

**MINUTES**  
**South Carolina Board of Environmental Certification**  
**Board Meeting**  
**10:00 a.m., April 24, 2018**  
**Synergy Business Park**  
**Kingstree Building, Room 202-02**  
**110 Centerview Drive**  
**Columbia, South Carolina**

**Meeting Called to Order**

Chairman, Elizabeth Williams, of Sumter, called the regular scheduled meeting of the South Carolina Environmental Certification Board to order at 10:00 a.m. Other members participating in the meeting Included: Charles Cortez, of Pelzer, Robert G. Davis, Jr., of Hilton Head; Doug Kinard, of Prosperity; Ken Rentiers, of Columbia; Jimmy Rodgers, of Greenwood; Stacy Taylor, of Columbia; Phillip Thompson-King, of Columbia; and Sidney K. Tuck, of Spartanburg

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Molly Price, Administrator; Meredith Buttler, Program Coordinator; and Hardwick Stuart, Office of Advice Counsel.

Mrs. Williams announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S.C. Board of Environmental Certification Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 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. Tuck gave the Invocation

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Introduction of Board Members and Others**

Board members and Board staff introduced themselves.

**Approval of Excused Absences**

There were no absences

**Approval of the January 23, 2018 Minutes**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the January 23, 2018, meeting.  
Cortez/Thompson-King/approved.

**Chairman's Remarks-Elizabeth Williams**

Ms. Williams stated that after receiving information from Board staff regarding operators length of service, she noted that there are operators who have been licensed for 49 years. She would like for the

Board to discuss a way to recognize these operators at key milestones. Ms. Williams asked that the discussion be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **Staff Reports**

Mrs. Price reminded the board members when making a motion, to make sure the motion is clear, and that they speak loud enough to be heard by the court reporter and staff member who is taking the minutes.

Mrs. Price reported the board's current account balance as of March 2018 is \$471,495.57. Currently the Board is in renewals and has 1,595 active licensees and 7,701 active in renewal licensees.

Mrs. Price informed the Board that online renewals were made active on April 5, 2018. An eblast and renewal notices were sent that week. After the notification were sent, Board staff learned that IT has updated the system and now all passwords expire 90 days after creation. Operators will have to reset their password every year.

In February of 2018, Ms. Price and board staff, Meredith Buttler, attended the SCRWA Decision Makers Summit in Myrtle Beach. Ms. Price spoke regarding the new examinations and where to find study materials. Ms. Price felt the information was well received and that operators are gaining a better understanding of the exams and where to find study materials. Mr. Cortez commended Ms. Price for her talk and stated that she did an excellent job and represented the Board very well.

In March 2018, Mr. Price and Ms. Buttler staffed a booth at the SC Environmental Conference in Myrtle Beach. The booth provided a great opportunity to have some face time with individual operators and address some issues that operators had.

Ms. Price shared that WEFTEC did not accept the abstract submitted by ABC and the Board for the 2018 Conference in New Orleans. Exam survey data will continue to be collected and it is possible that the abstract will be resubmitted for consideration at next year's conference.

WEASC has approached Ms. Price with the opportunity to be the key-note speaker at the upcoming 2018 Operator Conference. Ms. Price has accepted and is looking forward to representing the Board. The focus of Ms. Price's talk will be operator preparation for the new standardized exams.

LLR's Director is asking that the 2018-2019 travel budgets be submitted in May. Board staff will work to put this together. Ms. Price asked board members to please let staff know as soon as possible if there are any conferences or events they would like to attend on behalf of the board, so that it can be included in the proposed budget.

The Board Newsletter will be going out in May and Ms. Price has asked board members to submit any ideas to staff as soon as possible.

The next board meeting will be held on July 31, 2018, 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

On behalf of Todd Bond, Ms. Price reported that there was no report at this time.

IRC Report- Office of Investigations and Enforcements

On behalf of Todd Bond, Ms. Price reported that there was no report at this time because no meeting occurred prior to the Board meeting. All cases to be discussed have been pushed to the July meeting.

ODC Report-Office of Disciplinary Counsel-Erin Baldwin

Ms. Baldwin reported that the disciplinary case that was to be presented at this meeting has been continued as the representing attorney was called into court.

**Application Hearing**

Due to multiple hearings, the Board elected to hear all application hearings and then go into executive session afterwards.

**Mr. Richard Coleman appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. His supervisor Mr. Kevin Kirkpatrick, SCDC, served as a witness. 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.**

**Mr. Curtis L. Green appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. His supervisor Mr. Isaac Lake, McCall Farms, served as a witness. 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.**

**Mr. Johnny Howard appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. Mr. Howard was sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.**

**Mr. Kenneth Dennis appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. His supervisor Mr. Andrew Wilson, ARM Environmental Services, served as a witness. 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. Board member Stacy Taylor recused himself from the application hearing.**

**Mr. Cody Allen Oliver appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. His supervisor Mr. Mike Swearingen, AAA Well Drilling, served as a witness. 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.**

**Mr. Jeffrey Rivers Tucker appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was represented by counsel, Robyn Madden of Turner, Padgett, Graham, & Laney P.A. No other witnesses were present. 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 hearings.  
Thompson-King/ Tuck/approved.

**Return to Public Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to return to public session.  
Rentiers/Thompson-King /approved.

Board Chairman, Elizabeth Williams, noted for the record that no votes or actions were taken while in executive session.

**MOTION:** To approve Mr. Coleman to become a Biological Wastewater Trainee.  
Thompson-King/Davis/approved

**MOTION:** To approve Mr. Green to be reinstated at a 'C' level Biological Wastewater Operator upon passing of the examination.  
Thompson-King/Cortez/approved

**MOTION:** To approve Mr. Howard to become a Biological Wastewater Trainee.  
Thompson-King/Davis/approved

**MOTION:** To approve Mr. Dennis to take the level 'D' Well driller exam.  
Rodgers/Kinard/approved

**MOTION:** To approve Mr. Oliver to take the level 'D' Well driller exam.  
Rodgers/Davis  
Thompson-King opposed  
approved

**MOTION:** To deny Mr. Tucker's application based on testimony bringing into question compliance with the current Cease and Desist order and the status of the Cease and Desist order. Mr. Tucker may come back before the Board once the issues have been resolved  
Rodgers/Cortez/approved

## Unfinished Business

### a) Water Distribution Examination Test Group Results and Feedback

Ms. Williams reminded the Board that at the last meeting it was voted and approved to select five 'A' level Water Distribution Wastewater Operators to take the new level 'C' Distribution Exam at the Board's expense. Feedback statements were provided by four of the five operators, all four passed and the fifth one has decline to participate due to job change. The feedback was overall positive with the exam content being appropriate for a level 'C' operator to know. The SC AWWA Water Distribution Committee has requested the ability to take the exams. The members must be an 'A' operator to be made eligible and the Board will not be financially responsible for these individuals. They will be providing feedback to the Board.

Ms. Buttler notified that two of the five Water Treatment Operators have taken the 'A' exams. Due to the delay in securing all five operators, the full report will be given at the next board meeting.

## New Business

### a) Appoint Review Committee for 'E' Water Treatment Examination

Ms. Price stated that since the Water Treatment exams have been standardized and all regulatory content removed, it would be prudent to review the level 'E' exam to determine if a redesign is needed.

**MOTION:** To approve the formation of a committee to review the level 'E' Water Treatment exam, with members consisting of Board member Sidney Tuck, Board staff and representatives from Rural Water Association, SC AWWA and WEASC.  
Tuck/Cortez/approved.

## Election of Officers

**MOTION:** To retain the same slate of officers: Ms. Elizabeth Williams as Chair and Mr. Ken Rentiers as Vice-Chair.  
Thompson-King/Cortez/approved.

## Discussion Topics

There were no discussion topics at this meeting

## Committee Reports

There were no committee reports at this meeting.

## Public Comments

Mr. John Young commended the Board for being present at SCEC Conference via Ms. Price and Ms. Buttler.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting.  
Thompson-King/Taylor/approved.

The April 24, 2018 meeting of the S.C. Board of Environmental Certification adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

The next meeting of the S.C. Environmental Certification Board is scheduled for July 31, 2018, in room 105.