

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
ILLINOIS PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT REGISTRATION & LICENSURE BOARD

Open Minutes

Illinois Public Accountant Registration & Licensure Board

Date: February 18, 2025
Convened: 10:06 am
Adjourned: 11:03 am
Location: Springfield/Chicago/WEBEX

Members Present: Phillip Austin, Member
Kristi Corpin, Member
Enrique Lopez, Member
Andrea Wright, Member

Members Absent: Kathryn Erkkila, Member
Kevin Fitzgerald, Public Member

Guests Present: Geof Brown, ICPAS
Marty Green, ICPAS
Carla Ratchford, ILBOE

Staff Present: Kyle Lazell, DPR Board Liaison
Tafari Mahou, DPR General Counsel

Open Session: The Meeting was called to order at 10:10 am.
Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**1. Board Member
Comments**

Mr. Austin volunteered to preside over the meeting, welcomed everyone and asked if anyone had comments.

Ms. Corpin introduced herself, noting that she's been a CPA for 20 years and is currently a partner at Eck, Schafer, & Punke.

The remaining members introduced themselves.

2. Public Comments

Ms. Ratchford presented information regarding Examinations. She noted the IL BOE completed updates to administrative rules, adding in a work for credit pathway for 30 credit hours to qualify toward the 150 hours needed.

Mr. Brown shared that in December, the society's board of directors adopted a new three-year strategic framework to outline their approach to building the CPA profession in Illinois and ensure a

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
ILLINOIS PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT REGISTRATION & LICENSURE BOARD

foundation to continue growing the into the future. He also noted the national push to add alternative education pathways to satisfy the education requirement and mentioned that Illinois one of the few jurisdictions who have implemented statutory changes to address this.

Mr. Green shared that ICPAS sponsored HB 2459 to add two additional pathways to satisfy the education requirement for licensure – BS in accounting plus two years of experience, MS in accounting plus one year of experience. He also noted the pending state of the state by the Governor, individual CPA renewal rate and decreased firm renewals.

3. Board Liaison Report

A. Legislative Update

HB 2459.

Mr. Lazell noted that DPR reviewed the draft bill language for this bill, made a few recommendations and they were incorporated into the final version shared.

4. Review of Open Minutes

The Board reviewed the open minutes of the February 6, 2024 meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Lopez/Wright) to accept the Open Minutes as presented. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

5. Ongoing Business

None presented.

6. New Business

A. Election of Officer

Mr. Lazell shared the need for electing a Board Chair to preside over the meetings.

Call for nominations for Board Chair.

Mr. Lopez nominated Mr. Austin to be elected as Chair. Mr. Austin accepted the nomination. Motion was made, seconded (Lopez/Wright) to close the nominations for Chair. The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board. Mr. Austin was elected as Board Chair for 2025.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
ILLINOIS PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT REGISTRATION & LICENSURE BOARD

7. Moved into Closed Session:

Motion was made, seconded (Lopez/Wright) to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 10:41 am. Motion passed with a quorum of members voting yes via roll call.

A. Review of Closed Minutes

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the February 6, 2024, meeting.

B. The Board did not review any deliberations in the meeting.

Moved back into Open Session:

The Board Chair adjourned the Closed Session and moved the meeting back into Open Session at 10:54 am.

8. Motions & Reminders

Motion was made, seconded (Lopez/Corpin) to approve the closed minutes of the February 6, 2024, meeting as presented and to keep the closed minutes closed. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Mr. Lazell reminded the Board the next scheduled meeting is June 17, 2025 and to submit the travel voucher form if requesting reimbursement for travel expenses for attending the meeting.

9. Adjournment

Motion was made, seconded (Lopez/Austin) to adjourn meeting. The Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:03 am.