

SOLID WASTE LICENSING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES August 14, 2025

A regular meeting of the Solid Waste Licensing Committee was held on Thursday, August 14, 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 Randy Harper, Chair. Followed by roll call:

Members present (in person): Joe Hopper, John Dyson, Jeff Barfield, Jennifer Parslow, Randy Harper, and Crystal Baker

Members not present: Shane Ellis

Others in attendance: Alan Spangler, and Melody Walker

Old Business

The minutes for May 15, 2025, were emailed to each member for review. Jennifer Parslow made a correction to the spelling of Crystal Baker's name. John Dyson made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Jeff Barfield seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

New business for discussion

Act 505 – Impact on Committee and bylaws – Jennifer Parslow discussed how Act 505 will impact the Solid Waste Licensing Committee and Bylaws. This is a bill regarding FOIA's and public meetings.

A motion to table the discussion to allow Jennifer Parslow to get more information regarding the notification deadline for meeting links and meeting location, was made by Jeff Barfield; Crystal Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried to table discussion of the Act 505 required changes.

Departmental Reports

Melody Walker (DEQ report):

- 780 active operators
- Tests given YTD 2025:

72 – Apprentice
32 – Journeyman
35 – Master
6 Phone Exams
3 (in person) Verbals

(With 100% pass rate)

- 21 (8 A's and 13 B's) active Provisional licenses
- **SEEK Update:** Tentative 'go live' has been pushed due to deadlines for other programs

Alan Spangler (Academy report): Jan 1 – June 30, 2025

- SW Apprentice – 60 operators increased 8 from 2024
- SW Journeyman – 39 operators increased 5 from 2024
- SW Master – 16 operators decreased 1 from 2024
- Total for first quarter: 134 operators for 2025 vs 133 operators for 2024
- **Grand total:** 398 operators for 2025; 457 operators in 2024 decrease of 59

Upcoming Meeting Dates

The committee discussed the next meeting date of November 13th, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. at DEQ. This is the last meeting for 2025.

With no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting.



Randy Harper, Chairperson