

SOLID WASTE LICENSING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 11, 2010

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2010, 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 Jim Abbey, Chair, who called the roll. Members present included Jim Abbey, Elizabeth Hoover, Mark Witherspoon, Dave Rose, Gary Oden, and Jim Willits. Others in attendance included Aaron Sadler, Randy Harper, Ricky Cole, Jane Schwartz, and Vivian Tucker. Sid Fitzgerald, Roger Davis, and Jack Jones were absent.

The minutes were read and approved.

Elizabeth Hoover explained to the Committee that a vote to approve or disapprove the current stipends and reimbursements was needed in order for the eligible members to continue to be paid. Jim Abby asked what determined the stipend amount and if it could be brought up to the same amount as the Commission members received. Elizabeth explained that the amount had been set by the legislature and would require the statute to be changed for the amount to be increased.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed by the Committee that members of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee shall be eligible to receive a \$60.00 per meeting stipend and reimbursements for expenses and travel mileage in the same amounts as allowable for state employees.

Elizabeth Hoover and Jane Schwartz discussed the new form letter being sent out to notify students of their grade after they took a test. Elizabeth explained that if the student had failed to turn in all the necessary paperwork or hadn't paid for their test, that information would be included in the letter. Gary Oden asked what the fee would be for a retest if a student failed the first time. Elizabeth answered that there was no retest fee; she said that the original fee would cover the test and their license once the student had met all the requirements. She also said that no license would be issued to anyone who hadn't completed the paperwork or hadn't paid their fees until they had taken care of all requirements.

Elizabeth opened the discussion on finding a replacement member for Micci Fendley's seat, which she had vacated because her term had expired. There was a general discussion of what requirements a candidate had to meet, and Elizabeth passed out a copy of the appropriate law. She also gave out a list of the eligible facilities with the ones that had a consistently good inspection score marked. Jim Willits suggested that there be three names chosen, and that the committee vote on the order in which they would be contacted. A letter inquiring if they were interested in joining the Committee would be sent by Elizabeth to the first choice, and then, if that person declined, a letter would be sent to the second choice, followed by the third choice if the second also declined. If none of the three were interested in joining the committee, at the next meeting the

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Committee would choose more candidates.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed for the nominees to be: first choice – Billy Buck of Mississippi County; second choice – Brian Malone of Jackson County; and third choice – Robert Hudspeth of Johnson County. Elizabeth agreed to report the results at the next meeting.

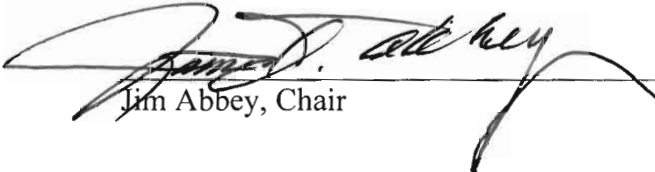
Jim Abbey, Gary Oden, and Randy Harper gave a report on the letter to Governor Beebe asking for stimulus funds to finish the new lab/classroom complex at SAU Tech. Jim Abbey circulated a copy of the letter he sent out, and the Committee approved the letter. Gary Oden explained that the Governor had announced funding cut backs and that it was unlikely that SAU Tech would receive any stimulus funding. Jim Abbey asked if there might be federal funding or grants available to complete the building, but Randy Harper said that the Academy had looked for other sources, and there weren't many grants that would pay for a building. He said that usually funds were given for things like supplies or textbooks.

Jim Willits told the Committee that he found out that inspectors now had to pay their own licensing fees--that ADEQ would no longer pay those fees. He asked if there was some way that the districts or facilities would be able to pay the licensing fees for inspectors in appreciation for the job they do. Jim Abbey objected, saying that he felt that the inspectors should pay their own fees. Mark Witherspoon said that if the inspectors would give a presentation at the licensing classes, he would agree to Jim Willits' suggestion. Elizabeth explained that the inspectors probably couldn't accept such a gift. She also said that the payment of the fees was an 'in-house' issue to save money during tough economic times, and that the Committee didn't need to become involved. Jim Willits said that if it was against the law, he withdrew his suggestion, and would try to find another way to show his appreciation for the inspectors doing a good job.

Ricky Cole passed out a copy of a sample outline for the teaching modules for Committee approval, saying that if it was approved then that was the format that would be used for all the modules. Elizabeth asked if there were any completed modules, since it was her understanding that she would be receiving them for review and approval before licensing classes started again. Ricky said that there were some modules in use, but they used materials that had been approved in the past and that the materials came originally from Larry Hazal. Ricky then said he would submit the outline format to Elizabeth for ADEQ's approval.

Jim Abbey set the next meeting date for May 6, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Jim Abbey, Chair