

SOLID WASTE LICENSING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

February 23, 2021

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 10:30 a.m., via Zoom conference call.

The meeting was called to order by Angela Sparks, Chairperson. Members present included, Wendy Bland, Randy Atkinson, Jennifer Merritt, Jodi Reynold-Coffelt, Billy Sawyer, Joe Hopper and Shane Ellis. Paige Davis, and Randy Harper were absent.

Randy Atkinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Billy Sawyer seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Wendy Bland came forward to volunteer to be the Committee chairperson. Randy Atkinson made a motion for Wendy Bland to fill the position and Jodi Renoylds-Coffelt seconded the motion. The motion carried. Angela Sparks expressed interest in continuing participation in future public meetings and graciously offered to assist with transiting of duties to the new Chairperson. The Committee very much appreciates her valuable input and dedication over her years of service.

Angela Sparks presented the 3 candidates who submitted applications for the upcoming opening on the Committee. Their experience and locations were discussed by Committee members and Randy Atkinson made a motion to select Jeff Barfield. Jodi Reynolds-Coffelt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Jennifer Merritt gave the DEQ report: There are 715 active operators. Currently there are 133 inactive operators. 11 of the inactive operators have paid for renewal but not yet acquired the necessary CEU's to be eligible for renewal. 44 operators have responded that they do not plan to renew and that leaves, 78 unknown renewal status operators. Senate Bill 262 is currently in the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee for discussion. The Committee discussed the ease of availability of online update classes offered by AETA and the new update course curriculum. Much praise was given to the AETA, Alan Spangler in particular for taking over the solid waste instructor position and working hard to update the curriculum and training materials. The new solid waste apprentice curriculum and tests have been introduced beginning in January 2021. The average test score has dropped a few points because the test is primarily multiple choice and was almost all true and false before. It is hoped that this test will be a more accurate gauge of learning and the new curriculum and testing will provide better educated and prepared operators.

No representative from the Academy was in attendance so there was no Academy Report this meeting.

The committee discussed the next meeting date and it was decided on May 27, at 10:30 a.m. at DEQ or via Zoom.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Randy Atkinson and Wendy Bland seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Angela Sparks, Chairperson