

SOLID WASTE LICENSING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 4, 2014

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Thursday, December 4, 2014, 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 William Wright, Chairman, who called the roll. Members present included Neil Washburn, Randy Harper, Elizabeth Hoover, James Abbey, Gussie Robinson, Warren Atkins and Bill Burrough. Others present included Ken Nutt, Rickey Cole, Cassie Kent, Jane Schwartz, Ben Jones, and Patty Powell, who works for the Saline County RSWMD. Phillip Davis was absent.

The minutes from the prior meeting were reviewed and approved.

Elizabeth Hoover provided the Department update. She reported on the progress with grading the assessment exams. Elizabeth then explained the requirement for licensing applicants to submit all of their application documents and pay their fees prior to exam date. At the time of the meeting, she said that there had not been any operators turned away because they did not have all documents and fees submitted. She said that Kenny Nutt had really helped with that process by bringing up the topic on the first day of class. Elizabeth thanked Kenny for his assistance.

Next, the group discussed the requirement for how many people should be in a class in order for the Department to provide location testing. Elizabeth Hoover stated that in the past, there had been a 10 person requirement but that the Department had eased up on the number over the years. She said that she would like to hold up on further discussion until the Solid Waste Division Chief, Ben Jones, arrived at the meeting, so that he could speak on the issue.

Elizabeth continued her report. She said that in January six Committee member terns would be expiring, and of the six, five are eligible for reappointment. She asked the Committee to address the eligible reappointments of William Wright, Neil Washburn, Gussie Robinson, Phillip Davis and Bill Burrough. She stated that the Committee would need to decide on a nominee to put forward for the vacant position of an onsite manager or supervisor of a County-operated solid waste management facility. She provided a list of licensed operators from the licensing database to aid in making a selection. Motion was made by Randy Harper for Elizabeth Hoover to proceed with the paperwork to reappoint the five current members eligible for reappointment. Bill Burrough said that he would like to make sure that the state was covered geographically before deciding on a nominee for the vacant County position. He said that by covering the state geographically, the needs of the whole state would be covered. William Wright then made a motion to table the vote on reappointments and on selection of a nominee for the empty vacancy until the next meeting. Motion was seconded and approved.

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Ben Jones, Chief of the Solid Waste Division, joined the meeting, and the discussion on location testing was resumed. Randy Harper said only three classes were affected by the new rule on giving tests. Ben said that he wants to make it fair to everyone, so he decided with the contract classes to tell them that they can't guarantee that ADEQ will be there. If they can combine with someone and get 10 people, he said that ADEQ will be there. Randy Harper stated that for a contract class, the Academy makes them pay for 10 people anyway. Ben said that ADEQ will do the scheduled ones, and on the contract ones, he said that we want at least 10 people. He said that they will still need to send their paperwork and fees to ADEQ. After discussion back and forth, it was resolved between the Department and the Academy that the Department would provide location testing at all calendar classes regardless of number enrolled. For contract classes, the Academy would not guarantee location testing but explain to the contracting entity that it would be for the contracting entity to make arrangements with ADEQ. Attendees at both calendar and contract classes would still be required to submit application documents and fees to ADEQ prior to test date for testing eligibility.

Kenny Nutt provided a report from the Arkansas Environmental Training Academy. He stated that there have been 270 training hours, 129 students enrolled, and classes given at 15 locations.

The next meeting date was set for Thursday, February 26, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
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William Wright, Chairman