

ARKANSAS WASTEWATER LICENSING COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2011
ADEQ MEETING ROOMS 5C05/06

MEMBERS

Mark Johnson, Rogers Water Utilities, Chair
Jennifer Bouldin, Ph.D. Arkansas State University
Kelly Bryant, Evergreen Packaging, Inc.
Steven Upton, Heber Springs Wastewater Department
Jimmy Smith, Searcy Water & Sewer
David Gross, Future Fuels Chemical, Batesville
Dennis Brunson, Hot Springs Wastewater
Mo Shafii, Interim Executive Secretary, ADEQ

MINUTES

The meeting of the Wastewater Licensing Committee was called to order at 10:02 a.m., on Wednesday, August 10, 2011, by Chairman Johnson. Members and attendees present were Johnson, Bouldin, Bryant, Upton, Smith, Gross, Brunson, Shafii; Suzanne Stair, retired ADEQ; Marilyn Stout, ADEQ Enforcement Supervisor; Sam Sawyer, ADEQ Enforcement Supervisor; Jane Hurley, ADEQ Chemist Supervisor; Dennis Sternberg and Susan Poe, AR Rural Water Association; Jonathan Richardson and Randy Harper, AR Environmental Training Academy; Martin Nutt, AR Dept. of Health; Kevin Suel, ADEQ Testing Administrator and Sandy Luttrell, ADEQ Licensing Coordinator.

Due to the fact that Shafii has another meeting to attend at 10:30am, Luttrell suggest that we begin the meeting with old business, where Shafii could lend his expertise. It was announced that the APC&E Commission has reappointed Kelly Bryant for her second term on the Committee, which will expire on July 31, 2014.

Suel spoke about ADEQ's plans to implement an electronic renewal system in the future, to make credit card payments online.

Finally, under old business, Suel announced that proper channels were not followed when suggesting changes to the Regulation 3 at earlier meetings. Shafii intervened to state that the water division chief must approve, then it goes to legal and finally to the director's office. He mentioned proposing minute orders for every policy, which would be available on the ADEQ website. Bryant said the sub-committee had met a couple of times, with no proposals pending to make changes to the Reg. 3.

Under new business, the Committee had two industrial operators to review, who were nominated for the position being vacated by Gross. Bryant mentioned that the Arkansas Environmental Federation (AEF) supports Mr. Tommy Tooke with

Tyson Foods in Pine Bluff. Bryant made a motion to nominate Tooke for the industrial member seat, being vacated by Gross as of August 31, 2011. Upton seconded the motion and it passed without opposition. Johnson asked that Luttrell follow-up with a letter of this appointment to Mr. Tooke.

Johnson announced that Upton's first term on the Committee will come to an end on September 30th. When asked if he would consider a second term, Upton was interested in serving his second term consecutively. Smith made a motion to nominate Upton for a second term to the Committee, which Bouldin seconded. It was unanimous.

Public comments were next on the agenda. Richardson with AETA commented on what he felt was a successful two-day review for the Class IV test, held at ADEQ the previous week. Unlike past reviews, where topics discussed were crunched together in one full day, he felt the expanded version gave people a better understanding of material needed to study for the test. He also mentioned the need for ADEQ and ABC's math formula sheets to be reconciled to each other. He stated that AETA would begin charging fees for courses taught, due to federal funding cuts they would be experiencing because of the dismal economy. Last of all, he spoke of an easier way to submit training hours for operators by electronic streamlining. Shafii asked for a sample of what AETA was doing so he could forward it on to ADEQ's Computer Service personnel. This would make such a difference in the amount of time it takes to update operator hours.

Poe presented the Committee with a report of training done by the ARWA. She concurred with Richardson's comment about the need to reconcile ADEQ and ABC formula sheets.

The Committee reviewed material provided by Timothy Tinsley, for his request to sit for the Class IV test in September. Mr. Tinsley has held a Class III license since November 14, 2008. He would like to obtain his Class IV early, to allow for better job opportunities and avoid waiting an additional 6 months to test again. The Committee agreed this would be a violation of Regulation 3 requirements, we should establish and enforce procedures that need to be followed for all operators. Smith made a motion not to allow Tinsley to take the Class IV test in September. Shafii seconded the motion and it carried.

There were no additional comments from the public.

The May 11th committee meeting minutes were reviewed by the members. A motion was made by Bouldin to approve the minutes and was seconded by Bryant. The motion was accepted.

Luttrell presented the financial report, along with an expenditure breakdown. Committee members made it known that the wastewater licensing funds were growing considerably again, due to renewal fees being processed. They are

continuing to fear that these funds will be allocated by other state agencies in the near future. The Committee was encouraged to allocate these funds for special training courses that will be taught by each organization. This could eliminate the need for fee-based classes, due to the economy and the drastic government cut-backs.

Luttrell gave the licensing report.

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.