

**Minutes**  
**South Carolina Board of Environmental Certification**  
**Board Meeting**  
**10:00 a.m., May 13, 2014**  
**Synergy Business Park**  
**Kingstree Building**  
**110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 108**  
**Columbia, South Carolina**

The invocation was given by Mr. Rutland, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Meeting Called to Order**

William Armes, Chairman, of Simpsonville, called the regular scheduled meeting of the S. C. Environmental Certification Board to order at 10:01 a.m. Other members participating in the meeting included: David Baize, of Irmo; Mitch Dew, of Latta; Dwight Johnson, of Jefferson; Jimmy Rodgers, of Greenwood, Ken Rentiers, of Columbia; Hank Rutland, of Orangeburg; and Elizabeth Williams, of Sumter.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Theresa Garner, Program Assistant; Georgia 'Gigi' Lewis, Advice Counsel; and Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant, OBS.

Mr. Armes 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.

**Section 40-23-40**

William Armes announced the purpose of this board is to protect the general public through the regulation of persons engaged in occupations appointed by the legislature for regulation by the board. These occupations are referred to in Chapter 23 collectively as Environmental Systems Operators.

**Approval of Excused Absences**

All members were present.

**Approval of the January 14, 2014 Minutes**

**MOTION**

Dwight Johnson made a motion the January 14, 2014 meeting minutes be approved. Hank Rutland seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Chairman's Remarks – William Armes**

William Armes welcomed Ken Rentiers to the Board. Mr. Rentiers gave a brief professional background.

William Armes stated bill H-4574 was signed by the Governor. He thanked the SC Water Quality Association for their cooperation in working on the bill.

## **Administrator's Remarks – Theresa Garner on Behalf of Molly Price**

Theresa Garner gave the following report:

Molly Price, administrator, will be returning to the office on Monday, May 19, 2014.

The board's current cash balance was \$273,995.78.

There are 9,112 licensees.

As of May 12, 2014 3,092 licensees have paid the renewal fee and renewed his/her license. Of the 3,092 individuals who have renewed 2,526 licensees renewed online. There are 6,100 licensees who have not yet paid the renewal fee to renew licensure.

Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office General  
No advisory opinions were given during this meeting.

Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Office  
Gigi Lewis stated the legislature ratified bill H-4574 on April 14, 2014. The ratification was followed by the Governor's signing by which the bill became law. The forms and necessary information regarding the statute is ready to be posted to the board's website.

The board's regulations (4410) are set to expire on May 22, 2014. Gigi Lewis does not expect any opposition to the regulations. The biggest change in the regulations is that the trainees will not have to apply for an extension.

OGC Report-Office of Disciplinary Counsel – Erin Baldwin  
Erin Baldwin stated the Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) currently has no cases pending and no active cases.

OIE Report-Office of Investigations and Enforcement – Todd Bond  
Todd Bond stated the Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE) currently have no complaints, no pending cases and no active cases.

## **Application Hearing**

Brannon C. Russo-Biological Wastewater

This matter was transcribed by a certified court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript if necessary.

Mr. Russo's supervisor, Allen Wood, appeared and testified on Mr. Russo's behalf.

## **Executive Session**

### **MOTION**

Jimmy Rodgers made a motion the board enter into executive session to seek legal advice. Dwight Johnson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **Return to Public Session**

### **MOTION**

Dwight Johnson made a motion the Board return to public session. Hank Rutland seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **MOTION**

Mitch Dew made a motion the board approve Mr. Russo's biological wastewater application. Dwight Johnson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **Discussion Topics**

William Armes stated he attended a meeting of the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) in January. He noted a key topic during the meeting has been licensure between states without reciprocity. South Carolina does not have a reciprocity agreement with any state; licensure is granted on an individual basis. In some cases, licensees requesting licensure through reciprocity must take our exam as some exams from other states are not comparable to that of South Carolina exams. Applicants applying for reciprocity certification have not been denied licensure in South Carolina.

Elizabeth Williams asked Gigi Lewis if she thought it would be a good idea for board members to review, and possibly revise the questions on the national exam. Theresa Garner stated she would contact the exam provider in regards to allowing the board members to review and revise the exam questions as necessary.

David Baize questioned Gigi Lewis regarding the fee for a licensee roster. Gigi Lewis stated the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) had requested a licensee roster; after which a discussion ensued regarding payment of fees between state agencies.

### **Committee Reports**

No committee reports were given during this report.

### **Public Comments**

No public comments were given during this meeting.

### **Adjournment**

#### **MOTION**

There being no further business to be discussed at this time Dwight Johnson made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Mitch Dew seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The May 13, 2014 meeting of the SC Board of Environmental Certification adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

The next meeting of the SC Board of Environmental Certification is scheduled for July 8, 2014, in room 108.