

Texas State Board of Public Accountancy

November 6, 2025

The Texas State Board of Public Accountancy met by video conference and in-person from 10:03 a.m. until 11:23 a.m. on November 6, 2025. A notice of this meeting containing all items on the agenda was filed in accordance with *Section 551* of the *Texas Government Code* with the Office of the Secretary of State at 10:18 a.m. on October 29, 2025. (TRD #2025-006189) (ATTACHMENT 1)

Board Members Present

Susan I. Adams, CPA
Executive Member-at-Large
Christopher "Grant" Coates
Kimberly D. "Kim" Crawford, CPA
Olivia Espinoza-Riley, CPA
Treasurer
Renee D. Foshee, Esq., CPA
Secretary
Ray R. Garcia, CPA
Executive Member-at-Large
Sherri B. Merket
Kenneth E. Omoruyi, CPA
Jeannette P. Smith, CPA
Presiding Officer
James M. "Jim" Trippon, CPA
Sheila M. Vallés-Pankratz
Susan M. Warren, CPA
Assistant Presiding Officer

Member Absent

Jill A. Holup
excused
Thomas M. Neuhoff, CPA
excused

Others Present

Paul Arredondo
Charlie Bertero
Ginger DeLatte

Staff Present

Paulette Beiter, Esq.
Marissa Brooks
Daniel Estrada, CPA
J. Franco
Ann Hallam, PMP
Rhonda Fellner
J. Randel Hill, Esq.
Donna Hiller
Christian Jones
John Moore, Esq.
Brian O'Neal
Julie Prien
Marisa Rios
William Treacy

- I. Ms. Smith, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Mr. Treacy called roll and declared a quorum.

Ms. Foshee moved to excuse the absence of Jill A. Holup and Thomas M. Neuhoff, CPA from the Board meeting. Ms. Warren seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- II. Ms. Crawford moved to approve the September 18, 2025 Board meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. After a call for the opportunity for public comments, Paul Arredondo provided comments on the Board's financial statements.
- IV. Ms. Smith, Presiding Officer, reported on the November 5, 2025 (video conference and in-person) Executive Committee meeting.

Members Present

Susan I Adams, CPA
Olivia Espinoza-Riley, CPA
(In-person)
Renee D. Foshee, Esq., CPA
Ray R. Garcia, CPA
Jeannette P. Smith, CPA
Presiding Officer
(In-person)
Susan M. Warren, CPA
(In-Person)

Others Present

Thomas M. Neuhoff, CPA

Staff Present

Marissa Brooks (In-person)
Daniel Estrada, CPA (In-person)
J. Randel Hill, Esq. (In-person)
Donna Hiller (In-person)
Chris Jones
John Moore, Esq.
Brian O'Neal
Marisa Rios
Lori Shaw
William Treacy (In-person)

- A. Ms. Espinoza-Riley, Treasurer, presented the Board's financial statements. Mr. Trippon moved to approve the Board's financial statements as presented including the requested budget increases. Ms. Merket seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- B. Ms. Vallés-Pankratz moved to authorize the executive director with support of Ad Hoc Computer Utilization Committee to evaluate and select an attorney which would be presented to the Board for ratification. Ms. Espinoza-Riley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- C. Ms. Warren reported that the legacy system modernization project has completed documentation of current agency processes and is finalizing a report. The project is entering Stage II, focusing on identifying desired system improvements and enhancing efficiency. The team is preparing a Request for Offer and is also arranging for additional office space. Ms. Warren emphasized adherence to the Cone of Silence, which restricts vendor communication during this phase of the project.
- D. Ms. Smith reported on the following NASBA/AICPA matters:
 - 1. Report of the 118th Annual Meeting, October 26 - 29, 2025, Chicago, IL.
 - 2. Ms. Smith reported that Ms. Adams, Ms. Espinoza-Riley, Ms. Foshee, and Mr. Treacy received thank you letters from NASBA for their service on various committees. Ms. Smith continues to serve on the NASBA Board as the Southwest Regional Director and former Board Presiding Officer Colalter Baker is the incoming NASBA vice chair.
- E. Mr. Treacy reported on general correspondence coming to the Board’s attention.
- V. Mr. Hill, General Counsel, reported that the November 5, 2025 Rules Committee meeting was cancelled.
- VI. Ms. Vallés-Pankratz, Peer Assistance Oversight Committee Chair, presented the Quarterly Report, Performance Measures, and Financial Information from the TXCPA ACAN Program.
- VII. Ms. Foshee reported on the October 15, 2025 (video conference and in-person) joint Continuing Professional Education and Licensing Committee meeting.

Members Present

Connie B. Clark, CPA
 Olivia Espinoza-Riley, CPA
 Renee D. Foshee, Esq., CPA
 Kathy D. Kabell, CPA
 Sherri B. Merket
 Thomas Neuhoff, CPA
CPE and Licensing Chair
 Jeannette P. Smith, CPA
Ex Officio

Members Absent

Rene D. Peña, CPA
 Larry G. Stephens, Esq., CPA

Staff Present

Marissa Brooks
 J. Franco
 Ann Hallam, PMP
 J. Randel Hill, Esq.
 John Moore, Esq.
 Brian O’Neal
 April Serrano
 William Treacy

- A. Ms. Foshee reported that the committee reviewed the proposed revisions to the CPE Standards issued by NASBA and the AICPA on September 17, 2025. These biennial updates aim to enhance flexibility and support evolving course delivery methods. Staff recommended no changes to existing Rules in response. Some members expressed concern that the revisions might reduce the overall quality of CPE. Staff was tasked with evaluating the removed requirements and considering whether to submit comments. Ultimately, no comments were required.
- B. Ms. Foshee reported that the committee reviewed two ethics courses submitted for approval. The Kaplan’s course was denied due to noncompliance with *Rule* requirements regarding content and duration. A motion was made for Kaplan to address discrepancies in content percentages and timestamps, and to ensure compliance before resubmission. Summit’s course was conditionally approved, pending revisions to include source citations when referencing the Board’s perspective, intent, or actions. Staff will verify these revisions. No follow up Board action required.
- C. Ms. Foshee reported that the committee reviewed concerns about individuals with foreign credentials attempting to set up superficial or “front” offices in Texas. These entities appeared focused on creating the illusion of a local presence without offering actual services in Texas. Staff shared examples of such registration attempts, and the Committee emphasized that these practices could mislead the public. The committee also affirmed that existing Board Rules help safeguard the integrity of firm registrations.
- D. Ms. Foshee reported that the committee meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.
- VIII. Ms. Smith, Behavioral Enforcement Committee chair, reported on the (video conference and in person) Behavioral Enforcement Committee meetings.

October 20, 2025

Members Present

Susan I. Adams, CPA
C. Bennett Allison, CPA
Patrick L. Durio, CPA
Olivia Espinoza-Riley, CPA
Phillip D. Johnson, CPA
James M. "Jim" Trippon,
CPA
Jeannette P. Smith, CPA,
Committee Chair
Robert Ogle, CPA

Member Absent

Jill A. Holup

Staff Present

Paulette Beiter, Esq.
J. Randel Hill, Esq.

A. Dismissals – Insufficient Evidence

Mr. Coates moved to dismiss the following investigations based on insufficient evidence. Ms. Foshee seconded the motion and it passed. The above listed Board members on the BEC committee did not participate in any discussion or the vote.

1. Investigation No. 23-08-09L¹
2. Investigation Nos. 25-08-02L¹ & 25-08-03L¹
3. Investigation Nos. 25-08-08L¹ & 25-08-09L¹
4. Investigation Nos. 25-07-14L¹ & 25-07-17L¹
5. Investigation Nos. 25-07-12L¹ & 25-07-13L¹
6. Investigation Nos. 25-06-06L¹ & 25-06-07L¹
7. Investigation Nos. 25-07-07L¹, 25-07-08L & 25-07-09L¹
8. Investigation Nos. 25-07-10L¹ & 25-07-11L¹

Ms. Foshee moved to approve the following request for early termination of probation. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion and it passed. The above listed Board members on the BEC committee did not participate in any discussion or the vote.

B. Dismissal – Early Termination of Probation

- Investigation No. 20-10-04L

C. Other - The committee considered several other matters during its meeting; however, no action was required by the Board.

IX. Mr. Garcia, Technical Standards Review Committee, reported on the October 1, 2025 (video conference) Technical Standards Review Committee meeting.

Members Present

Kimberly "Kim" Crawford, CPA
Ray R. Garcia, CPA
Committee Chair
Jamie Grant
Douglas Koval, CPA
Dilliana Stewart, CPA
Sheila Vallés-Pankratz
Susan Warren, CPA
Juliet Williams, CPA

Staff Present

J. Randel Hill, Esq.
John Moore, Esq.

- Other - The committee considered several other matters during its meeting; however, no action was required by the Board.

X. The Board took the following administrative disciplinary actions.

- **Administrative Disciplinary Actions:**

Mr. Coates moved to approve the following administrative disciplinary actions as presented. Ms. Market seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

1. Respondents: In the Matter of Disciplinary Action Against Certain Licensees for Nonpayment of Licensing and Late Fees for Three Consecutive License Periods

The Respondents failed to pay their licensing fees for three consecutive license periods. Respondents, although properly notified of the proposed disciplinary action and their right to a hearing on the matter, failed to request a hearing. Staff recommends that the certificate of each Respondent still not in compliance be revoked without prejudice. Each Respondent may regain his or her certificate by paying all license fees and late fees and by otherwise coming into compliance with the *Act*. Respondents violated *Act Section 901.502(4) (failure to pay license fees for three consecutive years)*. (ATTACHMENT 2)

No Board committee considered these actions.

Investigation Numbers

1. 25-06-10001 - 25-06-10120
2. 25-07-10001 - 25-07-10086

2. Respondents: In the Matter of Disciplinary Action Against Certain License Holders for CPE Delinquencies

The Respondents failed to comply with CPE reporting requirements found in Chapter 523 of the *Rules* and *Act Section 901.411 (Continuing Professional Education)*. The Respondents, although provided with a preliminary report and having been notified of the proposed disciplinary action and their right to a hearing on the matter, failed to request a hearing. Staff recommends that the license of each Respondent still not in compliance be suspended for a period of three years, or until he or she complies with the licensing requirements of the *Act*, whichever is sooner. Additionally, staff recommends a \$100 penalty be imposed for each year a Respondent is not in compliance with the Board's CPE requirements. Respondents violated *Board Rules 501.94 (Mandatory CPE)* and *523.111 (Required CPE Reporting)*, and *Act Section 901.411*. No Board committee considered these actions. (ATTACHMENT 3)

No Board committee considered these actions.

Investigation Numbers

3. 25-06-10121 - 25-06-10272
4. 25-07-10087 - 25-07-10238

3. Respondents: In the Matter of Disciplinary Action Against Certain Certificate Holders for Failure to Complete License Notice

The Respondents failed to complete their license renewal notices in accordance with *Board Rule 515.3 (License Renewals for Individuals and Firm Offices)*. Respondents, although properly notified of the proposed disciplinary action and their right to a hearing on the matter, failed to request a hearing. Staff recommends the certificate of each Respondent not in compliance be revoked without prejudice until such time as the Respondent complies with the requirements of the *Rules* and the *Act*. Respondents violated *Act Section 901.502(12) (Violations of Board Rules)*. No Board committee considered these actions. (ATTACHMENT 4)

No Board committee considered these actions.

Investigation Numbers

5. 25-06-10273 - 25-06-10285
6. 25-07-10239 - 25-07-10254

XI. Ms. Warren moved to adopt the following *Board Rules* as presented. Ms. Espinoza-Riley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

1. *Section 516.1 (Definitions)* (ATTACHMENT 5)
2. *Section 516.2 (Licensing for Military Service Members, Military Veteran and Military Spouses)* (ATTACHMENT 6)

3. *Section 516.3 (Licensing for Military Veterans) [Repeal] (ATTACHMENT 7)*
4. *Section 516.4 (Accounting Practice by Military Service Members and Military Spouses) (ATTACHMENT 8)*
5. *Section 516.5 (Complaints) [New] (ATTACHMENT 9)*
6. *Section 521.14 (Eligibility Fee) (ATTACHMENT 10)*

- XII. Ms. Smith reviewed the meeting schedule for the year. Ms. Smith reported that Mr. Omoruyi, Ms. Espinoza-Riley, Ms. Adams, and Ms. Foshee will attend the upcoming swearing-in ceremony. Ms. Smith also encouraged all members to participate in the joint Continuing Professional Education, Licensing and Rules Committees meeting scheduled for January 6, 2026 in-person or remotely.
- XIII. Mr. Omoruyi moved to adjourn. Ms. Foshee seconded the motion, and Ms. Smith adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

ATTEST:

Jeannette P. Smith, CPA, Presiding Officer

Renee Foshee, Esq., CPA, Secretary

¹ Ms. Adams, Ms. Espinoza-Riley, Ms. Holup, Mr. Trippon and Ms. Smith recused themselves from participating in this matter.

² Ms. Crawford, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Vallés-Pankratz and Ms. Warren recused themselves from participating in this matter.