, misrepresentation, unauthorized use of CPA title; one (1)-Failure to renew individual license/certificate; five (5)-Practice without a firm permit, false or misleading advertisement, unauthorized use of CPA title; twenty (20)-Professional misconduct; five (5)-Continuing professional education reporting violations.

Enforcement Cases:

<u>Case No. 2016-1</u>- Allegations: Connecticut General Statutes §20-281b, failure to renew CPA license in a timely way; C.G.S. §20-281c, engaging in the unauthorized practice of public accountancy; C.G.S. §20-281d, failure to submit continuing education courses in a timely manner; and C.G.S. §20-281g, engaging in the unauthorized use of the CPA title.

Recommendation: Settle this matter by having the Respondent pay a certificate registration fee of \$40 and a late fee of \$150, for a total of \$190.00.

Ms. Marien made a motion to accept the Department recommendation to settle this matter by having the Respondent pay a certificate registration fee of \$40 and a late fee of \$150, for a total of \$190. Mr. Aronowitz seconded the motion. All present board members voted in favor.

<u>**Case No. 2016-31-**</u> Allegations: Connecticut General Statutes §20-280(e), unauthorized use of the CPA title in 2015; and 20-281g(j), engaging in the unauthorized practice of public accountancy in the year 2015 before the Internal Revenue Service. *Recommendation: Dismiss this case for lack of probable cause.*

Mr. Niedermeyer made a motion to accept the Department recommendation to dismiss this case for lack of probable cause. Mr. Lyne seconded the motion. All present board members voted in favor.

<u>Case No. 2016-45-</u> Allegations: Connecticut General Statutes §20-280(e), unauthorized use of the CPA title in 2015; and 20-281g(j), engaging in the unauthorized practice of public accountancy in the year 2015 before the Internal Revenue Service. *Recommendation: Dismiss this case for lack of probable cause.*

Mr. Aronowitz made a motion to accept the Department recommendation to dismiss this case for lack of probable cause. Mr. Niedermeyer seconded the motion. Ms. Marien abstained. The remaining board members voted in favor.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY

Robert Boudreau, President, CT Society of CPAs, commented on the very successful interviews with the prospective candidates which have been narrowed down to two finalists and that they anticipate naming Mr. Renner's successor after the final presentation meeting on November 7th.

Art Renner, Executive Director of the Connecticut Society of CPAs commented to the Board on the twinge of nostalgia he experienced today as he remembered the last twenty years and 200 board meetings he attended and he stated that the Society and State Board together have accomplished so much over the years.

Chairman Schuyler expressed his thanks to Mr. Renner for his cooperation and participation with this board and all past boards over the last twenty years.

Mr. Renner discussed Facilitated State Board Access which allows state boards to see results of peer reviews online. Mr. Renner reported that Connecticut is the only state board in the country that does not utilize the Facilitated State Board Access. Ms. Marien made a motion to recommend that the Department register for the Facilitated State Board Access and to discuss further at the March meeting. Mr. Niedermeyer seconded the motion. All present board members voted in favor.

ADJOURN

Ms. Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 A.M. The motion was seconded by Mr. Egan. All present board members voted in favor.

Next scheduled meeting: Thursday, February 2, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford.