

MINUTES
UTAH BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY
April 01, 2026
Hybrid Meeting with anchor location in Room 474

CONVENED: 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 3:37 p.m.

Bureau Manager:

Tracy Taylor

Board Secretary:

Katie Corak

Board Members Present:

Robert Anderson, Chairperson

Peter Mann, Vice Chair

Brian Deppe

Geri Douglas

Trevor Everett

Guests:

Amy Anholt, UACPA

Susan Speirs, UACPA

Kent Absec, NASBA

Dan Vuckovich, NASBA

Emily A.P. Riner, WGU

DOPL Staff Present:

Sicily Hill, Compliance Specialist

David Hill, Investigator

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Review and Approve Minutes:

Mr. Mann made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 07, 2026, meeting. Ms. Douglas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Compliance Update:

Ms. Hill provided the Board with a Compliance update. Item noted with no action taken.

Investigations Update:

Mr. Hill provided the Board with an investigations update. Item noted with no action taken.

Licensing Statistics:

The Board reviewed exam statistics from the 4th quarter of 2025 and current Utah licensing statistics. Items noted with no action taken.

DISCUSSION and ACTION ITEMS:

Update from UACPA:

Ms. Taylor provided the Board with an update on current UACPA projects and outreach on behalf of Susan Speirs, CEO of UACPA. Most notably, UACPA is asking for input on updates to their Utah Law and Rule CPE course. The Board members were encouraged to submit any topics they would like to see covered in the course to Susan Speirs. Item noted with no action taken.

Legislative Update:

Ms. Taylor provided an update on SB 117 passed by the Utah Legislature during the 2026 general session. This bill clarified language in 58-26a allowing for exam eligibility once 120 credit hours have been obtained. Ms. Taylor anticipates having the CPE Education Advisory Committee convene soon in order to fine tune the rules and send them to the Board to review by the June meeting. Because the new law goes into effect on July 1, 2026, Mr. Anderson requested the Board meet in mid-May to review and approve the new rules so they will be ready for the July 1st deadline. After some discussion, the Board selected May 15, 2026, as the meeting date.

CPE Reporting Requirements:

The Board continued their discussion from the January meeting regarding CPE and reporting requirements in general as well as the reporting method for the upcoming renewal. Given the difficult experience many licensees had using the NASBA CPE Audit Service during the 2024 renewal, the Board needs to determine how to proceed with CPE reporting for this year's renewal; either continue using the NASBA CPE Audit Service, a different service, or not require reporting. Given the high audit failure rate in states that do not require mandatory CPE reporting, not requiring CPE reporting was quickly ruled out. Ms. Taylor reported that the staff at the NASBA CPE Audit Service has offered to provide live and prerecorded webinars to licensees on how to upload CPE as well as emailed reminders regarding the webinars and updating CPE Audit Service passwords, because passwords expire every 90 days. After additional discussion, the Board decided to continue requiring mandatory CPE

NASBA ED Conference Report:

reporting in the NASBA CPE Audit Service for the 2026 renewal, and to instruct NASBA that Utah would like them to provide pre-recorded webinars on how to enter CPE as well as provide a hotline for licensees to call for help during the final month of the renewal cycle. The discussion then transitioned to CPE requirements as a whole and whether Utah should make changes to the CPE requirements. Mr. Kent Absec, VP of State Board Relations, let the Board know that AICPA and NASBA have formed a joint task force to examine CPE requirements nationwide and evaluate whether 80 hours per renewal cycle is appropriate as well as whether courses should be more technical or more general. Mr. Absec anticipates more information on the study and potential findings will be available at the NASBA Western Regional meeting in June 2026 and the NASBA Annual Meeting in October 2026. Mr. Anderson stated he would like the Board to look at the CPE requirements after reviewing the findings of NASBA and AICPA's task force and seeing what the NASBA Uniform Accountancy Act Committee recommends to state boards regarding CPE requirements.

NASBA Visit:

Ms. Corak provided a report on the NASBA ED Conference that took place last week. Topics discussed at the conference included private equity and alternative practice structures, mobility, proposed changes to peer review, and CPE. Item noted with no action taken. Because the NASBA Western Regional Meeting is taking place in Utah this summer, Mr. Absec encouraged the board members to attend and explained the process for them to apply for scholarship money to cover the registration fee for the meeting. NASBA can provide scholarships for up to two new board members; if more would like to attend, Ms. Taylor could speak with NASBA regarding additional funding.

Kent Absec and Dan Vuckovich from NASBA gave a presentation to the Board on alternative practice structures and private equity investment in CPA firms. Mr. Vuckovich provided an overview of the rise in private equity investment in CPA firms over the last 6 years, including why private equity firms set up alternative practice structures, how the alternative

practice structure works with the attest and non-attest sides of the firm with respect to employment and compensation, and what the Board needs to consider from a regulatory perspective regarding these private equity and alternative practice structures. Mr. Absec then gave an overview of various NASBA committees and task forces and the issues within the profession they are currently examining this includes the use of title, the definition of attest, and additional work stemming from the PEEC Exposure Draft. Mr. Absec closed by encouraging the Board members to consider serving on a NASBA committee.

ADJOURN:


Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

Adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Date: 5/15/26

Date: 05/15/2026

X: 
Chairperson, Utah Board of Accountancy

X: 
Bureau Manager, Division of Professional Licensing