

**Illinois Board of Examiners (ILBOE) Meeting  
Board Minutes- June 22, 2023 10:00 AM  
1120 E Diehl Road, Suite 111  
Naperville, IL 60563**

**Members Present:** Annette O'Connor, Chair, CPA; Amanda Gavin, Vice-Chair, CPA; Thomas Homer, CPA, JD; Martrice Caldwell, CPA; Brad Danton, JD; Sook Lee, CPA; Luis Plascencia, CPA; Leilani Rodrigo, CPA; Brian Whitlock, CPA, JD

**Staff:** Russ Friedewald, Executive Director  
Mary E. Fitzgerald, Business Manager  
Lianne Mace, Assistant Director of Certification  
Carlarta Ratchford, Assistant Director of Evaluation Services

**Guest:** Geoff Brown, President & CEO, ICPAS

**Call to Order-First Meeting**

Chairperson O'Connor called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

**1. Approval of March 23, 2023 Minutes**

**ACTION** Ms. Rodrigo asked for a change. With this correction, Ms. Gavin motioned to accept the March 23, 2023 board meeting minutes. Mr. Whitlock seconded the motion. Motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

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

- a. Ms. O'Connor announced that the agenda would include an Executive session to choose a new Executive Director and a second meeting to elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair to the Board.

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

- a. Mr. Friedewald asked the Board to approve the 23Q1 scores by signing the Score Approval letter.
- b. Mr. Friedewald introduced the new procedure for proposing rules change(s) from the Governor's office.
- c. Mr. Friedewald affirmed receipt of the NASBA check.
- d. Mr. Friedewald recommended that the Board implement the 30-month testing window outlined by UAA Model Rule 5-7 on July 1, 2025. After a discussion, Chairperson O'Connor recommended that the board try to achieve an

implementation date of January 1, 2024 pending further investigation on the cost and time frame for making a rules change. Mr. Whitlock motioned to accept the recommendation and Ms. Caldwell seconded.

- e. Mr. Friedewald said the 2023 Educator's Conference was a success with about 45 attendees.
- f. Mr. Friedewald introduced Ms. Mace, who asked the board to consider sending electronic certificates to certified candidates rather than printed ones as a cost-saving measure.
- g. Mr. Friedewald announced the cost of implementing a new password update project. The board asked Mr. Friedewald to do more investigating regarding our security protections and if we should purchase cyberinsurance.
- h. Mr. Friedewald presented the quote from Tyler Technologies for the Versa Regulation project.

#### **ILBOE COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

##### **4. Administrative Committee- Ms. RoseAnn Abraham**

No report.

##### **5. Candidacy Committee- Ms. Maria de J Prado**

No report.

##### **6. Diversity Committee- Carlarta Ratchford**

Ms. Ratchford presented information about the committee's ongoing pipeline initiatives. She encouraged Board members to participate in the video being made and to volunteer with partner organizations.

##### **7. Finance Committee- Ms. Caldwell/ Ms. Fitzgerald**

Upon reviewing the budget, Mr. Whitlock motioned for its acceptance. Ms. Caldwell seconded, and the budget was approved unanimously.

##### **8. Strategic Planning- Ms. Amanda Gavin/ Mr. Russ Friedewald**

The kickoff for an updated plan will be in the next fiscal year.

## **AICPA/NASBA COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **9. Audit Committee- Ms. Leilani Rodrigo**

The committee met on May 4 at NASBA's headquarters in Nashville. During the meeting, planning for the FY23 audit took place and committee members met with management and auditors.

### **10. Bylaws Committee-Mr. Thomas Homer**

No Report

### **11. CPE Committee-Ms. Amanda Gavin**

No Report

### **12. Diversity Committee-Ms. RoseAnn Abraham/ Ms. Martrice Caldwell**

Ms. Caldwell stated she is on the Awards committee, not the diversity committee. Nominations are being accepted through 6/30 and the committee will meet mid-July to review submissions.

### **13. Education Committee-Mr. Luis Plascencia**

This committee concluded that 30 months is an adequate amount of time to take the CPA exam.

### **14. Communication Committee- Mr. Brian Whitlock**

No report

### **Guest Speaker- Geoff Brown, President & CEO, ICPAS**

Mr. Brown shared that the AICPA Spring Council focused heavily on issues related to the pipeline. He noted that the IL CPA Society is actively participating in the dialogue and plans to field an updated version of its 2020 pipeline survey. The research plan calls for engaging other state CPA societies to increase participation beyond the 2020 population.

### **15. Unfinished Business-None**

### **16. New Business-None**



**ACTION Executive Session**

Board members went into executive session to discuss ILBOE personnel matters.