

Deana Infield CPA, President
Richard Bell CPA, JD, Secretary
Shane Warrick CPA, PhD, Treasurer
Christina Ellis, CPA



Ron Pitts CPA - Inactive
Denny Woods JD
Kevin Canfield

Jimmy Corley CPA
Executive Director

Board Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2022

A regular meeting of the Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy was held via Zoom with Deana Infield; President, presiding. Other members of the Board in attendance were Richard Bell, Denton Woods, Christina Ellis, Ron Pitts, Kevin Canfield, and Shane Warrick. Members of the staff in attendance were Jimmy Corley; Executive Director, Dale Edge; Investigator, Tim Montgomery; Investigator, and Kathrine Stone; Licensing Coordinator. Also in attendance were Sara Farris; Legal Counsel, Marsha Moffitt and Gina Moran of the Arkansas Society of CPAs, Brian Thompson of the Arkansas Society of Accountants, and from the public; Mike Couture.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Infield officially called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A quorum was found to be present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2022 Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made and seconded to approve the December 2021, January 2022, February 2022, and March 2022 Treasurer's Reports, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Compliance Committee has met twice since the January Board meeting.

Nineteen (19) New Complaints:

External complaint alleging CPA holding records.

Review of Firm Name.

Inactive working in Public Accounting.

Two Unregistered Firms

Three licensees requesting to reinstate.

Four licensees who answered yes regarding disciplinary action on 2022 renewal.

Seven licensees with Peer Review issues.

Requesting closure of twenty-nine (29) complaints; Six (6) by Consent Order

1. **C21-125 – (8317R)** –Licensee failed 2019 Practice Review (compilation only). Licensee required to complete 16 hours additional CPE. Licensee has taken retired status. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.
2. **C21-128 – (Cert. #10156)** – External complaint alleging licensee was practicing law without a license. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of no violation and closure.

Inactive Licensees Working in Public Accounting

3. **C19-140 – (Cert. #6059)** – Inactive licensee working in public accounting. Licensee has now completed upgrade to license to practice. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.
4. **C21-076 – (Cert. #4728R)** – Inactive licensee providing consulting services. Licensee has surrendered AR CPA Certificate. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.

Unregistered Accounting Firms

5. **C20-033 – (Cert. #9727R)** – Licensee with unregistered firm. Licensee failed to respond. Licensee has since been revoked for failure to renew. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.
6. **C22-009 – (Cert. #8923)** – Licensee associated with unregistered firm. Licensee has since removed CPA tile. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.

Non-Licensees Holding Out

7. **C21-001 – (Non-Licensee)** – Non- licensee holding out as CPA in AR. Respondent is deceased. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.
8. **C21-006 – (Non-Licensee)** – Non- licensee holding out as CPA in AR. LinkedIn listing has now been corrected. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.

Licensees Sanctioned by Another Regulatory Agency

9. **C21-131 – (Firm Cert. #943C)** – Out of State Firm answered yes on 2022 renewal regarding disciplinary issues. Complaint filed with out of state Board. Board found complaint was without support. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of no probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings and closure with no further action.
10. **C21-133 – (Firm Cert. #84LP)** – Out of State Firm answered yes on 2022 renewal regarding disciplinary issues. After further review, matter involved partner (not licensed in AR) with SEC issues. Firm was not included in action. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of no probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings and closure with no further action.
11. **C21-134 – (Firm Cert. #37LP)** – Out of State Firm answered yes on 2022 renewal regarding disciplinary issues. After further review, matter involved partner (not licensed in AR) sanctioned by Oregon Board for failure to have a municipal auditors license. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of no probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings and closure with no further action.
12. **C21-136 – (Firm Cert. #102LP)** – Out of State Firm answered yes on 2022 renewal regarding disciplinary issues. After further review, Firm has open complaint in SC regarding SEC issue and a partner (not licensed in AR) that was sanctioned by CA regarding a PCOAB issue. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of no probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings and closure with no further action.
13. **C21-132 – (Cert. #9895)** – Licensee plead guilty to DWI. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.
14. **C21-135 – (Firm Cert. #5LP)** – Out of State Firm answered yes on 2021 renewal regarding disciplinary issues. Licensee is self-reporting sanctions by NC and CN Board of Accountancy. Consent Orders were based on two SEC sanctions of licensee: improperly obtaining and using PCAOB confidential information and firm-wide cheating with regard to internally administered CPE training courses. The cases cited in the orders have previously been disclosed to the AR Board. No AR CPAs were involved. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings but recommends closure with no further action.
15. **C22-014 – (Firm Cert. #2LP)** – Firm acknowledged sanction by USVI for delinquent renewal of business license. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings and closure with no further action.

Licensees With Peer Review Issues

16. **C22-003 – (Firm Cert. #908C)** – Licensee Firm has requested to withdraw from Peer Review. Licensee Firm has been sold and did not issue any attest reports since its last Peer Review; therefore, the Compliance Committee granted a waiver for obtaining its next Peer Review. The Compliance Committee recommends closure with no further action.
17. **C22-005 – (Firm Cert. #364LC)** – Licensee was dropped from Peer Review. Further review appears to be a miscommunication between licensee and AL Society. Licensee is currently enrolled in Peer Review. The Compliance Committee recommends closure with no further action.

18. **C22-006 (Firm Cert. #73LC)** – Licensee has withdrawn from Peer Review. Firm has merged with another firm. The Compliance Committee recommends closure with no further action.
19. **C22-007 – (Firm Cert. #725C)** – Licensee has withdrawn from Peer Review. Licensee has surrendered firm. The Compliance Committee recommends closure with no further action.
20. **C22-012 – (Firm Cert. #434C)** – Licensee has withdrawn from Peer Review. Firm has merged with another firm. The Compliance Committee recommends closure with no further action.
21. **C20-110 – (Firm Cert. #11SP)** – Licensee failed to respond timely to 2020 Practice Review. Licensee has now provided a completed Peer Review (pass with deficiency). The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings and closure with no further action.
22. **C21-112 – (Firm Cert. #363P)** – Licensee had a failed Peer Review. Licensee has now completed required corrective actions. The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings and closure with no further action.
23. **C21-122 – (Cert. #4127)** – Licensee’s 2019 Practice Review was incomplete. Licensee has now provided a completed Peer Review (pass with deficiency). The Compliance Committee recommends a finding of probable cause to proceed with disciplinary proceedings and closure with no further action.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Compliance Committee’s recommended findings and proposed resolutions as to items 1 through 23, listed above. The motion passed.

CONSENT ORDERS

1. **C19-108- Consent Order (Cert. #2816)** – Applicant surrendered CPA certificate December 31, 2011. Applicant has requested to reinstate to a license to practice. Applicant has completed 120 hours of CPE: 16 hours A&A, 5 hours of ethics, 91 hours of Tax and 8 hours of Other. The study type consists of 85 hours of group and 35 hours self-study. Applicant has ten years plus of experience. Applicant has signed consent order and paid 2022 licensure year fee of \$110.00. Requesting closure by Consent Order contingent on receipt of acceptable background check.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Compliance Committee’s recommended finding and proposed resolution as to C19-108. The motion passed.

2. **C21-074- Consent Order (Firm Cert. #893C)** – Licensee Firm’s 2019 Peer Review received a rating of Pass. Licensee Firm’s subsequent Peer Review was due in 2021. Licensee Firm has now requested to withdraw from Peer Review. Licensee and Licensee Firm have signed a consent order agreeing to cease performing attest work. If Licensee and/or Licensee Firm wish to commence attest work in the future, they must enroll in Peer Review, submit reports for pre-issuance review, and obtain an acceptable System Peer Review before consideration will be given to lifting the Pre-Issuance requirement. Requesting closure by Consent Order

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Compliance Committee’s recommended finding and proposed resolution as to C21-074. The motion passed.

- 3. [C21-079- Consent Order \(Firm Cert. #560C\)](#)** – Licensee firm performed attest work without being enrolled in Peer Review. Licensee failed to disclose attest reports had been performed on a 2020 Practice Review. Licensee has now enrolled in Peer Review. Licensee has signed a consent order assessing a \$3,500.00 penalty and requiring completion of its Peer Review by February 28,2022. Requesting closure by Consent Order

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Compliance Committee’s recommended finding and proposed resolution as to C21-079. The motion passed.

- 4. [C21-082- Consent Order \(Cert. #5906\)](#)** – Licensee firm performed attest work without being enrolled in Peer Review. Licensee has now enrolled in Peer Review. Licensee has signed a consent order assessing a \$1,000.00 penalty and requiring completion of its Peer Review by November 30,2021. Requesting closure by Consent Order, contingent upon receipt of money.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Compliance Committee’s recommended finding and proposed resolution as to C21-082. The motion passed

- 5. [C21-124- Consent Order \(Firm Cert. #425C\)](#)** – Licensee Firm’s 2019 Peer Review received a rating of Pass. Licensee Firm’s subsequent Peer Review was due in 2022. Licensee Firm has now requested to withdraw from Peer Review. Licensee and Licensee Firm have signed a consent order agreeing to cease performing attest work. If Licensee and/or Licensee Firm wish to commence attest work in the future, they must enroll in Peer Review, submit reports for pre-issuance review, and obtain an acceptable System Peer Review before consideration will be given to lifting the Pre-Issuance requirement. Requesting closure by Consent Order

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Compliance Committee’s recommended finding and proposed resolution as to C21-124. The motion passed

- 6. [C22-008- Consent Order \(Cert. #3882\)](#)** – Applicant became void January 1, 2010. Applicant has requested to reinstate to a license to practice. Applicant has completed 152 hours of CPE: 76.5 hours A&A, 10 hours of ethics, 22.5 hours of Tax and 43 hours of Other. The study type consists of 140.5 hours of group and 11.5 hours self-study. Applicant has sixteen (16) months of experience. Applicant has signed consent order and agreed to pay 2022 licensure year fee of \$110.00, prior year fees of \$165.00 (for 2007, 2008 and 2009), and late fees of \$360.00 (for 36 months). Requesting closure by Consent Order contingent on receipt of acceptable background check and monies.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Compliance Committee’s recommended finding and proposed resolution as to C22-008. The motion passed.

**Requesting Permission to Issue 20 Notice of Hearings to the following
Lapsed Individuals and Firms**

3951	Lapsed	MARILYN	G.	BRADSHAW		
7107	Lapsed	JEFFREY	L.	BUTCHER		
10227	Lapsed	AARON	MICHAEL	CLEMENTS		
3616	Lapsed	KERRI	SUE	CLOUD		
3035	Lapsed	BOBBIE	L.	FONTENOT		
6601	Lapsed	APRIL	LYNN	GAGE		
5155	Lapsed	MORGAN	ANN	GILARDI		
1697	Lapsed	WILLIAM	E.	HENSON		
8707	Lapsed	MARY	JANE	HOLDEN		
3659	Lapsed	KYLE	E.	MCNEESE		
4685	Lapsed	BRIAN	K.	MILLER		
1563	Lapsed	STEVE		MITCHELL		
2635	Lapsed	J.	MARK	NELSON		
1784	Lapsed	REECE	A.	PARHAM		
9558	Lapsed	MARY	Faith	PHILLIPS		
1601	Lapsed	RONNIE		RICHARDSON		
2944	Lapsed	MYRA	S.	ROWLAND		
9768	Lapsed	MINONG		SON		
4982R	Lapsed	DARRYL	A.	SPENCER		
866C	Lapsed	CROSSLIN & ASSOCIATES PC				

A motion was made and seconded to issue the above Notices of Hearing. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Control Self-Assessment: A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2022 CSA as presented. The motion passed.

Fee waiver request: A licensee contacted the board about an unintended lapse of license due to the licensee attempting to renew before their status was changed to Inactive. They failed to renew after the status change was processed. The Board agreed to accept the reinstatement fees in lieu of 2022 annual inactive fees /late fees and the license will be reinstated to Inactive.

Exam Credit Extension request: Examinee is requesting an extension of the expiration date of one of their Exam scores due to a personal hardship. The Board advised that an extension could potentially be granted if the examinee passes the final remaining part of their exam within 3 months of the expiration of their credit (July 5, 2022). If passed, they may submit a formal appeal for extension.

License expiration issues:

Steve Mitchell: Failed to complete any CPE since 2020 due to ongoing health problems and has not paid license fees. The Board determined that he must have 40 hours of CPE by July 31, 2022, and pay 2 years of back licensing fees.

Reece Parham: Failed to complete any CPE since 2020 due to ongoing health problems and has not paid license fees. The Board determined that he must have 40 hours of CPE by July 31, 2022, and pay 2 years of back licensing fees.

Ronnie Richardson: Failed to complete any CPE since 2020 due to ongoing health problems and has not paid license fees. The Board determined that he must have 40 hours of CPE by July 31, 2022, and pay 2 years of back licensing fees.

Financial Reporting: The Department of Labor and Licensing has requested that Board move its individual cash and checking accounts from Regions Bank to the state treasury, and the investments account from Raymond James to the state treasury.

A Motion was made to move the cash funds bank account with Regions to the Treasury account as soon as practical after the end of the current fiscal year, but the T-Bills account will not be moved until after it matures in December 2022. The Motion was seconded and passed.

The next Board meeting will be moved to 6/17/2022, and will be held in-person.

Shane Warrick proposed the location of the September 23rd Board Meeting to be in Magnolia, AR.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the April 22, 2022 Board Meeting. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:19 am.