A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Thursday, February 23, 2017, at 10:30 a.m., in Room 1E09 of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality Headquarters, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

The meeting was called to order by Phillip Davis, Chairman. Members present included Phillip Davis, Angela Sparks, Bill Burrough, Rickey Cole, William Wright, Ken Nutt, Warren Atkins, Susan Speake and Jane Schwartz. Gussie Robinson, Rosemary Rogers, Randy Harper, and Neal Washburn were absent.

Angel Sparks made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2016 meeting. William Wright seconded the motion. The minutes from the prior meeting were approved.

Susan Speake reported that Jane Schwartz had issued 825 Solid Waste Licenses and 29 Illegal Dump Control Officer Certifications.

She followed up with some highlights of Tire Bill 1267 (now Act 317 of 2017), which creates the “Used Tire Recycling and Accountability Program”:

- Implements a “rim removal fee” on the sale of all new tires and used tires, which ensures all commercial tire sales and internet sales are included; and
- Implements an electronic manifest system and business plan requirements;

Phillip said he was not sure if everyone knew that the big truck companies do their own mounting. Angela commented that the Bill only refers to retail and used tires dealers, and not individuals and individual businesses. She said that they can set a fee for the disposal of the used tires at the Waste Tire Collection Centers and Processing facilities. There was a discussion of the fees. Angela stated the fee will be $3.00 on the sale of all new tires and $1.00 on used tires. Fees are collected when the tire is mounted.

Angela expressed concern that many individuals and businesses do not have computers and may not understand or participate in the electronic manifest system. There was additional discussion of how existing tire sites will be accounted for in the manifest reporting.
Susan reported the suspension of disposal fees collected in accordance with A.C.A. § 8-6-612 (E-Waste) will be addressed in the current legislative session.

One committee member made an inquiry as to the necessity of collecting social security numbers on solid waste operator licensing applications. Susan reported A.C.A. § 17-1-104 requires all agencies, boards, or other licensing entities issuing any occupational, professional, or business license pursuant to titles 2-6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 17, 20, 22, 23, and 27 of the Arkansas Code Annotated to record the name, address and social security number of each person applying for such a license. In addition A.C.A. § 9-14-239 requires the suspension of occupational, professional, or business licenses for failure to pay child support. Finally, the Department’s Legal Division concurred the Department is required to collect social security numbers in accordance with the statutes previously mentioned.

Susan also asked the Committee’s position on the following issues that have been brought to her for consideration:

1. **Teleconferencing the Licensing Committee Meetings.**
   Mr. Wright preferred meetings that were not teleconferenced. Mr. Burroughs said it would be an option, but wondered how it would affect a Quorum. Ms. Sparks said teleconferencing would be a good option if the weather presented a problem for those attending.

2. **Bi-lingual Testing for Operators**
   Mr. Nutt and Mr. Harper indicated that bi-lingual tests had been discussed at the Arkansas Environmental Academy, but do not currently have bilingual tests

3. **Allowing Operator’s to have their tests after the tests have been graded.**
   Committee members were against this idea. They were concerned the tests would be shared with others and the integrity of the tests would be compromised. Susan indicated they would ask any operator if they wanted their test graded at the site and would allow them to look at the questions they missed. She indicated the Department would continue to evaluate this issue to determine how this can be improved upon.

4. **Once the meetings are recorded, send the recordings to the Committee Members.**
   Committee members preferred written minutes at this time.

Angela indicated SWANA would be holding a conference in April.
Ken Nutt gave his training report from the Academy. Last quarter there were 124 contacts, 146 enrolled, 13 locations. July to November – 58 contacts, 56 enrolled, 5 locations, and 4 additional classes scheduled. He concluded by saying the March and April were busy months with classes and updates.

The next meeting date was set for May 25th, Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at ADEQ.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Warren Atkins, and seconded by Angela Sparks. The meeting was adjourned

Phillip Davis, Chairman