

Accounting Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Start time: 7:35 am via zoom

Members in Attendance: Victoria Roberts, CPA, AAB President; Sydnee Woodland, CPA, SBVC; Dr. Taewon Yang, CSUSB; Tian Tian, CPA, CSUSB; Dr. Dave Senteney, CPA, CSUSB; Alondra Jimenez, President, BAP; Matt Przybyszewski, Vice President, BAP; Brandon Ferrell, Eadie Payne LLP; Ray Elson Dean, BAP National President.

Welcome by Victoria Roberts, President

1. Introductions

- New and continuing AAB members

2. Skills needed for success in the accounting field.

- Chair asked for comments in this area.
- **Discussion:** Board discussed skills recommended for community college transfer students. The accounting certificates, degree, and courses are presented. The board was asked to identify areas of strength and weakness. All were deemed appropriate for transfer (acct 200 and 201). The vocational classes, acct 010, 030, 047, 090, 600, were identified as excellent preparation for careers in all areas of accounting. In addition, these classes may be used toward the 120-hour path or 150-hour path requirement for CPA licensure. Both pathways were discussed as the recent changes to the CPA pathway have been implemented. The board members in industry indicated that students needed additional technical training in Excel and accounting software. Knowledge of Payroll, Bookkeeping, and accounting software gives potential employee priority over those with only the traditional academic course work.

- Dr. Dave Senteney presented the recently implemented changes to the CPA licensure pathway. The updated requirements include an alternate route that allows candidates to qualify with 120 semester hours and two years of experience, rather than the traditional 150 semester hours and one year of experience. The Board strongly encouraged students to pursue the 150-hour pathway to ensure the highest level of preparation for the CPA examination. SBVC continues to support students and meet their needs regardless of the selected pathway.
- Board members noted that many community college students lack strong oral and written communication skills. The board members in public practice continue to note that interactive skills and socialization with others is a huge deal; interaction with clients is most of the job. Involvements in community and college government were mentioned as important to the development of communication skills. The CalCPA Inland Empire Chapter President highlighted community college events hosted by CalCPA that support and encourage students as they progress from community college toward CPA licensure.
- VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program Update: Sydnee Woodland gave an update on the number of students involved in the VITA program for the current year. Students are developing skills in tax software, client interaction, and technical tax preparation while providing free tax services to community members. She indicated that participation in the program helps address the communication and professional skill gaps identified by industry board members. SBVC students are also working alongside university-level students in the VITA program, increasing collaboration and improving accessibility to the transfer process.

3. Open discussion

End time: 9:05 am