



Virtual Ethics Committee Meeting June 9, 2021

The Virginia Board of Accountancy Ethics Committee met virtually on Wednesday, June 9, 2021. The meeting was held in accordance with HB29, Governor’s Amendment 28: Allow policy-making boards to meet virtually during emergency declarations.

The following committee members were present:

Beth A. Berk, CPA
Kevin S. Matthews, CPA
John J. Renner, CPA
Douglas E. Ziegenfuss, CPA

The following committee members were present for a portion of the meeting.

Matthew E. Miller, CPA
Roy D. Peters, CPA

The Board member present was:

William R. Brown, CPA

The VBOA staff members present were:

Nancy Glynn, CPA, Executive Director
Kelli Anderson, Communications Manager
Patti Hambright, CPE Coordinator and Administrative Assistant

Public member present:

Amy Mawyer, Vice President, Learning, Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Brown welcomed the members of the committee, staff and the public.

Public comment period

There was no public comment.

Review and approval of agenda

Upon a motion by Dr. Ziegenfuss, and duly seconded, the members voted unanimously to approve the June 9, 2021, agenda, as presented. The members voting “AYE” were Ms. Berk, Mr. Matthews, Mr. Renner, and Dr. Ziegenfuss.

Update on auditing courses as the Ethics Committee

Committee members were provided demonstration links to random courses for review. Ms. Berk provided a review of an approved course and discussion ensued. Ms. Anderson explained in detail the approval process for potential ethics course providers.

(Mr. Peters and Mr. Miller have joined the meeting)

2022 VBOA Segment – Topic suggestions and open discussion

License renewal process

Ms. Glynn noted the CPA license renewal process for the current year was unlike previous years. There are clarifying questions for the certifications that are presented in a different format.

CPE reporting periods – 120 hours/rolling three year period

Dr. Ziegenfuss questioned the VBOA’s acceptance of community college credits. Ms. Glynn explained the VBOA evaluates course content. She noted the VBOA would be happy to work with schools to ensure acceptable course criteria. Ms. Glynn invited all members to participate in the virtual American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) CPA Evolution Model Accounting Curriculum to be held June 15 and 16, 2021. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Peters and Dr. Ziegenfuss shared their experiences with the 120 hours of CPE during the three year rolling period.

Mobility/Reciprocity

Ms. Glynn suggested covering one area of mobility or reciprocity in the VBOA segment. Mobility and reciprocity differ from state to state.

Inactive/status eligibility

Ms. Glynn noted the VBOA website had been recently updated to clarify the qualifications for obtaining the Inactive status. Ms. Glynn explained the licensee renewal process now included certifying questions

related to which CPA license status was held. Volunteer work was reviewed on a case-by-case basis in determining the Inactive licensure status.

Next steps/other items

VBOA Segment topics approved by Board member: June 24

Ms. Glynn invited members to share any topics they would like included in the VBOA Segment by June 18, 2021. All topics would be presented to the Board on June 24, 2021. Ms. Berk brought to the attention of members that the length of the VBOA Segment should not be a factor with the topic suggestions.

Ms. Glynn noted a variety of course topics for the 2021 ethics included Regulatory Ethics, Behavioral Ethics, Ethics for CPAs in Public Practice, and Ethics for CPAs in Tax, etc. All courses would count towards CPE. CPAs are provided with a variety of courses to choose from that is relevant to their day-to-day activities and would benefit their professional career.

Draft script to NASBA: early July

Ms. Anderson will work to provide NASBA a draft script for the 2022 VBOA Segment.

Video draft to Ethics Committee: early September

The video draft for the 2022 VBOA Segment's timeline to be presented to members is early September.

Appointment of Ethics Committee members to be approved by Board: August 2021

Committee members are encouraged to complete and submit the committee application if they have continued interest in the committee.

Course evaluations summary

Ms. Anderson provided feedback from licensees taking the course to earn CPE. She noted the evaluations received were overwhelmingly positive. The new format and overall change to the course had received positive feedback.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Brown thanked committee members for their time and service.

Mr. Brown adjourned the meeting at 11 a.m.