

SOLID WASTE LICENSING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES May 16, 2024

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. in the Arkansas River Valley conference room of the Arkansas Department of Environment and Energy Headquarters at 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

The meeting was called to order by Randy Harper, Chairman. Members present in person: Jennifer Parslow, Randy Harper, Angela Sparks, and Jeff Barfield attended via phone. Members absent but represented by proxy Joe Hopper (James Loyd acting as proxy) and Jodi Reynolds-Coffelt (Jennifer Parslow acting as proxy). Members absent and not represented Wendy Bland, and Shane Ellis. Guests to the meeting were Melody Walker representing DEQ and Alan Spangler, representing the Arkansas Environmental Training Academy.

Jennifer Parslow acting as Jodi Reynolds-Coffelt made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. James Loyd acting as Joe Hopper seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

New member nominations were discussed. Jennifer Parslow advised the Committee that Christal Baker would be filling the position of transfer station operator or supervisor, outlined in Code 8-6-904 (a) (2), (G), vacated by Tony Lee's resignation. Joe Pence and John Dyson would be filling the members at large positions, outlined in Code 8-6-904 (a) (2) (A), vacated by Wendy Bland and Jodi Reynolds-Coffelt upon their two term expiration. Jeff Barfield made a motion to allow Tony Lee's term to expire (expiring on May 23, 2024) and submit Christal Baker to the Commission as a new candidate instead of a replacement for his vacancy. Angela Sparks seconded the motion. The motion carried. The three nominees were voted on and approved.

Jennifer Parslow gave the DEQ report: There are 875 active operators expiring on December 31st, 2024. 13 phone exams have been given to date. 29 provisional licenses are active. The new SOP for re-testing after a failure was discussed. The current fail rate is 5%.

Alan Spangler gave the Academy report: Alan compared YTD 2024 to YTD 2023 data. 186 students to date in 2024 verses 182 at the same time in 2023. 40 Apprentices vs 47 in 2023. 14 Journeyman vs 8 in 2023, 1 Master vs 0 in 2023. 124 update classes vs 121 in 2023.

The Committee asked DEQ to review the training from July 1, 2022-Dec 2024. They asked DEQ to reach out to people with no training in an attempt to clean up the no longer employed operators from the data base and to remind people wanting to renew at the end of the year that they will need 12 hour by the end of 2024.

The committee discussed the next meeting date of August 15th, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at DEQ. The 2024 remaining meeting date is November 21st.

With no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting.


Randy Harper, Chairperson