

**The Georgia Society of CPAs
Spring Council Meeting
May 4, 2020
Virtual due to COVID-19
Minutes**

<i>Board of Directors:</i>	<i>Council Members At large Continued:</i>	<i>Council Members At large Continued:</i>	<i>Past Presidents/Chairs:</i>
Cromwell Baun	Lee Ellen Fields	Michael Skinner	Ruth Bartlett
Scott Collins	Danyelle George	Beverly Smith	Colin Blalock
Kathryn Fletcher	Denise Grove	Geoffrey Smith	Stewart Carlin
James Freeman	William Harshman	Sondra Smith	Michael Cauley
Elizabeth Hardin	Blake Head	L Sneathen	Rodney Chandler
George Harrison	Clayton Huffman	Joli Stuckey	Barbara Evans
Carlton Hodges	David Jackson	Jason Sweatt	John Giddens
Kirk Jarrett	Frank Jones	Joetta Thomas	Paula Mooney
Christopher Miller	Tabitha Jones	Charles Thornton	Lowell Mooney
Boyd Search	David Julian	Brandon Verner	Denise Mummert
Deborah Thaw	Brian Klinkert	Margaret Waldrep	Terry Parker
James Underwood	Ralph Knight	James Warren	Robert Prator
	Steven Laine	Randall Webb	Harvey Tarpley
<i>Council Members at Large:</i>	Ben Lee	Amanda Wilkson	Darrell Thaw
Arthur Auerbach	John Masters		James Underwood
Victoria Barry	Jerry Maxwell	<i>Chapter Pres/Rep</i>	Scott Voynich
Matthew Beacham	Shawntell McCall	Billie Baxter	
Robin Bennett	Debra McGlaun	Richard Collins	<i>Staff:</i>
Jason Blair	Erin McLeod	Wanda DeLeo	Don Cook
Valerie Bowron	Martha Merritt	Robert Dow	Elizabeth Cook
Guyer Boyle	Kathleen Moreno	Michael Gallagher	Callie Hammond
Nicholas Bruner	Frances Morrison	Sherrie Hodges	Jessica Mytrohovich
Walton Bryde	Howard Mosby	David Jackson	Greg Wilder
Phillip Buelterman	Larry Nichols	Amy Massey	Calvin Wong
Ross Cannon	Denise O'Connell	Jerry Maxwell	
Albert Caproni	Paul Oddo	Catherine Peeples	
Amanda Carman	Joel Pascaner	Jacob Sheffield	
Jennifer Chapman	Rose Patti	Denise Smith	
Gregory Chapman	Carl Peabody	Roderick Williams	
J. Carlton Collins	John Pettigrew		
Andrea Comeau-Shirley	Jodi Prevost		
Lisa Conti-Bacon	Brad Reeder		
Adrienne Davis	Evelyn Rosier		
Sarah Dekutowski	Emily Sanders		
Francis D'urban Jackson	Paula Sands		
Laurie Dyke	Robert Schwarzmann		
Darla Eden	Randall Shrum		

I. Call to Order

James Freeman, chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and a quorum was established.

II. Invocation

Tom Harrison provided the invocation.

III. Approval of Minutes

The 2019 Fall Leadership Council meeting minutes were accepted as presented.

IV. Chair's/CEO Report

Boyd Search, CEO and Mr. Freeman were highlighted as speakers.

Mr. Freeman acknowledged the difficult time we are in and how people have been learning new technology. GSCPA has producing videos and CPE to meet the needs of members.

Mr. Freeman then discussed the state of Annual Convention. Last week the Maine Governor issued an order "Restarting Maine's Economy". It is a 3 stage process. Under stage 2, which begins in June, restaurants will be able to open and lodging will open as well. However, in stage 2 the lodging is open to Maine residents only. Stage 3 begins in July-August, and lodging will then be open to Maine visitors. The order does not state when in these months the stages will begin it only implies that it is sometime in that time period. So, given these circumstances, GSCPA Annual Convention cannot be held based on the Governor of Maine's order.

Next, Mr. Freeman gave an update on Filing for Freedom. The program was held in both February and March. The April dates had to be cancelled though he hopes to get back started in June.

Mr. Freeman gave a brief update on CPA Evolution and noted there will be a vote of confidence at the AICPA Spring Council meeting soon. More information will follow that meeting.

Finally, Mr. Freeman discussed his year as chair highlighting the unusual times. He professed his pride for the profession and community.

Mr. Search spoke about the response to COVID-19 by GSCPA. He noted staff has gone virtual and worked to offer facts about the CARES Act, SBA loans, Paycheck Protection Program, Essential Services, and tax deadlines. Mr. Search welcomes constructive criticism and feedback. Mr. Search discussed the previously offered Town Halls and virtual CPE sessions. He then noted two major CPE Conferences were changed to be fully virtual and future CPE will follow CDC guidelines.

Mr. Search closed by acknowledging those who have lost the battle with COVID and thanking members for joining the meeting.

V. Treasurer's Report

Tom Harrison presented the treasurer's report.

Currently, the overall change in net assets is negative including the investments. Excluding the investments, we are positive. Major notes are dues, CPE, and peer review.

The members received the treasurer's report as presented.

VI. Ratification of the Budget

Mr. Harrison and Mr. Wilder presented the proposed budget.

The Council Members received the budget packet prior to the meeting. Mr. Harrison gave the background on the budget process and mentioned the names of the Budget Committee. The committee budgeted in uncertain times. The budget committee proposed a \$10 dues increase for Fellow members and a \$5 dues increase for Associate members. For members who pay dues by July 1, each will receive an 8-hour virtual conference. It was noted that several programs and upgrades have been postponed. Staff is evaluating contracts and preparing to go virtual with more programs. For operations, there are no salaries or technology increases.

Mr. Freeman made a motion to ratify the budget. The floor opened for discussion through the Q&A feature. Seeing none, he called for a vote. A poll was utilized for the vote. There were no nays.

The budget was ratified.

VII. Nominating Committee Report

Scott Collins, chair of the Nominating Committee, shared the report. He mentioned the names of those who served on the committee. First, Mr. Collins presented the AICPA Council delegate positions and noted that Kathryn Fletcher made a motion prior to the virtual meeting to elect the AICPA Council Delegates. A vote was conducted via poll. The AICPA Council Delegates were elected. Next, Mr. Collins directed all to the list of the Council Members-at-Large, Board of Directors and new Chairman that was given to the Council in their meeting packets. The Council received the Nominating Committee Report.

The Council meeting recessed for the Educational Foundation Meeting.

VIII. Educational Foundation Annual Meeting of the Members

Jodi Prevost, president of the Educational Foundation provided the report. She called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Prevost gave a scholarship update. Scholarships ranging from \$1,000-\$5,000, for a total of \$81,250, were awarded to over 60 accounting students from 11 different Georgia

universities and colleges. The Foundation awarded an additional \$17,500 in scholarships through the Chapter Matching Funds Program, and GSCPA chapters granted Georgia universities and colleges with \$2,000 in institutional support for a grand total of \$100,750.

She presented the slate of directors to be voted on during the annual meeting of the members: Jason Blair, Abriel Davis, Tabitha Jones, Marshall McComb, Clay Pilgrim, Randy Shrum, Randall Webb. Secondly, she presented the following directors to fill one remaining year of a 3-year term: Doug Moses and Nicole Owens. Mrs. Prevost noted that Beverly Smith made a motion to accept the directors as presented by the Foundation Nominating Committee. The Foundation Members voted, and the motion passed.

The following proposed officers for 2020-2021 will be voted on electronically by the Foundation Board of Directors after the Annual Meeting of the members: Clay Pilgrim, president; Kelly Cranford, president- elect; Abriel Davis, treasurer; Maliece Whatley, secretary.

Mrs. Prevost announced the 2020 golf tournament has been postponed due to COVID-19. She thanked the sponsors for the support and noted a new date and more details will be announced soon.

Mrs. Prevost closed with a reminder to donate to the Educational Foundation. She then adjourned the annual meeting of the Educational Foundation members.

Reconvene the Council Meeting

IX. Legislative Update

Don Cook gave an update.

X. Open Forum

Boyd Search announced the passing of Joe Smith and offered condolences to his family and those employed by Smith & Howard.

Kirk Jarrett thanked James for his service during the strange times.

Art Auerbach thanked the Tax Task Force and Don Cook for the hard work.

Cecily Welch thanked The Georgia Society of CPAs for all of the hard work and expressed her appreciation for the messages and CPE offered.

Ralph Knight asked about virtual chapter meetings. Greg Wilder noted there will be more information to be announced soon.

XI. Adjourn

Mr. Freeman thanked everyone for their time, and for being apart Leadership Council. The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Boyd E. Search". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Boyd" being the most prominent part.

Boyd E. Search, CAE
Chief Executive Officer/Secretary