

**Illinois Board of Examiners Meeting
Board Minutes
March 23, 2023-10:00 AM**

Members Present: Annette O'Connor, Chair, CPA; Amanda Gavin, Vice-Chair, CPA; Martrice Caldwell, CPA; Brad Danton, JD; Sook Lee, CPA; Luis Plascencia, CPA; Maria de J. Prado, CPA; Leilani Rodrigo, CPA

Staff: Russ Friedewald, Executive Director
Lianne Mace, Assistant Director of Certification
Carlarta Ratchford, Assistant Director of Evaluation Services

Guests: Marty Green, VP Government Relations, ILCPAS
Dan Dustin, Vice President, State Relations, NASBA
Jerry Weinstein, Great Lakes Regional Director

Call to Order-First Meeting

Chairperson O'Connor called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

1. Approval of December 14, 2022 Minutes

ACTION Ms. Caldwell saw a need for two corrections. With these corrections, Ms. Gavin motioned to accept the December board meeting minutes. Ms. Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

2. Report of the Chair- Ms. Annette O'Connor

- a. Chair O'Connor reiterated the concern in the accounting profession related to pipeline issues and called attention to a pilot program launching in Minnesota to provide solutions.
- b. Chair O'Connor reminded the Board that for today's meeting, it was important to discuss the 8-point plan and formulate a response.

3. Report of the Executive Director-Mr. Russ Friedewald

- a. Mr. Friedewald asked for approval of the 22Q3 and 22Q4 scores.
- b. Mr. Friedewald presented a list of the Elijah Watt Sells Award winners.
- c. Mr. Friedewald noted the success of the recent email sent to candidates who have stopped testing. 63% of recipients opened the email.

- d. Mr. Friedewald reported that the Auditor General had two immaterial findings which have already been addressed.
- e. Mr. Friedewald reminded members that the Educator Conference for 2023 is on April 27.
- f. Mr. Friedewald said that both he and the invited staff enjoyed the 2023 Executive Director Conference in Tucson, Arizona.
- g. Mr. Friedewald attended the JCAR hearing on March 21 to address any questions related to the 120-hour provision to the rules.
- h. Mr. Friedewald announced his last school visit will be at Notre Dame on March 27.

ACTION i. Chair O'Connor motioned for the Board to support NASBA's proposed amendment to the UAA model rules that credit for any test section passed shall be valid for twenty-four months from the date the passing score was released by NASBA to the candidate or the Board. Ms. Gavin made this motion, which was seconded by Ms. Rodrigo. The motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

4. Report from Dan Dustin, Vice President, State Relations, NASBA

Mr. Dustin presented the AICPA's 8-Point Plan, which provides constituents with ideas of how to address the CPA Pipeline issues. Included in this plan is a proposed amendment to the UAA model rules that would change the 18-month exam window to 24 months.

5. Report from Jerry Weinstein, Great Lakes Regional Director

Speaking on behalf of educators, Mr. Weinstein responded to the ELE portion of the 8-Point Plan, saying that a Master's degree is a preferred way to fulfill the 150 hour requirement. Mr. Weinstein invited board members to attend the Eastern Regional meeting in October. He encouraged board members to volunteer for NASBA committees.

6. Report from Marty Green, VP Government Relations, ILCPAS

Mr. Green reported that the Accounting Act Sunset Extension had moved from the House to the Senate, soon to be approved. Mr. Green emphasized the importance of substantial equivalency for professionals to have mobility. He cautioned that the legislation in Minnesota would be detrimental to mobility for practitioners in Minnesota.

ILBOE COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

7. Administrative Committee- Ms. RoseAnn Abraham

No report.

8. Candidacy Committee- Ms. Maria de J. Prado

Ms. de J. Prado reported that the committee made one decision for an individual seeking a credit extension.

9. Diversity Committee- Ms. RoseAnn Abraham

Ms. Ratchford reported that the committee is continuing its outreach efforts to schools and organizations. The committee also needs volunteers from the board to speak at these events.

10. Education Advisory Task Force- Mr. Luis Plascencia

No report.

11. Executive Committee- Ms. Annette O'Connor

No report.

12. Finance Committee- Ms. Martrice Caldwell

Chairperson O'Connor asked Mary Fitzgerald to highlight the reasons behind increased revenue during February.

13. Strategic Planning- Ms. Amanda Gavin

No report.

AICPA/NASBA COMMITTEE REPORTS

14. Audit Committee- Ms. Leilani Rodrigo

Ms. Rodrigo reported that the NASBA Audit Committee met on January 25, 2023, via Zoom, to discuss the audit engagement letters and fees for the FY23 audit. The next committee meeting will be in person at NASBA's office.

15. Bylaws Committee-Mr. Thomas Homer

No report.

16. CPE Committee-Ms. Amanda Gavin

No Report

17. Diversity Committee-Ms. RoseAnn Abraham

The committee will meet on Monday March 27.

18. Education Committee-Mr. Luis Plascencia

The committee reviewed the NASBA research grants proposal.

19. Communication Committee- Mr. Brian Whitlock

No Report.

20. Unfinished Business-None

21. New Business-None

Ms. Gavin motioned for the meeting to go into Executive Session. Ms. Lee seconded and approved. Following executive session, no further business was discussed and the regular meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.