

Philosophical Thinking on Accounting Information Quality Requirements

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Abstract: Accounting, as a social science, contains the universal principles of marxist philosophy in its theory and practice. Accounting information quality requirements as an important part of basic accounting theory, only a deeper understanding of it, can better guide the relevant accounting theory and practice. This paper considers the quality requirements of accounting information from a philosophical perspective, so as to deepen the understanding of it.

1. Introduction

"Philosophy is an independent science different from natural science and social science, which is about the whole world and the relationship between man and the world. Its research object is the whole world, which is the most general and essential summary of the world. Both natural science and sociology are concrete sciences, whose research objects are limited to a specific field of nature and society. Philosophy is the highest form of human thought."

Philosophy, as a subject of studying world outlook and methodology, is quite different from the specific form of general social sciences. This has led to some people putting philosophy on the shelf and separating it from other disciplines. In fact, philosophy is closely related to other specific sciences. Studying specific sciences from a philosophical point of view will deepen researchers' understanding of specific sciences. This paper combines philosophy with the requirement of accounting information quality, and studies accounting from a philosophical point of view.[1]

2. Accounting and Philosophy

In the current accounting field, most people did not link accountant and philosophy, is generally accepted that accounting is a technical or social science, they completely belonging to different areas, has nothing to do, is to a certain extent, caused the accounting philosophy due to the lack of theoretical guidance in some new areas to explore perspective on narrow understanding unclear and the nature of economic business problems. [2]Therefore, we must give full play to the guiding role of philosophy, especially marxist philosophy, in accounting research, use philosophy to guide social science, and provide the support of world outlook and methodology.

The view that connects accounting and philosophy is called accounting philosophy view. Under the guidance of marxist philosophical world view and methodology, accounting philosophy is a viewpoint that abstractly summarizes, classifies and analyzes all accounting matters involved in enterprises, so as to correctly deal with various contradictory relations. This view unifies accounting and philosophy, thinks about accounting matters from the perspective of dialectical materialism, solves accounting problems and deepens accounting research, which is conducive to the continuous development of accounting.

3. Accounting Information Quality Requirements

The quality requirement of accounting information refers to the basic requirement of accounting information provided by enterprise financial reports. The information provided by financial reports needs to be conducive to decision makers to make correct decisions. In order to achieve this goal,

the accounting circle restricts the accounting information provided by financial reports, which is the quality requirement of accounting information.[3]

Accounting information quality requirements include reliability, relevance, comprehensibility, comparability, substance over form, importance, caution and timeliness. As an important part of the basic theory of accounting, it plays a fundamental guiding role in accounting confirmation, measurement and reporting. A deeper understanding of accounting can greatly promote the development of this discipline.

4. Philosophical Thinking on the Quality Requirements of Accounting Information

First of all, the eight requirements of information quality are interrelated, in the same organic whole, and a unified contradictory body. In the consideration of accounting issues, accounting treatment should not be isolated to emphasize a certain information quality requirements, and link them together, from the perspective of organic unity to look at the problem. Secondly, in this contradiction, there are primary and secondary contradictions. Reliability and relevance are primary contradictions, while other requirements are secondary contradictions. So in the accounting research, we should deal with the main contradiction and secondary contradiction, so as to more accurately describe the accounting matters. This is from the overall perspective of accounting information quality requirements of philosophical thinking, the following will be from the specific content of accounting information quality requirements for philosophical thinking.[4]

Reliability refers to that an enterprise shall, on the basis of actual transactions or events, confirm, measure, record and report the accounting elements (elements of accounting statements) and other relevant information that meet the requirements of recognition and measurement, so as to ensure the authenticity, reliability and completeness of accounting information. It contains the philosophical thought that the world's origin is material, material determines consciousness, we insist on everything from reality and theory with practice, seek truth from facts. This requires us to understand the world according to the objective world as it really is in the process of accounting treatment, and try to reduce their subjective components, that is, try to reduce the subjective accounting estimate, and try to adopt more scientific and objective treatment methods.

Relevance refers to that the accounting information provided by enterprises should be related to the economic decision-making needs of users of financial accounting reports, so as to help users of financial accounting reports to evaluate or predict the past, present or future situation of enterprises. The philosophical thought it contains is that the world is universally connected and this kind of connection has objectivity, universality, diversity and conditionality. We should be good at analyzing the specific connection of things, establish the concept of integrity and openness, and investigate the universal connection of things from the dynamic perspective. This requires us to grasp the universality and diversity of connections, grasp the movement rules of things through analyzing the phenomena of things, "take history as a mirror", and provide relevant information for evaluation and prediction through accounting and supervision of past accounting events.

Comprehensibility means that the accounting information provided by enterprises should be clear and clear to facilitate the users of financial accounting reports to understand and use. It contains philosophical thoughts that the characteristics of the object and the knowledge structure and cultural attainment of the subject restrict the understanding of the subject. This shows that accounting information is a professional information product after all, and the users of accounting information are not entirely accounting professionals. In order to better reflect the usefulness of decision-making, accounting personnel should try to present information more clearly and easily to help accounting information users make better decisions.

Comparability refers to the same or similar transactions or events occurring in different periods of the same enterprise, which shall adopt consistent accounting policies and shall not be changed at will; For identical or similar transactions or events occurring in different enterprises, prescribed accounting policies shall be adopted to ensure that accounting information is of the same caliber and comparable to each other. Its philosophical thought is that people should proceed from reality and achieve concrete and historical unity.

Substance over form means that an enterprise shall confirm, measure, record and report accounts according to the economic substance of the transaction or event, which shall not only be based on the legal form of the transaction or event. The philosophical thought it contains is the main aspect of the contradiction that determines its nature. Content and form live in a unified contradiction, in which "content" is the main aspect of the contradiction and determines the essence of things, that is, "content over form". This shows that we are in the accounting process, do not be confused by the form, should be based on the content of economic matters to explore the essence of economic matters, according to the essence of economic matters for accounting treatment.[5]

Importance means that the accounting information provided by an enterprise shall reflect all important transactions or events related to the financial situation, operating results and cash flow of the enterprise. The philosophy of importance is that the principal contradiction determines the state of things. This also requires that we must be good at finding and grasping the main contradictions from various contradictions with the main energy, put forward the main task, so as to master the central link of work. In the accounting process of appropriate simplification, if some business will not affect the decision of the accounting information users, in order to reduce the waste of time and energy and do not confirm, these businesses are relatively unimportant.

Prudence means that enterprises should maintain due care in accounting recognition, measurement, recording and reporting of transactions or events, and should not overestimate assets or earnings and underestimate liabilities or expenses. It contains philosophical ideas because movement is objective and eternal, and the results of movement also have two sides. In order to reduce the gap between expectations and reality, we should develop bottom-line thinking, that is, prepare for the worst. Thus, the ability to manage risks is improved. In addition, the caution here is objective, that is, it is expected according to the actual situation, and some secret preparations or other means under the banner of caution are unreasonable.

Timeliness refers to the accounting confirmation, measurement, recording and reporting of transactions or events that have occurred in a timely manner, and shall not be advanced or delayed. His philosophy is that time and space are the existence form of the material movement, time is the continuity and sequence of the material movement, and the material does not exist without the movement of time. Therefore, the movement of funds in different time also has different forms of performance, accounting changes should be reflected in time, neither leading nor lagging.

5. Conclusion

Explaining the quality requirements of accounting information from the perspective of Marxist philosophy not only deepens the interpretation of the existing views in the current accounting field, but also expands the thinking and enriches the connotation of the quality requirements of accounting information. This research method should be promoted in many fields of accounting, which can promote the development of accounting field. With the continuous development of today's economic society, there are more and more types of economic business and more and more complex forms, but its essence has not changed. The thinking method and research method also have something in common, so the study of philosophy has a very important impact on the development of accounting.

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