

**ARKANSAS WASTEWATER LICENSING COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2021
ONLINE ZOOM CONFERENCING MEETING**

Committee Members

Jennifer Enos, Chairman, Springdale Water Utilities
Lance McAvoy, Vice-Chairman, City of Fort Smith
Doug Ford, Pollution Management, Inc. – **(absent)**
Jeff Ford, Kimzey Regional Water
Wen Zhang, Ph.D., University of Arkansas
David Sartain, El Dorado Chemical Company
Richard Healey, Executive Secretary, ADEE

MINUTES

The meeting of the Arkansas Wastewater Licensing Committee (AWLC) was called to order by Chairman Jennifer Enos, at 10:03 A.M. on Wednesday, August 11, 2021.

Public Present: Dennis Sternberg and Susan Poe, AR Rural Water Association; Randy Harper, AR Environmental Training Academy; Sandy Luttrell, Leslie Allen-Daniel and Elizabeth Kizer, ADEE, Division of Environmental Quality.

Previous Minutes: Ms. Enos noted a few changes to the minutes report from our May meeting. **Mr. McAvoy made a motion to accept the minutes as revised, which was seconded by Mr. Jeff Ford. The motion carries.**

Financial Report: Ms. Luttrell presented the quarterly budget and expenditures report to the Committee.

Licensing Report: Ms. Luttrell gave a report of the number of wastewater exams proctored and license certifications issued during in the past quarter.

Training Updates: Mr. Harper presented a report from the AR Environmental Training Academy since the beginning of the year, with several training courses available through zoom participation. He also announced they are working to complete the training class schedule for 2022.

Mr. Sternberg presented a report for the AR Rural Water Association during the past three months. He announced that their conference is still a go at the end of August.

Public Comments: There were no topics brought up for discussion at this time.

Old Business: The discussion resumed over the approval of Water Otter training courses being accepted for Arkansas wastewater operators. This topic has been tabled for six months to gather more information on accessing their training program for our board members. Mr. McAvoy reminded the members that ADH approved Water Otter courses for water operators training. **Mr. McAvoy made a motion to approve Water Otter training courses for wastewater operators. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sartain and it carried.**

Ms. Enos announced that a last minute nomination was received for the vacant wastewater operator position available on the board. Mr. Johnny Lunsford, President of the AWEA, made a recommendation of Mr. Austin Ramsfield with Jacobs Engineering in Fayetteville. Ms. Zhang spoke very highly about his work experience in the time she has known him. **Mr. McAvoy made a motion to approve Mr. Ramsfield for this nomination, to be presented to the AR Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for their approval. Ms. Zhang seconded the motion and it carried.**

Mr. Healey gave a brief account of the wastewater operator license renewals still in progress, with the training hours being extended through the end of the year.

New Business: Ms. Luttrell presented the committee with documentation provided by Oregon Class IV wastewater operator, Matthew MacPhail, for consideration of reciprocity through the state of Arkansas. The questionnaire completed by the operator certification section of the Oregon DEQ, provided details showing that they granted Mr. MacPhail their Class IV license through reciprocity from the state of Colorado. It confirmed that he had tested in that state through ABC's (the Association of Boards of Certification) program. **Mr. McAvoy made a motion to grant Mr. MacPhail an Arkansas Class IV operator license, which was seconded by Mr. Jeff Ford. The motion carried.**

Ms. Enos asked Ms. Luttrell to present the next new business topic, another reciprocity applicant requesting consideration for an Arkansas Class IV operator license, Montgomery Sedlak. Mr. Sedlak's application showed he wished to reciprocity, not from a particular state, but through ABC's Professional Operator Wastewater Treatment Class IV program which he enrolled in and completed by passing ABC's examination. Mr. McAvoy added that the professional operators program is a very rigorous regimen through the Certification Commission for Environmental Professionals of ABC. **Mr. Jeff Ford made a motion to grant Mr. Sedlak an Arkansas Class IV operator license. Mr. McAvoy seconded the motion and it carries.**

Ms. Enos informed the board that Mr. Jeff Ford's first term will end on August 31st, which he gladly agreed to serve a second consecutive term. **Mr. McAvoy made a motion to recommend that Jeff Ford serve a second term on the Committee, which will be presented to the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for their approval for reappointment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sartain and it carried.**

Chairman Enos announced the next scheduled meeting of this Committee: **November 10, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.