

# WICPA Federal Taxation Committee

## Minutes of Meetings Held on

**Friday, May 20, 2011**

The May 2011 meeting of the Federal Taxation Committee (“the Committee”) was held in the WICPA offices in Brookfield, Wisconsin on Friday May 20, 2011 and was called to order by Randy Wichinski at 12 noon.

The following members attended the meeting in person: Randy Wichinski (Chair); Ron Frea; Lucien Beaudry; Ron Berman; Jim Brandenburg; Scott Franklin; Tricia Knight; Steve Schmidt; Michael Scholz; Dennis Tomorsky; Dale Van De Loo; and, Sherry Watson.

The following members attended virtually by telephone: Gordon Adler; Brian Anderson; Rebecca Jungwirth.

The minutes from our previous meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2011 were reviewed and a motion to approve the minutes was made by Ron Frea, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Recognition of “Distinguished” Committee Members – Randy brought to the attention of the Committee the recent recognition awards bestowed upon Nick Lascari and Tricia Knight. Congratulations to Nick and Tricia!

WICPA Update – Dennis Tomorsky presented to the Committee the status of various current activities, chief among them were:

- Overall the WICPA is in good shape — Revenue exceeded budget projections by \$5,000, and revenue exceeded expenses by \$47,000.
- WICPA has collected \$1 million of \$1.4 million in dues so far this year.
- Career Center – Doing very well; a lot of traffic (16 jobs listed).
- Web Site – overall the WICPA website is widely used. Over 6,000 hits per year and 261 firms listed which is a free listing.
- WICPA CPE Department – CPE Director Keith Chrisler retired in December. A new director will not be hired.
- January 25<sup>th</sup> Advocacy Day – 25 WICPA members met with state legislators in an effort to:
  1. Advise our legislators regarding expanding the rule of law liability is bad policy.
  2. There are 40 new legislators – 5 of which are CPA’s (good opportunity to let them know who we are).
  3. Relationship building opportunity.

IRS/WDR Liaison Committee Update – Ron Berman led the discussion on any new developments

- Next meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2011.
- Lack of IRS response on appeals.
- Quality & timeliness still lacking.
- A number of notices are being sent involving the SE tax health deduction.
- IRS is having lots of problems with the first-time home buyer credit from 2008.

Scott Franklin mentioned that some people are receiving refund checks before the explanation letter is received; sometimes even when the taxpayer owes money. Scott also brought up a question to the Committee, "how do you cancel a POA?"

If anybody has any questions for Ron Berman to discuss at the next liaison meeting please contact him.

Annual Tax Conference Update – Lucien Beaudry shared his thoughts on the April planning meeting.

- Attendance has continuously declined. Made up of mostly members from the Milwaukee area.
- Attendees mainly have been coming from SE WI – Attendance has dropped from 600+ in the past to under 300 this past year. Part of the problem may be due to increased interest in webinars.
- Ron Frea pointed out that Tax Conference is serving only the interest of Milwaukee.
- A lot of money is being lost by not reaching out to the CPA's in the "Non-Milwaukee" areas.
- Lucien mentioned that webinars maybe an alternative – this idea along with most of his ideas were shot down; the committee members seem to be uninterested in making any changes.
- Speakers never get paid. Popular National speakers may attract more attendees but they would require a fee.

AICPA Council Meeting – Scheduled for May 24 – 25.

- Dennis Tomorsky and Nick Lascari will be attending.
- Plan on meeting with Paul Ryan for at least a few minutes.

Tax Technical Discussion Topics – Various issues were discussed.

- Repeal of expanded Form 1099 reporting – increased penalties remain though.
- 3% withholding on payments to government contractors is delayed until 2013.
- Updated entity classification election – Form 8832.
- Interim guidance under IRC Section 67(e) for deduction of fiduciary/trust fees

IRS Procedural Issues – Among the areas discussed were:

- AICPA SSTS Exposure Draft/Comments
- Formation of Issue Practice Groups (IPGs)
- De-brief on efilng and related issues
- New EFT payment rules
- FBAR filing requirements and 2011 voluntary disclosure initiative

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be tentatively held on Thursday, September 29, 2011 at the WICPA offices with lunch scheduled for 11:30 a.m. and the meeting commencing at 12 noon.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

The foregoing minutes have been prepared and respectfully submitted by Dale Van De Loo.