

STATE OF NEBRASKA

BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

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Jim Pillen
Governor

NEWS RELEASE

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Announcement of Appointment and Transition

Ms. Kristen Vanwinkle, the Board's current Administrator, has been appointed as the new President of the Nebraska Society of CPAs as of April 1, 2026. She succeeds Ms. Joni Sundquist in this important role.

Kristen recently completed ten years of dedicated public service to the Board. During her tenure as Administrator, she oversaw the issuance of Certificates and initial permits to practice for CPAs and CPA firms in Nebraska. She played an instrumental role in the renewal process for permits to practice, including assisting in the development and implementation of the Board's new database within the Certemy platform for issuing initial permits and renewals.

Kristen worked closely with NASBA / CPAES, Nebraska educators, and candidates to process education requirements for eligibility to sit for the Uniform CPA Examination. She also assisted in the development of amendments to the Nebraska Public Accountancy Act and Board regulations under NAC Title 288. Most recently, she was a participant on the New Pathway Licensure Task Force.

Board Executive Director Dan Sweetwood commented:

"Kristen's work over the last ten years is a testament to her dedication and commitment to public service. I know I can speak for both current and former Board members in expressing appreciation for her support, guidance, and her work product. She has also served as a trusted sounding board, consistently providing thoughtful and well-reasoned recommendations on the many matters we have addressed. While I will miss our direct working relationship within the Board office, I am confident we will continue to collaborate in her new role. I am very proud of her, and her accomplishments speak for themselves. I wish her every success"

The Board has begun the process of recruiting her successor.

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Retirement Announcement

Ms. Joni Sundquist recently announced her retirement as the President of the Nebraska Society of CPAs as of May 29th, 2026.

Executive Director Dan Sweetwood commented:

“I have witnessed firsthand Joni’s quick learn of the profession, positive attitude, and good work while in her role. She had a significant impact on modernizing several Society platforms and was well versed in communicating and providing information to Nebraska CPAs. I was always impressed with her ability to take a complex matter and be able to provide an excellent summary focusing on the issues at hand.

She quickly, became a member of the national CPA community and I know Board members, NASBA leadership, and other members of the CPA community were well aware of her ability to work together to solve the issues before us.

I very much appreciated her motivation to work closely with us on several important initiatives over the years including most recently the new pathways to licensure. Joni led this effort with her development of the New Licensure Pathway Task Force and continued to oversee and pursue the changes successfully through Nebraska Legislature.

With this important change, she will leave a significant legacy to future Nebraska CPAs! Best of all, I consider her a friend and wish her the best in retirement!”

It has been over 10 years since the Board has transitioned to a new staff member, so your patience is appreciated when working with the Board office.

The Nebraska State Board of Public Accountancy administers public accountancy law in Nebraska. Six of the eight Board Members are certified public accountants with active permits to practice and two are members of the public. Information about licensed CPA’s can be obtained by calling the Board office at (402) 471-3595.
