

**ARKANSAS WASTEWATER LICENSING COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, August 24, 2022  
ZOOM CONFERENCING MEETING**

Committee Members

Lance McAvoy, Chairman, City of Fort Smith  
Austin Ramsfield, Jacobs Engineering  
Doug Ford, Pollution Management, Inc.  
Wen Zhang, Ph.D., University of Arkansas  
Jeff Ford, Vice-Chairman, Kimzey Regional Water  
Heath Ward, Springdale Water Utilities  
Richard Healey, Executive Secretary, ADEE

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Arkansas Wastewater Licensing Committee (AWLC) was called to order by Chairman Lance McAvoy, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, August 24, 2022.

Public Present: Dennis Sternberg with Arkansas Rural Water Association; Kenneth Robertson with Arkansas Environmental Training Academy; Stacie Wassell, Leslie Allen-Daniel, and Sarah Pierce, ADEE, Division of Environmental Quality.

Previous Minutes: After a brief review, **Jeff Ford made a motion to accept the minutes as written, which was seconded by Mr. Doug Ford. The motion carried.**

Financial Report: Ms. Allen-Daniel presented the quarterly budget and expenditures report to the Committee.

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

Training Updates: Mr. Kenneth Robertson gave the training update for AR Environmental Training Academy.

Mr. Dennis Sternberg gave the training report for Arkansas Rural Water Association.

Old Business: Mr. Healey informed the committee that David Sartain resigned from his position on the committee and that DEQ is looking to fill his position. The vacancy must be filled with someone who is employed by an industry or corporation in Arkansas.

Mr. Healey gave an update on licensing renewal, stating that licensing started with 1000 operators that had renewed their license but did not have the required renewal hours to complete the renewal process. DEQ contacted everyone and were left with only 61 operators. Letters were sent to those 61 regarding the remaining renewal hours, Now DEQ is in the process of expiring the licenses of those operators who did not provide the remaining training hours.

New Business: Mr. Healey gave an update on the changes on the Class IV Exam application. DEQ added language regarding the requirement for being "In direct charge of a treatment plant or one of its major components". the

application asks for a letter from the operator's supervisor or the HR. Stating it gives clarity for making a decision on applications.

Ms. Allen-Daniel gave an ePortal update. All licensing forms (application, THSF, etc.) will be moving to eportal. Each operator must have their own account in eportal. Mr. Ramsfield asked for Licensing to come to their district meeting to get operators signed up for ePortal.

Reciprocities – Corey Hensley, Class B license from Texas, who wants to be granted an Arkansas Class III license. **Mr. Jeff Ford made the motion to grant Class III and Mr. Doug Ford seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Mark Patterson, Class B, license from Texas, requested a Class III. **Mr. Heath Ward made the motion to grant a Class III and Mr. Doug Ford seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Discussion, What if someone is equivalent to a Class III (Grade III TN) and is requesting an Advanced Industrial? DEQ had an applicant request this, in which the committee asked us to present the full information at the next meeting. **This will need to be a case by case bases. All committee members agreed.**

Mr. Healey announced the next Committee meeting dates. **Next Committee meeting is November 9, 2022, at 10:00 am via Zoom.**

Mr. Heath Ward, motion to adjourn and Mr. Doug Ford and Mr. Jeff Ford seconded the motion.

**The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.**