California Society of CPAs
Technology Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2011

I. Call to order

Chair Woody Fox called the meeting to order at 10AM at Harvey Mudd College in Claremont

II. Roll call

The following members were present:

On-site – Woody Fox, John Levy, Bruce Gray, Jim Counts, Michael Thompson, Charles Le, David Primes, Linda Heineman, Kendall Wheeler, Robert Campbell, Cliff Beacham, Tom Sauer, Barry Hensiak, Aldo Maragoni (staff liaison).

On-line – Arlynn Peavy, Dale Bender, Charles Burak, John Hoag, John Misuraca, George Chiu, Milla Austin, Joshua Cohen, Jim Sanders

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Woody previously distributed the minutes from the August 26th meeting. The minutes were approved with two minor changes. Linda Heineman moved to accept, John Levy seconded. Minutes are approved.

IV. Introductions / "Fun Facts" / Chapter Reports

Members introduced themselves and presented at least one "fun fact" about themselves. Chapter chairs also reported on local Chapter activities.

V. Future Meetings

Woody opened a discussion of future meeting dates and locations.

Our January meeting will be a virtual meeting. The meeting will be scheduled on January 20, after the CES show in Las Vegas, so that our attending members can report on the Show. The plan is for four presentations. There was some interest in actually holding the January 2013 meeting during CES in Las Vegas – a committee of John Levy, Kendall Wheeler and David Primes will coordinate and promote the Vegas meeting at our May and October regular meetings. Some of the "downsides" to virtual meetings were also discussed: including audio problems, difficulty in focusing on the meeting (as opposed to general

office distractions), lack of personal networking. Avoiding the much larger cost of a live meeting was presented as an "upside".

The May meeting is our annual two-day affair. The meeting is currently scheduled for the May 4th and 5th, 2012. Jim Counts asked us to consider May 11 and 12.   Possible locations were again discussed. David Primes noted that Citrix/Logmein was located in Santa Barbara – David will explore. Woody added that the Reagan Ranch would make a fun side-trip. Consensus was that we should look for a good vendor to visit first (setting the meeting where the vendor is located), and if a good vendor cannot be found, we will work on a "destination". We will shoot for Santa Barbara on May 11 and 12. Lake Tahoe was the 2nd choice.

VI. **Webcast**

Arlynn Peavy discussed the production of a Webinar scheduled for May 4, 2012. The webinar will be presented for public consumption. Arlynn will come up with a proposal for committee assignments to get speakers and topics. Jim Counts suggested we consider our Excel expertise among members of our committee.

VII. **Other Business**

Jim Counts brought up the issue of a new regulation that may require us to register with the Department of Consumer Affairs if we "repair computers". Virtually no one on the committee had heard of this requirement. The new registration requirement applies to those who "repair computers" in a residential setting. Jim figures the requirement is to try to thwart unscrupulous vendors who install bad software in homes (like key loggers and software to turn on a camera). The question was raised, if we do software installation or maintenance in a home office, would that qualify? John Levy thought that if the home office was more for personal use, then maybe – if a true business office, then probably not. Kendall Wheeler thought it shouldn't apply to software install and configure – hardware install and repair, probably yes. Most of the committee felt no compulsion to register – but, if this regulation applies to us, it could be a concern. Aldo Maragoni thought that we should consult with the CalCPA Government Relations committee first, then proceed as directed. Aldo will check and report back.

VIII. **Google + / Group communication**

Woody presented a session discussion Google+ and how we can best promote communications among members of our committee. Linkedin has been panned as "cumbersome" and it is said not to "push" items to members. David Primes indicated that it can be set to "push" – but, there

seems to be little interest in continuing its use. Linda, Barry, Jim and Kendall all indicated positive results from the use of a Yahoo Group. In fact, Kendall has created a Yahoo Group for the Tech Committee. Using straight email for committee communications was not particularly supported. Younger committee members tended to favor Google+, Linkedin or straight email for communication.

The question was raised – what do we want to accomplish? Are we trying to communicate or collaborate?

It was generally approved to try to begin using Kendall's Yahoo Group.

IX. Lunch Break

Our lunch speaker was Dr. Maria Klawe, President of Harvey Mudd College. Her topic was "Increasing Participation of Females in Computing".

X. Presentation – Kendall's Gadgets

Kendall Wheeler led a presentation of his favorite tech gadgets and accessories. Generally summarized as "WDKU?" (What does Kendall use?), suggestions included a wide variety of items that prove helpful when using technology.

XI. RAM Session and Other Technologies – Group

The group presented several other tech wonders, including a video camera in glasses and the Microsoft ARC Mouse. A Q&A RAM Session followed with several good questions about matters including "the Cloud", remote connections, alternative document management solutions, encryption and security, delivery of tax returns and the Global Accounting Credential.

XII. The Woody Fox Point System

Woody Fox presented his plan for a "point system" to encourage participation among the committee members. He plans to reward "winners" with wine at the May meeting.

Woody also encouraged members to send him suggestions on meeting topics.

XIII. Adjournment

Minutes submitted by: Barry Hensiek