

**The Georgia Society of CPAs
Fall Council Meeting
October 25, 2021
Sonesta Resort – Hilton Head Island
Hilton Head Island, South Carolina
Minutes**

Board of Directors Present in Person: Cromwell Baun, Tom Harrison, Carlton Hodges, Kirk Jarrett, Jodi Prevost, Evelyn Rosier, Debbie Thaw

Board of Directors Present Virtually: Torie Barry, Chris Conrad, Jeff Kess, Chris Miller, Howard Mosby

Past Presidents/Chairs Present in Person: Ruth Bartlett, Colin Blalock, Scott Collins, Julian Deal, Kirk Jarrett, Lowell Mooney, Paula Mooney, Bob Prator, Darrell Thaw

Past Presidents/Chairs Present Virtually: Stewart Carlin, Mike Cauley, Barbara Evans, James Freeman, Denise Mummert, Allen Poole, Carolyn Riticher

Member at Large Present in Person: Jason Blair, Nick Bruner, Sandi Buttram, Al Caproni, John Carson, Greg Chapman, Larry Cohen, Kevin Cross, Dub Darville, Sarah Dekutowski, Darla Eden, Kathryn Fletcher, Denise Grove, Elizabeth Hardin, Bob Heuel, Taylor Hinson, Catherine Houston, Clay Huffman, Tabitha Jones, Brian Klinkert, Ben Lee, Eric McGlothen, Martha Merritt, Joel Pascaner, John Pettigrew, Nick Rider, Paula Sands, Sondra Smith, Ellen Sweatt, Joetta Thomas, Jimmy Warren, David Wilkerson, Jeff Wright

Member at Large Present Virtually: Nnennaya Anyaebosi, Art Auerbach, Matt Beacham, Robin Bennett, Bill Bledsoe, Leslie Buice, Jennifer Chapman, Krystal Comer, Nina Daigle, Frank D'Urban Jackson, Bill Harshman, Molly Hinton, John Holden, Bo Jackson, Frank Jones, Steven Laine, Sam Latimer, Kevin Lipford, Shawn McCall, Debra McGlaun, Karen Mueller, Rose Patti, Clay Pilgrim, AnneMarie Scully, Randy Shrum, Beverly Smith, Geoff Smith, Dwight Sneathen, Joli Stuckey, James Underwood, Margaret Waldrep, Ian Waller

Chapter Representatives Present in Person: Keara Dowling, Will Merritt, Dylan Middleton

Chapter Representatives Present Virtually: Susan Garcia, Lori Norton, Cam Tompkins, David Ussery

Staff Present In Person: Elizabeth Cook, Callie Hammond, Colleen McGlade, Steve Olson, Greg Wilder, Calvin Wong

Staff present Virtually: Don Cook, Jessica Mytrohovich

I. Call to Order

Tom Harrison, chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Quorum has been established.

II. Invocation

Walt Bryde provided the invocation.

III. Approval of Minutes

The 2021 Spring Leadership Council meeting minutes were accepted as presented.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Carlton Hodges began the report noting the positive cash position on the balance sheet. He then discussed the investment portfolio and how well it has done over the year. Mr. Hodges highlighted the favorable CPE margins and an unfavorable variance on membership dues. The issue with membership dues can be contributed to the changing demographics of the profession, however, staff is continuing to reach out to those with a balance. Good CPE margins have been influenced by high attendance and low travel costs, among other items.

Members received the treasurer's report as presented.

V. Chair's/COO Report

Greg Wilder, GSCPA COO, and Tom Harrison, GSCPA Chair, were spotlighted as speakers.

Mr. Harrison started the report by highlighting his visits to Georgia Southwestern State University and the University of Georgia. He encouraged members to meet with local universities and local chapters.

The Georgia Accounting Food Fight was next on the agenda. The 2021 event was a record year with the most member engagement of previous Food Fights. Participants raised \$346,288.81 which provides 1.4 million meals. Mr. Harrison shared his firm the ice bucket challenge utilized as a food fight fundraiser. He thanks everyone who participated.

Mr. Wilder began the Operational Update by recognizing the Board of Directors, leadership, and Society staff. He then discussed a series of surveys that were sent to membership since March 2020. Results of the first survey showed that 50% of those who responded were worried about staying in business. The third survey is now showing concerns of those who participated as how to keep staff safe and work life balance. Mr. Wilder shared results with the room on the most recent membership survey.

Mr. Wilder and Mr. Harrison discussed PAC activities and Don Cook's involvement at the State House. The relationships created are incredibly important. Mr. Harrison encouraged everyone to make contributions to the PAC. Mr. Harrison also encouraged attendance to CPA Day at the Gold Dome this winter.

Mr. Harrison also encouraged attendees to donate to the Educational Foundation and reach out to students to apply for scholarships.

A discussion on the CPA Pipeline began with Mr. Harrison emphasizing the demographics of the profession and the importance to speak to students about the accounting professions.

Mr. Harrison provided a Legislative Update referencing the SALT Parity Act which was enacted in 2021. The act allows pass-through entities to elect to pay state income tax at the entity level, which allows the entity to claim an unlimited deduction at the federal level for state and local taxes paid. Mr. Harrison also discussed redistricting and conformity, as major agenda items. Special Session will begin November 3.

Mr. Wilder opened the floor for questions.

VI. Nominating Committee Election Results

Kirk Jarrett, chair of the nominating committee, presented the slate of members to be elected for the Nominating Committee and recapped the requirements to serve on the Nominating Committee. The election was conducted online to accommodate both in person and virtual attendees. Mr. Jarrett then presented the results from the Nominating Committee election. The three newly elected members are Brandi Dykes, Will Merritt, Beth Morrison.

VII. Audit Committee Report

Brad Reeder provided the Audit Committee report. The Audit Committee has met and reviewed the financial statements. Aprio has no reportable issues with either The Society or Educational Foundation. He thanked leadership and staff.

Mr. Harrison thanked Mr. Reeder for his work.

VIII. Appointment of Audit Committee Member

Mr. Harrison recommended the appointment of Robert Fields to serve on the Audit Committee. A poll was utilized for voting and the ayes are in favor of the appointment of Robert Fields.

IX. Awards Presentation

The 2021 Public Service Award was presented to Sarah Dekutowski, CPA.
The 2021 Outstanding Member in Industry Award was presented to Albert Caproni, CPA.

X. AICPA Council Report

Debbie Thaw presented the report. During the virtual, two-day AICPA Council meeting, the theme was adapt and thrive as CPAs. A major focus being self-regulation. The AICPA is ready and responsive after hearing politicians mention control of licensure. Another focus during the program was the single audit with federal funds being designated to communities to get

through COVID. CPA Pipeline was a major agenda item. CPA Evolution is set to roll out in January 2024. Next, an enhanced audit quality report was provided. Major legislative issues like relief for national disasters the state level were discussed. Finally, multiple significant bylaws changes during occurred and all changes may be found on website.

Council Meeting was recessed for the Educational Foundation Meeting

XI. Educational Foundation

Kelly Cranford encouraged all to donate to the Educational Foundation. Mrs. Cranford acknowledged Tina Carpenter as the 2021 Outstanding Accounting Educator. As an update, the scholarship application opens on November 1. Finally, Evelyn Rosier honored Dr. Johnnie Clark with a special recognition of her lifetime achievements.

Reconvene the Council Meeting

XII. Insurance Trust Update

Carlton Hodges gave the update. Mr. Hodges mentioned long term care as something to think about for all individuals and families. He then noted renewals are March 1. Mr. Hodges encourage attendees to reach out to Patrick Bell or himself with any questions and hopes all will renew.

XIII. Open Forum

Elizabeth Cook shared an Annual Convention update and hopes everyone can attend June 5-8, 2022 in Maine for fun and lobster!

XIV. Legislative and Political Update

Chris Denson, Georgia Public Policy Foundation, provided a legislative and political update including topics like the 2022 session, American Rescue Plan, taxes, healthcare, education, and housing.

Meeting recess for lunch.

Meeting reconvenes.

XV. Pete Margaritis – Off Script: Mastering the Art of Business Improv

Pete Margaritis presented a session on his book, “Off Script: Mastering the Art of Improv”. After the interactive presentation, Mr. Margaritis opens the floor to Q&A.

XVI. Adjourn

Mr. Harrison thanked everyone for their time, and for being a part of Leadership Council. The meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.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 more prominent.

Boyd E. Search, CAE
Chief Executive Officer/Secretary