

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
DECEMBER 18, 2003  
HUDSON ROOM

A meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy was convened in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Pursuant to those provisions, the proper notifications were made to Office of the Secretary of State, the Camden Courier-Post, the Trenton Times, the Asbury Park Press, the Record and the Star-Ledger. Herbert Lipman, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 11:15 A.M. The following roll call was taken:

Keith Balla, CPA	Present
Elizabeth Burns, CPA	Present
Robert Cagnassola, CPA	Present
Andrew DuBoff, CPA	Present
Bennie Hadnott, CPA	Present
Albertus Jenkins, Public Member	Present
Aubrey Kosson, CPA	Excused
Herbert Lipman, CPA	Present
Alfonso Pisano, Esq., Public Member	Present
Margaret Shoe, Public Accountant	Present
Robert Sommer, Public Accountant	Present
John Tully, CPA, Government Member	Present

Also present at the meeting were William Mandeville, Executive Director; Marianne Greenwald, Deputy Attorney General; Dale Nelson, CPA, Director of Accountancy; Melba Perez, Assistant to the Executive Director; Ralph Thomas, Executive Director, NJSCPA; Mike Polito, CPA, Past President, NJSCPA.

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### **I Minutes of the Meeting of November 18, 2003**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the meeting of November 18, 2003, and on a motion by Bennie Hadnott, seconded by Robert Cagnassola, the Board voted to accept the minutes with corrections. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

### **II President's Remarks**

Mr. Lipman informed the Board that the 2004 calendar of meetings was distributed after a few minor changes were made.

Mr. Lipman reported that Robert Sommer will be attending the next CPE Conference in Savannah, Georgia

in February 2004. He also indicated that DAG Greenwald may be attending the Legal Counsel Conference, and that Executive Director Mandeville will be attending the Executive Directors' Conference in Savannah, Georgia in February 2004.

Mr. Lipman reported that Robert Fox has called a regional meeting to take place in Hartford, CT on January 12, 2004. Mr. DuBoff and Mr. Lipman will be attending.

Mr. Lipman informed the Board that David Costello had a very interesting article in the Journal of Accountancy. Mr. Sommer also read the article and agreed that it was quite interesting and that a copy of the article should be sent to Aubrey Kosson.

Mr. Lipman and Mr. DuBoff attended an AICPA meeting on December 2, 2003 that was very informative.

Mr. Lipman informed the Board that the first Certificate Ceremony for next year will be at the PNC Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey on Tuesday, May 18, 2004 since Thursday, May 20, 2004 was not available.

### **III Executive Director's Remarks**

Mr. Mandeville reported that the RMA examination which was originally scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2003 was cancelled due to inclement weather. The examination was rescheduled for Saturday, December 13, 2003. There were 19 candidates scheduled but only 16 appeared. The examination started at 8:45 A.M. and ended at 4:45 P.M. One candidate who was scheduled for the original date could not appear on December 13th due to a previously scheduled vacation. She was advised to notify the Board upon her return to find out how she should proceed to take the examination. The Board directed Executive Director Mandeville to advise the individual to take the examination in November 2004.

Mr. Mandeville reported that CPAES has contacted the Board office to find out if the candidate form is still being used for CPE. The Board has advised Mr. Mandeville to contact CPAES and inform them that this form is no longer required.

### **IV Request for Waiver to Endorse License**

#### **A. Marina Belozersky**

Marina Belozersky has requested a waiver to reciprocate her New York license. Ms. Belozersky is lacking three semester hours in Business Law.

On a motion made by Robert Cagnassola, seconded by Elizabeth Burns, the Board voted to waive the three semester hours in Business Law and approve Ms. Belozersky for reciprocity. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

On a motion made by Alfonso Pisano, seconded by Margaret Shoe, the Board felt that this matter should be further examined in Executive Session. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

#### **B. Bhaskar Behave**

Bhaskar Behave has requested a waiver to reciprocate his New York license. Mr. Behave is lacking 90 semester hours of subjects.

On a motion made by Alfonso Pisano, seconded by Margaret Shoe, the Board voted to waive the 90 semester hours and approved Mr. Behave's request for reciprocity based on his 28 years as a licensed CPA in New York. The vote of the Board was 10 in favor with Andrew DuBoff abstaining.

#### **C. Stuart V. M. Campbell**

Stuart Campbell has requested a waiver to reciprocate his California license. Mr. Campbell is lacking six

semester hours in Finance.

On a motion made by Alfonso Pisano, seconded by Robert Sommer, the Board voted to waive the six semester hours in Finance and approve Mr. Campbell for reciprocity. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

#### **D. Rajeev C. Hiremath**

Rajeev Hiremath has requested a waiver to reciprocate his New York license. Mr. Hiremath is lacking 89 semester hours.

On a motion made by Alfonso Pisano, seconded by Albertus Jenkins, the Board voted to waive the 89 semester hours and approve Mr. Hiremath for reciprocity based on his Master's Degree. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

#### **V Request for Waiver**

##### **A. Anusha Arulambalam**

This matter was previously reviewed at the October 17, 2002 meeting. Mr. Arulambalam was granted a waiver to sit for the November 2002 examination but had to obtain the additional credits up to 150 before he is permitted to be licensed in New Jersey. In Mr. Arulambalam's November 12, 2003 letter he is asking that the Board specify the classes he must take in order to complete the licensing process in New Jersey.

On a motion made by Alfonso Pisano, seconded by Andrew DuBoff, the Board voted to advise Mr. Arulambalam to apply to the State of Pennsylvania to find out which classes he must take to complete his licensure process since 150 hours is only optional. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

##### **B. Michelle Cody**

Ms. Cody was waived three semester hours in Finance under the old education requirements by CPAES in order to take the November 2003 examination. Ms. Cody was upset because Mr. Newman did not advise her that her grades from California would not be allowed to be transferred since she did not take all four parts on the first sitting. Upon review of the information it was apparent that Ms. Cody was given incorrect information and her transfer of grades should be approved.

On a motion made by Margaret Shoe, seconded by Andrew DuBoff, the Board voted to accept Ms. Cody's transfer of grades in order to be licensed in New Jersey. The motion passed with 9 in favor and John Tully and Robert Cagnassola opposing.

#### **VI Board to Consider Rules Related to Oversight of Non-U.S. Accounting Firms**

The Board reviewed the information presented and accepted it as informational.

#### **VII Focus Questions**

Enclosed for Board review were the Focus Questions for this quarter regarding "Answering the SOX Challenge: Guidelines for State Boards of Accountancy."

On a motion made by Alfonso Pisano, seconded by Elizabeth Burns, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Mr. DuBoff and Executive Director Mandeville to finalize the answers to the Focus questions and fax them to Robert Fox at NASBA.

#### **VIII NASBA Issues**

##### **A. Northeast Regional Communications Forum**

The information was reviewed by the Board and accepted as informational.

## **B. Correspondence from NASBA**

Attached for Board review is correspondence from NASBA regarding the reciprocity agreements that have been in effect with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Australia and CPA Australia. Along with this information are the Mutual Agreements and a questionnaire for the Board to answer.

The Board reviewed the information received, answered the questionnaire, and directed Executive Director Mandeville to relay the information to NASBA.

## **IX Committee Reports**

### **A. CPA Examination Committee**

No report was given.

### **B. Ethics Committee**

Ms. Burns reported to the Board that she is still working on the long distance learning. The Stockton College course was reviewed again and found to be satisfactory. The proposed Loscalzo course is very good because it offers six hours in ethics in conjunction with New York. The course will offer two hours on New Jersey ethics, two hours on New York ethics and two hours on AICPA ethics. A course outline will be supplied shortly and reviewed by the Ethics Committee.

### **C. CPE Committee**

Mr. Sommer reported that on December 8, 2003 there was a CPE Committee meeting at the New Jersey Society in Roseland. Mr. Sommer reported that 90 licensees did not respond to the Board and they should be fined \$250.00 for unlicensed practice and their licenses revoked.

On a motion made by Robert Sommer, seconded by Keith Balla, the Board voted to send UPLs revoking their licenses to practice along with a \$250.00 fine for not responding within 30 days.

### **D. RMA Committee**

No report was given.

### **E. QE Committee**

Mr. Cagnassola reported that there was a Quality Enhancement meeting in December and that there will be another in January 2004.

### **F. Education Committee**

No report was given.

### **G. Reciprocity Committee**

Ms. Shoe reported on information she received for review regarding a new credentialing organization. The information was accepted as informational.

### **H. Nominating Committee**

No report was given.

#### **I. Rules/Regulations Committee**

Mr. DuBoff provided a brief update on the status of the proposed CBT regulation.

#### **J. Professional Liaison Committee**

Mr. DuBoff reported that he will be attending the NASBA Board of Director's meeting in January 2004.

#### **K. Planning Committee**

No report was given.

A discussion of the Board's website, initiated by John Tully concluded this section of the meeting.

#### **X Public Comments**

Ralph Thomas from the New Jersey Society reported that the Society Leadership had met with AICPA Chair, Scott Voynich to discuss newly established audit quality centers. He also updated the Board on actions being undertaken by the AICPA Peer Review Board regarding standard revisions.

Mike Polito reported that the Society was preparing a Teleconferencing Ethics program for licensees domiciled outside the tri-state region. The program will be ready for review by the Board no later than March 2004.

#### **XI Adjournment**

On a motion made by Alfonso Pisano, seconded by Keith Balla, the Board voted to adjourn the Public Session at 12:50 P.M. The vote of the Board was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

William Mandeville  
Executive Director