

# Montana Board of Public Accountants



## In This Issue

2014 Renewals Underway.....	1
Notes From the Chair.....	2
Vuckovich Named to Board .....	2
Reisig Elected To NASBA Board ..	2
Peer Review .....	3
Rule Rewrite Underway.....	3

### The Honorable Steve Bullock Governor of Montana

#### Board Members

Linda Harris, CPA, Chairperson  
Wayne Hintz, CPA  
Michael Johns, CPA  
Jack Meyer, CPA  
Beatrice Rosenleaf, Public Member  
Kathleen VanDyke, Public Member,  
Secretary  
Dan Vuckovich, CPA

#### Executive Officer

Grace Berger

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## 2014 Renewals Underway

By now you should have received information on renewing your Public Accounting license for 2014. The deadline to renew your license without penalty is December 31st. If you have not received your renewal instructions, or you need assistance in renewing online, please contact the Renewal Unit at 406-841-2205. They will be happy to walk you through the online renewal process.

Before you renew your active permit to practice, check to make sure you have met the Basic Requirement of 120 hours of CPE within the past 3 years (July 1 2010 – December 31, 2013) including a minimum of 2 hours of ethics. If you are unable to affirm that you meet the CPE Basic Requirement by December 31st, you will want to request an extension of time to meet the requirement by filing the CPE Extension Request Form found on the Board website under Forms/General Forms. It is important to have the form and the extension request fee submitted to the Board by December 31st to ensure your compliance with renewal requirements. Even if you request a CPE extension, you must still timely renew your permit to practice.



## License Renewal

*Every year a number of CPAs forget to renew their license. The Board considers failure to renew the license a serious matter. Be sure to maintain a current mailing address with the Board and renew your license on time!*

*For more information, visit [publicaccountant.mt.gov](http://publicaccountant.mt.gov).*

## Vuckovich Named to Board

The Board of Public Accountants is pleased to welcome Dan Vuckovich, CPA, to the Board. Dan was appointed by Governor Steve Bullock to a four-year term on the Board.



Dan is a native of Anaconda and graduated from the University of Montana with a BS in Business Administration. He received his CPA in 1983.

Dan began his career as a staff accountant in 1982 at Hamilton, Misfeldt & Company in Great Falls, elevating to Shareholder in 1989. He is currently a Shareholder at Anderson ZurMuehlen in the Great Falls office.

Dan is an active member of the AICPA and served as the Council member. He is an active member and Past-President of the MSCPA. Dan continues to serve his profession in a variety of leadership roles. He is also very active in his community and has served in a number of leadership roles for a variety of local organizations.

Congratulations Dan on your recent appointment!

## Reisig Elected To NASBA Board



At the NASBA Annual meeting, Rick Reisig, former Montana Board of Public Accountants board member, was elected to a one-year term

on the NASBA Board of Directors. Rick will serve as the Director for the Mountain States Region, representing the states of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming on the NASBA Board.

Rick served two four-year terms on the Board. His final term expired July 2013. He twice chaired the Board and served a vital role in the regulation of the accounting profession.

The Board wishes to extend their congratulations to Rick for his election to the NASBA Board of Directors.

# Notes From the Chair



*Linda Harris, CPA*

The Board had a great meeting at the University of Great Falls in November. We had a lunch that had both students and local CPAs participating. Grace did an outstanding job of presenting to both groups and Board member Bea Rosenleaf led us in a great ethics questions. I speak for the entire Board when I say how much we enjoy this interaction.

Many of you (20%) received an audit letter requesting verification of your CPE credits for the period 7/1/2009 – December 31, 2012. If you have any questions or concerns about what is required, please contact the Board office.

Remember that while all you now have to do is attest that you have meet the CPE requirements at the time of renewal, you are still required to maintain all your documents and to manage your CPE credits. The CPE requirement has not changed you still need 120 hours with 2 of those hours in ethics for any three year period. As you are renewing keep in mind you are attesting that you have met the requirement for the period 7/1/2010 – December 31, 2013.

Another reminder about peer review – anyone whose last peer review was in 2010 with the PMP program or is in pre-issuance review needs to be registered with the State Society by December 31, 2013. You should have received correspondence from both the Board and the Society with instruction on how to complete your enrollment form and the requirements for the Society's program. Please contact either the Society or the Board office if you have any questions.

We realize that there have been a number of changes to some of our significant programs and confusion can happen. If you receive a request from the Board that requires any type of response, please do not ignore it. The Board takes our requests for information very seriously and not responding can lead to board discipline.

Did you know that if you are a sole proprietor and doing any type of attest service that you need to register your firm. Please visit our website for all the necessary information on how to do that.

We all wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Linda Harris, CPA  
Chairperson

# Does Our Firm Have To Have A Peer Review?

Board rules require enrollment in a board approved peer review program for firms that perform the following services:

- a. An audit;
- b. A review;
- c. A compilation (with or without disclosures); or
- d. Agreed upon procedures engagements.

The Board has approved the AICPA peer review program administered by the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants (MSCPA). You do not have to become a member of the AICPA or MSCPA to participate in this program. Any program that uses the AICPA Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews, or standards equivalent, may be submitted to the Board for review and possible approval.

If your firm is required to enroll in a peer review program, you are required to provide to the Board the name of the approved peer review program in which your firm is enrolled and the period of time covered by the most recent peer review.



## Rule Rewrite Underway

The Board of Public Accountants convened a task force to do a review of the entire body of board rules, as is required by law. That review resulted in a number of recommendations to the Board on possible rule amendments. While the intent and expectations of the Board do not change, many of the recommendations focus on clarifying and simplifying the rules.

The Board has reviewed the recommendations and the rule amendments are making their way through the rule notice process. Unfortunately, it appears that the public comment period for the rule rewrite may take place after the first of the year. This was not the timeline desired by the Board, as they know how very busy you are during tax season, but the administrative rules process is not always under the Board's control. They hope when you receive the notification that the rules have been amended, you will take some time to review the amendments and make comments. The rules are made better by your participation in the process.