

**MINUTES**  
**South Carolina Environmental Certification Board**  
**Board Meeting**  
**10:00 a.m., January 28, 2020**  
**Kingstree Building, Room 105**  
**110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina**

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**Meeting Called to Order**

Vice-Chairman, J. Kenneth Rentiers, of Columbia, called the meeting of the South Carolina Environmental Certification Board to order at 10:00 a.m. Other members participating in the meeting included: Stacey Taylor, of Columbia; Charles Cortez, II, of Pelzer; Robert G. Davis, Jr., of Hilton Head; Doug Kinard, of Prosperity; James Rodgers, of Greenwood; Phillip Thompson-King, of Columbia; and Sidney K. Tuck, of Spartanburg.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Pam Dunkin, Administrator; Johnnie Rose, Program Coordinator; Hardwick Stuart, Office of Advice Counsel; Chris Elliot, Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

**Statement of Public Notice**

Mr. Rentiers announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S.C. Environmental Certification Board Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and on the board website and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

**Invocation**

Mr. Cortez gave the Invocation

**Pledge of Allegiance**

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Introduction of Board Members and Others**

Board members and Board staff introduced themselves.

**Approval of Excused Absences**

**MOTION:** To approve the absence of Elizabeth Williams.  
Kinard/Thompson-King /approved.

**Approval of the October 22, 2019, Minutes**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the October 22, 2019 meeting.  
Cortez/Davis/approved.

### **Chairman's Remarks – J. Kenneth Rentiers, Vice Chair**

Mr. Rentiers welcomed everyone to the Board meeting and thanked staff for their hard work in preparing for the Board meeting and daily activities in the office.

### **Staff Reports**

Mrs. Dunkin gave the Administrator's Report:

- As a reminder, when making a motion, please make sure the motion is clear, and that you speak loud enough to be heard by the court reporter and staff member taking the minutes.
- The Board's current account balance as of December 31, 2019 is \$686, 190.07
- The Board currently has 9,080 Active licensees
- Renewals for the 2020/2021 cycle will open March 2020 and will run through June 30, 2020.
- Hopefully, everyone has received our email pertaining to the State Ethics Commission. Please have them submitted no later than March 30<sup>th</sup> by 5:00. They have a strict fine of \$100.00 if the report is late.
- The Board's next meeting will be held on April 21, 2020, in room 105.

### Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of Advice Counsel

No advisory opinions were given during this meeting.

### OIE Report-Office of Investigations and Enforcements

Mr. Rose reported on behalf of this department. There are no active investigations.

### IRC Report- Office of Investigations and Enforcements

Mr. Rose reported on behalf of this department. There are no active cases for review.

### ODC Report-Office of Disciplinary Counsel-Chris Elliot

Mr. Elliot reported one case in the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

### **Application Hearings**

- a) Mr. Michael Loynes appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. All persons testifying were sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

**Executive Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to enter into executive session to seek legal advice regarding the application hearing.

Thompson-King/Tuck/approved.

**Return to Public Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to return to public session.

Cortez/Thompson-King/approved.

**Vice-Chairman Rentiers noted that no votes or actions were taken while in executive session.**

**MOTION:** To approve Mr. Loynes as a Water Distribution Operator Trainee.

Cortez/Thompson-King/approved.

- b) Mr. Alex Smith appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. All persons testifying were sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

**Executive Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to enter into executive session to seek legal advice regarding application hearing.

Thompson-King/Tuck/approved.

**Return to Public Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to return to public session.

Kinard/Taylor/approved.

**Vice-Chairman Rentiers noted that no votes or actions were taken while in executive session.**

**MOTION:** To approve Mr. Smith as a Water Distribution Operator Trainee.

Cortez/Thompson-King/approved.

**New Business**

- a) Reciprocity Guidelines

**MOTION:** To form a committee to review and establish reciprocity guidelines.

Thompson-King/Taylor/approved.

**Discussion Topics**

Mrs. Dunkin, Administrator and Chuck Cortez, Board Member informed the Board of their recent travel to Mobile, AL for the ABC Annual Conference. Both mentioned it was a very educational meeting about the process of ABC and the administration of the standardized exams. They encouraged other Board members to attend at the next meeting in January 2021.

**Public Comments**

Mr. Francis Green informed the Board that his license was in a lapsed status and wanted to Board to take into consideration his age and the many years that he has been in the industry. Mr. Green was informed that in order for the Board to give insight on his situation, he will need to request to appear before the Board in writing before the April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION:** To adjourn. Thompson-King/Tuck/approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.