

SOLID WASTE LICENSING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 4, 2009

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Wednesday, March 4, 2009, 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 Dave Rose, Chair, who called the roll. Members present included Jim Abbey, Sid Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Hoover, Mark Witherspoon, Jim Willits, Gary Oden, Roger Davis, and Dave Rose. Micci Fendley did not attend. Others in attendance included Randy Harper, Ricky Cole, Jane Schwartz, and Vivian Tucker.

The minutes were read and approved.

Randy Harper reported that Act 156 would change the name of the SAU Tech Environmental Control Center to the Arkansas Environmental Training Academy. He also said House Bill 1785 general improvement funds was before the House and that this bill would fund a 40' x 80' building with 40' lab on campus for the Training Academy's use. He asked the members attending to contact their Representatives in support of the bill. The lab would make it possible to do "hands on" activities.

Ricky Cole gave the Academy report: there were a total of 218 students in January and February; 177 of that number were for update classes, 22 were for apprentice, and 19 were for journeyman.

As part of a class on safety, a tire video was used. There may be copyright issues in loaning this video to the adjunct trainers, so it was suggested that the Licensing Committee purchase additional videos at \$600 each. Elizabeth Hoover asked either Ricky or Randy to provide the purchasing information. She stated that it may be possible for Solid Waste to help with the purchase.

A class on OSHA requirements is now included in the update agenda; Jim Willits said he believed this class would satisfy the requirements for OSHA compliance.

Mark Witherspoon will speak at the next SWANA meeting in April to cover changes in the classes.

Randy Harper suggested that teaching modules be created, so the adjuncts can use them as needed for classes; this will allow the classes to be tailored to the student's needs. The modules should be one or two hours long.

Dave Rose said that a module could be built around the construction of a new cell at the landfill; Jim Willits suggested taking pictures to use with the engineering study to show how standards are met. Gary Oden suggested the Committee meet to see the changes after they are finished at the landfill.

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Jim Willits said that he will build a teaching module on composting, and other members agreed to also contribute.

Jim Abbey gave a report on the Solid Waste District Association meeting. He discussed reducing the number of hours required and getting credit for attending those meetings. The next meeting will be in April or May. He said he had been out of contact with the directors because of the ice storm and the damage it caused. He will contact the Directors and update them on the Licensing Committee's discussion and the changes made.

Elizabeth Hoover told the members that her research showed that the number of hours in a class cannot be reduced without changes in the regulation. The Commission will have to approve any suggested changes to the regulation. She said that the Licensing Committee can vote to recommend changes. Gary Oden said that there would need to be a valid reason to change the hours; Randy Harper suggested asking the Solid Waste Districts to put their reasons for wanting to change the hours in writing. Jim Abbey said that he didn't think the Directors would do that, but that they needed to know the classes had been improved. He said that they needed to know that before they pushed for changes.

Jane Schwartz suggested taking some teaching materials to the Solid Waste District Association meeting to show the improvements that have been made recently.

Mark Witherspoon said that a teaching module was needed on Emergency Response, and pictures from a large burn pile in Craighead County could be used.

Dave Rose set the next meeting date for Wednesday June 10, 2009, at 10:30 a.m.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


David Rose, Chair