



Robert Bolchoz, Chairman  
Seema Shrivastava-Patel, Vice-Chair  
Charles M. Joye, II, P.E., Secretary  
Jim P. Creel, Jr.

**Board:**  
J.B. (Sonny) Kinney  
Richard V. Lee, Jr.  
Morris E. Brown, III, MD, FAAFP  
Robert R. Morgan, Jr., MD, MBA

## **Minutes of the April 7, 2022, meeting of the South Carolina Board of Health and Environmental Control**

The South Carolina Board of Health and Environmental Control met on Thursday, April 7, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. in the Boardroom (#3420) at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina. (Attachment 0-1)

The following members were in attendance:

Robert Bolchoz, Chairman  
J.B. (Sonny) Kinney, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Robert Morgan, MD, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Richard V. Lee, Jr., 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Jim P. Creel, Jr., 7<sup>th</sup> District

In attendance virtually:  
Charles M. Joye, II, P.E., 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Morris E. Brown, III, MD, 6<sup>th</sup> District

Not in attendance:  
Seema Shrivastava-Patel, Vice-Chairwoman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

Also, in attendance were Dr. Edward Simmer, Director; W. Marshall Taylor, General Counsel; M. Denise Crawford, Clerk; Department staff; and members of the public. The meeting was also available via Livestream. (Attachment 0-2)

Chairman Bolchoz called the meeting to order and stated notice of this meeting had been provided to all persons, organizations, and news media, which have requested notification, as required by Section 30-4-80(e) of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

### **Item 1: Minutes of March 10, 2022 meeting** (Attachment 1-1)

**Mr. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Kinney, to approve the minutes as presented. The Board voted and Motion carried.**

## **Item 2: Agency Affairs**

Dr. Edward Simmer, Director, updated the Board on;

- 2022 Director Awards and presented a video of winners:
  - Dr. Linda Bell
  - Camp Burnt Gin CBG n' Me
  - Kandi Fredere
  - Harmful Algal Blooms Team
  - SHaPE SC Internal Workgroup
- Dr. Linda Bell and Dr. Jane Kelly receiving the 2022 Able SC Award, and presenting them with DHEC Appreciation Coins
- 2022 National Public Health Week with a slide presentation on the Department's focus on eliminating health disparities;

Mr. Kinney asked if the cause of the issues surrounding the rollout of the COVID 19 vaccine to rural areas was accessibility, receptiveness, knowledge about the vaccine, or a combination. Dr. Simmer explained that it was a combination, but in his opinion, it was receptiveness more than anything and partnering with community groups helped. Dr. Simmer stressed the importance of working with community partners to improve the health of South Carolinians. Mr. Kinney added that environmental factors was a major part of that as well, and Dr. Simmer agreed it was a team effort.

Dr. Brown thanked Dr. Simmer and the team for bringing the issue of eliminating health disparities to the forefront. He stated that this is an important first step in improving the health of all South Carolinians that is long overdue.

- COVID 19
- Chicken Pox outbreaks
- Trust for America's Health annual report, Ready or Not Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism
- Don't Waste Food SC
- New Indy Paperboard Plant
- Petition received by the Department regarding regulation on drinking water
- Senate Bill S.2
- CON Bill
- Compassionate Care / Medical Marijuana Bill
- 2022-2023 Budget request

Mr. Lee stressed the work, time, and money that has been done by the Agency on New Indy, but that US EPA is the lead agency, and that the Department has to wait until US EPA does their part before DHEC can take action. It is not lack of activity, but action in accordance with what the law requires. Dr. Simmer added that DHEC is working closely with EPA. Mr. Kinney asked if EPA has indicated any timeframe. Dr. Simmer replied that they have not.

Dr. Morgan asked Dr. Simmer to speak about Senate Bill S.2 in terms of preparation and impact on staff. Dr. Simmer replied that he has met with the other Agency heads on how to manage the impact on our staff and the people of South Carolina. Whatever comes from the legislature will be implemented in a way that no one falls through the cracks, that every person in South Carolina that relies on any of these agency services continues to receive these services in a timely and professional manner, and that no staff loses their job or salary.

**Mr. Kinney made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session pursuant to SC Code Section 30-4-70(A)(1) and (A)(2) to obtain legal advice related to Senate Bill S.2. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Bolchoz stated the Board was back in public session and while in Executive Session no actions were taken.

**Item 3: Administrative Orders and Consent Orders issued by Healthcare Quality** (Attachment 3-1)

Mr. Russell Morrison, Director of Information and Regulatory Affairs Division, Healthcare Quality, stated that for this reporting period, one (1) Emergency Suspension Order and two (2) Consent Orders with assessed civil penalties totaling \$37,000.00 and no Administrative Orders were issued.

Mr. Kinney asked about the size of the ten-bed facility. Mr. Morrison replied that it was a small, residential type facility, but that they are still required to meet the same safety codes. Mr. Kinney went on to ask about the size of the facility in Inman (Oakridge Community Care Home #1). Mr. Morrison replied that it had thirty-seven (37) residents at the time, and all have been relocated to appropriate places. Mr. Lee pointed out the quick response by staff to this situation. Dr. Simmer added that the SC DSS and other partner agencies provide great support in these situations in locating placements for these residents and

After discussion, ***the Board accepted this item as information.***

**Item 4: Administrative Orders and Consent Orders issued by Environmental Affairs** (Attachment 4-1)

Ms. Rebecca Sproles, Liaison, Environmental Affairs, stated that for this reporting period, forty-one (41) Consent Orders with assessed civil penalties totaling \$141,873.00 and ten (10) Administrative Orders with assessed civil penalties totaling \$1,000.00 were issued.

After discussion, ***the Board accepted this item as information.***

Chairman Bolchoz stated that at the last meeting, he had asked for additional information on fees that were outstanding, and he wanted to update the Board on that issue. He met with staff and understands that the number of fines that are uncollected are nominal and most of those are in settings that from a legal standpoint are probably uncollectable. He congratulated staff on their efforts.

Mr. Lee asked for the status of his question from the last meeting on the multi-site owners and the relationship from one site to another, and if there was a cumulative effect on citations, repeat offenses, etc. Mr. Taylor replied that staff was currently reviewing the Uniform Enforcement Policy.

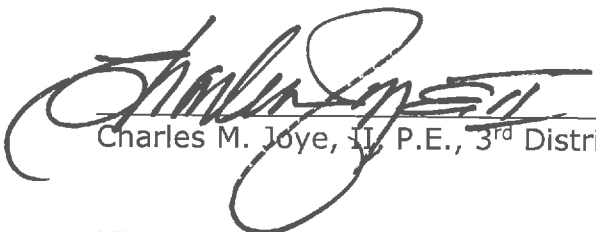
Mr. Lee spoke on the drug overdose data he had received, and that staff would be speaking on the radio station in York County about the topic in an effort to get the word out.

Mr. Lee updated the Board on a recent visit to the Hailey Gold mine in his district.

Being no further business, Chairman Bolchoz adjourned the meeting at 12:44 pm.

All referenced attachments are made a permanent part of these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Charles M. Joye, II, P.E., 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Secretary

Minutes approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.

ATTEST:

  
Robert Bolchoz, Chairman

## Attachments

- 0-1 Agenda
- 1-1 Minutes of March 10, 2022 meeting
- 3-1 Administrative Orders and Consent Orders issued by Healthcare Quality
- 4-1 Administrative Orders and Consent Orders issued by Environmental Affairs