

SOLID WASTE LICENSING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2019

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 10:30 a.m., in Room 1E09 of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality Headquarters at 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

The meeting was called to order by Angela Sparks, Chairperson. (Via telephone) Members present included Jodi Reynold-Coffelt, Randy Atkinson, Randy Harper Wendy Bland, Warren Atkins, and Gene Little. Others present included Shane Ellis (awaiting appointment by Committee), Kenny Nutt, and Jennifer Merritt. Paige Davis and Rosemary Rogers were absent.

Randy Harper made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Warren Atkins seconded the motion. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Gene Little gave the Department report stating that 760 solid waste licenses had been issued since 7/1/2018, and 35 Illegal Dump Control Officer Certifications in that same time period. Gene introduced Shane Ellis from Riceland to the committee. He was nominated by Randy Harper and will be presented to the ADPC&E Commissioners in April for approval.

Randy Harper gave the Academy Report, saying it's budgeting time of year and he will be busy doing that for a few months. Kenny Nutt reported that in this 2018 he had 853 contact hours, with 894 enrolled, at 72 locations. From January 1, 2019 to present that he had 114 contact hours with 188 enrolled, at 14 locations. Angela inquired on the applicant hunt to find a replacement for Kenny Nutt upon his retirement in June 2019, Randy said there is an applicant that they are interested in and they are hoping they will start in April.

New business: Warren Atkins asked about the progress report on the possibility of online renewal, Jennifer Merritt gave an update.

Gene Little provided an update on Fiscal staffing. Gene and Jennifer gave the committee a walkthrough of how mail and checks are routed in the agency. Discussion was had about how online would stream line and reduce errors.

Wendy Bland suggested we send renewals out 6 months in advance like SWANNA does. SW Renewal notices will be mailed out in May.

SWANNA Conference this year will be held in Hot Springs, March 26-28. Early registration is ending soon and you can do update class that Angela Sparks will be teaching.

Jennifer Merritt gave update on batch invoicing and invoicing all operators vs each solid waste company. Angela Sparks offered to be a beta tester for online invoicing.

Shane Ellis asked a question about who does online courses and there was discussion about the confusion about Academy/ADEQ and who does what.

Late renewals and the consequences and issues with late renewals was discussed by the Committee.

Gene Little informed the committee about the proposed change of making apprentice licenses renewable. Discussion about pros and cons of this took place.

The Committee discussion how and why the course for solid waste is structured the way that it is and encompasses all subcategories of solid waste such as tires, recycling, compost, and construction and demolition landfills.

Wendy Bland asked a question about licensing "classes" why if students all attend the same course and learn the same curriculum that the licenses are broken out in to Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3 licenses and why not just one license that encompasses an operator. Discussion on this and the possible fee changes were discussed. It was suggested that the flat rate be \$75.00 per license at testing instead of \$50.00 and just do away with "classes" of licenses and just have 1 all- encompassing license.

Jennifer Merritt asked the committee if they knew of any reason that "grace period" on license renewal was a full year? No one knew the answer but all agreed it was too generous and suggested that it be changed to 3 months grace period to give incentive for people to renew in a timely manner.

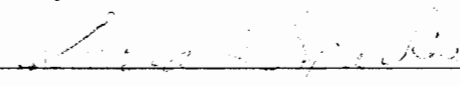
Wendy Bland made a motion for the committee to make a recommendation to ADEQ to reduce the "grace period" to 90 days and require re-testing after that time. Jodi Reynolds-Coffelt seconded motion. A vote was made, All I's, motion carried.

Wendy Bland made a motion for the committee to recommend to ADEQ that license classes be consolidated in to one inclusive license to stream line the licensing process. Jodi Reynolds-Coffelt seconded the motion, voted all I's motion carried

Question about doubling CEU's was brought up and discussed in context of 2 year renewals.

The committee discussed the next meeting date and it was decided on May 23rd, at 10:30 a.m. at ADEQ.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Randy Harper and Wendy Bland seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.



Angela Sparks, Chairperson