

SOLID WASTE LICENSING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES February 13, 2025

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. in the Arkansas River Valley conference room of the Arkansas Department of Environment and Energy Headquarters at 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Barfield, Vice Chairman. Members present in person: Joe Hopper, Jeff Barfield, Randy Harper, Joe Pence, John Dyson, Jennifer Parslow and Shane Ellis. Members attending via Microsoft Teams, due to inclement weather, were Angela Sparks and Christal Baker. Guests to the meeting were Lori Burke, Melody Walker, Louis Chacon and Jarrod Zweifel, representing DEQ and Alan Spangler, representing the Arkansas Environmental Training Academy.

Joe Hopper made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Joe Pence seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Old business regarding holding a proxy was reviewed. New updated bylaws were presented. Joe Hopper made a motion to approve the amended bylaws. Shane Ellis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Randy Harper arrived and assumed the role of Chair.

The election of chair and vice chair was held. Joe Pence made a motion to leave the positions of chair and vice chair the same, Joe Hopper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Arkansas Rules are being codified. Rule 27 is now 8 CAR 62-101. Jarrod Zweifel explained the codification process.

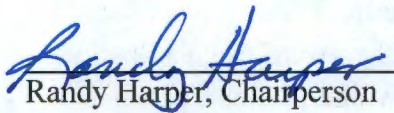
Jennifer Parslow gave the DEQ report: 666 active operators. 282 inactive operators, eligible to renew late, until April 1. 243 tests were given in 2024 with a passing rate of 96%. 15 active Provisional licenses. 70% renewal rate, in the past it was 80%. Biennial renewals did affect the renewal rate but there was not as big of an impact as expected. 152 operators with 0 hours of training. 608 renewed on time, 57% of those that renewed did so via the mail and 43% renewed using ePortal.

Louis Chacon gave an update on SEEK implementation for solid waste licensing. He discussed why the agency is moving to SEEK, how authorized users will work, and mentioned that there are training videos on our website. Jennifer will send link to training videos for SEEK to committee members.

Alan Spangler gave the Academy report: 807 students in 2024 vs 700 students in 2023, for an increase of 107 students. Apprentice level 122 in 2024 vs 149 in 2023, Journeyman level 82 in 2024 vs 61 in 2023, and Master level 48 in 2024 vs 49 in 2023. Update class students 524 in 2024 vs 405 in 2023. 79 total classes in 2024, vs 72 classes in 2023.

The committee discussed the next meeting date of May 15th, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at DEQ. The remaining 2025 meeting dates are August 14th and November 13th.

With no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting.


Randy Harper, Chairperson