

ARKANSAS WASTEWATER LICENSING COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017
Room 1W06 - Commission Room

Committee Members

Lisa Ellington, Chairman, Paragould Light, Water & Cable
Rodney Williams, Vice-Chairman, Ph.D., University of Arkansas
Jennifer Enos, Springdale Water Utilities
William Wright, Albemarle Corporation
Michael Overstreet, Jacksonville Wastewater
Jo Anna Brown, Little Rock Wastewater
Richard Healey, Executive Secretary, ADEQ
Tommy Tooke, Tyson Foods, Inc. - absent

MINUTES

The meeting of the Arkansas Wastewater Licensing Committee (AWLC) was called to order by Chairman Lisa Ellington, at 10:04 A.M. on Wednesday, August 9, 2017.

Public Present: Kenny Harvey, AR Environmental Training Academy (AETA); Sandy Luttrell and Leslie Allen-Daniel, ADEQ.

Previous Minutes: The May 10, 2017 meeting minutes were reviewed by the Committee. Ms. Brown noted a motion she made at the last meeting was not followed by a second. She had suggested that Mr. Whitehead's reciprocity request be tabled until further information was available, which was seconded by Mr. Tooke. **Mr. Williams made a motion to amend and approve the May 10th minutes as stated. Mr. Wright seconded the motion and it was accepted.**

Financial Report: Ms. Luttrell presented the Financial Report to the Committee for the Licensing Program.

Licensing Report: Ms. Luttrell reported the numbers and types of licenses issued during the past quarter.

Training Updates: Mr. Harvey with the Environmental Training Academy presented hand-outs to the Committee and reported on recent training by the academy. No one was present at the meeting from the Rural Water Association.

Public Comments: Ms. Luttrell mentioned that Mr. Tommy Tooke was not able to attend his last meeting with the Committee today. His service plaque, along with our appreciation, will be mailed to his home address due to his recent retirement with Tyson Foods in Pine Bluff.

Old Business: The Committee reviewed a reciprocity applicant, Jerry Wayne Whitehead, who was tabled from our previous meeting due to the need for additional information. Mr. Whitehead's original application provided details on a Texas Class A wastewater license held, which is equivalent to Arkansas' Class IV. Upon further review, the Committee observed that he maintains a current New Mexico license (Wastewater Level 4), which also was the state in which he held a current driver's license, maintained a residence and where most of his approved training hours were obtained.

Mr. Whitehead has now provided the information requested by the Committee, showing his New Mexico license status is in good standing, which was granted through a state administered exam. **Ms. Brown made a motion to deny his request for a Class IV license and to grant Mr. Whitehead an Arkansas Class III license with the option**

to sit for the Class IV exam. Ms. Enos amended this motion, allowing him to sit immediately for this exam, without the waiting period stipulated in Regulation #3, which she then seconded. The motion carried.

The Committee reviewed another tabled reciprocity applicant, Mr. Nicholas Fabbriatore, who previously held an Arkansas Class III/Advanced Industrial license, both issued in 2003 and lapsed on June 30, 2011. He is now requesting an Arkansas Class IV and Advanced Industrial license based on current licenses from New York and New Jersey. He provided certificates for a N3 Industrial license, as well as, a New York Grade 4A Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator and Grade 4 Wastewater Collection Systems Operator. The Committee's original concern was when and where he tested for his Class IV license, to determine where he achieved his equivalent licensure for an Arkansas Class IV. The paperwork provided by Mr. Fabbriatore showed New York granted him the Grade 4A license through reciprocity with New Jersey. It was noted that New York's questionnaire confirmed they only grant reciprocity licenses to applicants who have tested through an ABC exam. Ms. Brown then observed an attached email negating what was submitted in the questionnaire. **Ms. Enos made a motion not to grant reciprocity due to the lack of documentation, but allow him to sit for a Class III and Advanced Industrial license exam. Mr. Overstreet seconded the motion and it carries.**

New Business: The Board reviewed a letter by ADEQ Director, Becky Keogh, in response to Ms. Kim Holston's appeal of a decision made by the Wastewater Licensing Committee at the previous meeting. She was being reviewed at her own request, to have her Arkansas Class IV wastewater operator's license reinstated by the Committee. The Director's letter upholds the Committee's decision not to reinstate her license.

Next on the agenda, review nominations submitted to replace our existing member, Tommy Tooke, which calls for an industrial operator candidate. **Mr. Wright made a motion to accept Martin Resource Management Corporation's nomination of Mr. Jonathan Richardson to the Board. Mr. Overstreet seconded this motion and it carries.**

Ms. Luttrell mentioned to the Committee that Mr. Wright's first term of service on the Board would be ending on August 31st. Mr. Wright expressed his willingness to serve a second consecutive term beginning at that time. **Mr. Williams made a motion to accept Mr. Wright's reappointment for a second term of service on the Wastewater Licensing Committee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Enos and it carried.** Mr. Healey informed the Committee he would present these matters of board member appointment/reappointment to the AR Pollution Control and Ecology Commission for their approval at a future meeting.

Mr. Healey began discussion of the recently received ABC study guides for all municipal license levels to prepare for web-based testing. Currently, only the Class IV wastewater test is offered. Board members expressed their opinions on which certification levels to begin testing through ABC. Class III would be a good place to start, because you get into management at that level. Starting with the Class I, prepares operators for what to expect with standardized testing for the Class II and III levels. Some believe we should ease operators and trainers into changing to ABC testing for all licenses. Ms. Enos feels we should offer state specific courses about Regulation 3 and procedures, since ABC does not accept these important state details with their testing. Mr. Healey plans to reach out to Mr. Martin Nutt with ADH for more information on their experiences with ABC testing for all water licensing levels which they implemented in 2016.

Ms. Ellington announced the next scheduled meeting: **November 8, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.