

**MINUTES OF  
THE STATE BOARD OF COLLECTION AGENCIES  
MEETING**

**May 15, 2013**

A meeting of the State Board of Collection Agencies was held on May 15, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room of Lafayette Square located at 523 South Louisiana Street in Little Rock, Arkansas. Chairman Rusty Guinn, Vice Chairman Jerry Markham, Board member Sandra Jackson and Peggy Matson, Executive Director, were present. Board member Robert Watkins was not present.

Rusty Guinn, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order.

The Chairman noted that notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

Consideration of Minutes. The Board reviewed the Minutes from its meeting held on August 15, 2012. Mr. Markham made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jackson, that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion carried.

Financial Report. Ms. Matson reported that the Board's Fiscal Manager, Bill Garlington, had retired and that Steve Carter who is a CPA and holds an MBA had been hired on April 29. She distributed copies of Act 1023 of 2013 which detailed the Board's budget for FY 2014 and amended the way in which the Board's income is to be distributed in the future. Currently, the Board's income is distributed to beneficiaries as the distribution amount is collected and, depending on the amount of income generated, some of the named beneficiaries may not receive any money. The amendment provides that no distributions will be made until the end of the fiscal year and the total amount of income is known. If there is not enough income to pay each beneficiary the maximum amount as set out by Arkansas Code Annotated '17-24-305(b)(1)(A) then the funds will be prorated among all the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries and the maximum amounts they may receive are as follows:

Department of Health and Human Services	\$115,000
University of Arkansas Medical Sciences	\$600,000
Arkansas State University-Mountain Home	\$250,000
University of Central Arkansas	\$100,000
Southern Arkansas University	\$100,000
Henderson State University	\$100,000

Surety Bonds and Registration Fees. Ms. Matson informed the Board that Act 1023 also amended the dollar range of security bonds required for licensing from \$5,000-\$25,000 to \$10,000-\$50,000 and that the registration fee for collectors was increased from \$15 to \$20. The fee increase will go into effect as of September 1, 2013.

Audit of Arkansas-based Collection Agencies' Registration of Collectors. Ms. Matson reported that she and Janet Wilson, the Board's investigator, suspect that not all collection agencies located in Arkansas are registering their collectors as required and asked that she be permitted to conduct audits on those collection agencies. The Board approved her request.

Debt Collection Seminar. Ms. Matson distributed an announcement from the Federal Trade Commission regarding the "Roundtable on Data Integrity in Debt Collection" that is being co-hosted by the Federal Trade Commission and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, D.C. on June 6. The roundtable also will be streamed live online.

Board Travel Expenses and Per Diem. The Board voted unanimously to authorize payment to its members of a stipend, not to exceed the amount allowed by Arkansas Code Annotated '25-16-903 through 905, per official meeting attended.

N.A.C.A.R.A. Ms. Matson reported that the 2013 NACARA Annual Meeting will be held October 6-8 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts.

Online License Renewal and Database Software. Ms. Matson reported that the new FileMakerPro data base is now in use. There have been several problems with the online renewal program that have resulted from the host of the Board's website using outdated information from the previous database. The problems have been corrected.

Future Meeting Dates. The Board voted to use its current schedule of meeting quarterly on the third Wednesday of the second month of the quarter. The next scheduled meeting date is Wednesday, August 21, 2013.

Election of Officers. Mr. Markham made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Guinn that Mr. Guinn continue to serve as Chairman of the Board with Mr. Markham serving as Vice Chairman and Ms. Jackson serving as Secretary.

There being no further business, Mr. Markham made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion which then was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.