

ARKANSAS WASTEWATER LICENSING COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2010
ADEQ MEETING ROOMS 5C05/06

MEMBERS

Mark Johnson, Rogers Water Utilities, Chair
David Thomason, Arkadelphia Water & Sewer
David Gross, Future Fuels Chemical, Batesville
Jennifer Bouldin, Ph.D. Arkansas State University
Dennis Brunson, Hot Springs Utilities
Steven Upton, Heber Springs Wastewater Department
Cindy Garner, Executive Secretary, ADEQ

MINUTES

The meeting of the Wastewater Licensing Committee was called to order at 10:07 a.m., on Wednesday, August 11, 2010, by Chairman Johnson. Members and attendees present were Johnson, Bouldin, Thomason, Gross, Upton, Brunson, Garner, Dennis Sternberg, AR Rural Water Association; Martin Nutt, AR Dept. of Health; Jonathan Richardson, AR Environmental Training Academy; Dale Box, water operator with Arkadelphia Water Utilities; Mo Shafii, ADEQ Water Division Assistant Chief; Cathalene Purvis, ADEQ Grants Analyst and Sandy Luttrell, Licensing Coordinator.

The May 12th meeting minutes were reviewed by the members. Bouldin noted a couple misspellings and moved to accept the minutes with corrections made. This was seconded by Thomason and the motion carried.

Johnson presented Thomason with a plaque of appreciation for his 7 years of dedicated service on the Wastewater Licensing Committee. David's loyal participation on the committee has been beneficial to the state of Arkansas.

Garner gave the financial report.

Luttrell presented the Licensing Report.

Richardson informed the committee that the academy is developing a microbiology class and is also working on developing confined space courses.

Sternberg handed out a report of wastewater classes taught with attendance records from January 1 to July 31, 2010.

Old business tabled from the May meeting, developing specialty classes to benefit wastewater operators advancing to Class III and IV licenses. The licensing section advertised in its July newsletter, its need for operator

suggestions of courses they would like to see made available for their benefit. There have been several responses, which will be gathered and brought up at the next meeting.

Ms. Purvis joined us to discuss appropriations of wastewater licensing funds over the next two (2) years. Budget requests have to be submitted 2 years prior to the time the items requested are needed, through the state legislature. The main purchase being a vehicle, which would be handled as a fleet replacement, preferably an energy efficient model. In addition, there would be no cost to the operators attending these courses. Also discussed, the funding of development and holding of specialty classes.

Under new business, Luttrell explained why she reciprocated Robert W. Beard to an Arkansas Class III license. He is an operator with water and wastewater licenses in the state of Alaska and Illinois. Mr. Beard holds the equivalent of the Arkansas Class IV license in both states, however these states do not recognize our licensees. During the discussion, the Board asked that we contact states involved for current requirements, and re-evaluate reciprocity. We will table this until the next meeting or deal with it when we have more details.

Mr. Shafii addressed the committee about his concerns in making changes to Regulation 3. The committee decided they should carefully review Reg. 3 since we seldom see changes made and to revise the entire Regulation at one time. They will submit their recommendations for changes by October 15th.

There were only three (3) nominations submitted by the time the Board met, for the committee vacancy being left by David Thomason. Unfortunately, all three did not qualify as operators working daily in the operation of a treatment plant. This issue will be tabled until the next meeting.

The committee discussed the Drinking Water Advisory Operator Licensing Committee's Guideline #8, which pertains to the training credit hours for operators attending conferences and conventions that are held for more than one day. The committee agreed to table this matter until the next meeting.

Johnson informed the board that our next scheduled meeting would be on November 10th. Gross made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Upton, and the meeting adjourned at 12:17pm.