



State of Arkansas Towing & Recovery Board

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MINUTES

Arkansas Towing & Recovery Board • May 17th 2022

The Arkansas Towing & Recovery Board convened on Tuesday, May 17th 2022 at 9:30 A.M. in the conference room of the Arkansas Towing & Recovery Board office at 7418 North Hills Boulevard, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Chair Joe Spadoni turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Matt Ross so he (Joe Spadoni) could serve as hearing officer for the hearings). Matt Ross called the meeting to order at 9:35 A.M. with roll call; Joe Spadoni, Tom Brown, Reggie Binns, Scott DeMott, Wayne Edwards, Carrie Meeks and Jerry Vint were present. Also, in attendance were director Steven Rogers, investigator Tracy Watson and legal counsel Joe West.

Vice Chair Ross welcomed guests then turned the meeting over to hearing officer Joe Spadoni to proceed with the Disciplinary Hearing schedule. The court reporter was Conway Court Reporting.

Disciplinary Hearings

Case Number 2022-11-020 . Alma Auto Sales & Service, Alma, Arkansas

Respondent violated Ark. Code Ann. § A.C.A. §27-50-1203(e)(1)(E) and Board Rule 4.1 by failing to respond to a Board-issued request for information pursuant to this complaint investigation; and, Respondent violated Ark. Code Ann. § A.C.A. §27-50-1218(c)(3)(A) and Board Rule 5.2 by failing to respond to a Board-issued request for additional information pursuant to this complaint investigation; and, violated Ark. Code Ann. § A.C.A. §27-50-1203(e)(1)(D) and Board Rule 4.1 by charging excessive and unnecessary fees for towing and recovery services. Respondent is ordered to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$7,000.00 for the violation. Further, respondent is ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$16,945.99 to the Complainant's insurance company.

Motion by Tom Brown. Second by Reggie Binns. Motion carried. 7-0

Case Number 2022-02-027 . Hudspeth Diesel, LLC, Gurdon, Arkansas

Respondent violated Ark. Code Ann. § 27-50-1203(e)(1)(E) and Board Rule 4.1 by failing to respond to a Board-issued request for information pursuant to a complaint investigation and Ark. Code Ann. § A.C.A. §27-50-1218(c)(3)(A) and Board Rule 5.2 by failing to respond to a Board-issued request for additional information.

Respondent is ordered to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$750.00 for the violation. Motion by Tom Brown.

Second by Jerry Vint. Motion carried. 7-0

Case Number 2022-03-035 . Michael Grindstaff dba Hellanback LLC, Springdale, Arkansas

Respondent violated Ark. Code Ann. § 27-50-1101(a)(1)(A), Ark. Code Ann. § 27-50-1201(a), and Board Rule 6.1 by conducting a non-consent private property removal of the Complainant's track loader without possessing a valid non-consent tow business license; and, violated Ark. Code Ann. § 27-50-1203(e)(1)(D) and Board Rule 4.1 by billing \$55,012.06 for the unlicensed service; and, violated Ark. Code Ann. § 27-50-1203(e)(1)(E) and Board Rule 4.1 by failing to respond to a Board-issued request information pursuant to this complaint investigation; and, violated Ark. Code Ann. § A.C.A. §27-50-1218(c)(3)(A) and Board Rule 5.2 by failing to respond to a Board-issued request for additional information pursuant to this complaint. Respondent is ordered to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$20,000.00 for theses violations. Motion by Matt Ross. Second by Tom Brown. Motion carried.

7-0

Business Meeting Reconvenes

The Minutes for the Board Meetings from March 17th 2022 were approved as mailed on a motion by Tom Brown. Second by Scott Demott. Motion carried 8-0

Treasurer Carrie Meeks Sharing 3rd quarter numbers, it appeared revenue would be down slightly. It was currently \$176,785.48, total expenses were down as well, \$213,427,21. It did not appear that the agency would exceed the appropriated amount for the 2nd year in a row. The MOU with the Department of Labor & Licensing was reviewed. Reggie Binns made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Second by Jerry Vint. Motion carried.8-0

In a separate matter the board reviewed the CSA filed by ADLL. Reggie Binns made a motion to approve the CSA as presented. Second by Tom Brown Motion carried.8-0

Tracy Watson presented the Complaints Report for April 2022.

Joe West updated the board on Helton appeal, noting that the board’s decision had been upheld but that he would recommend waiting a few more weeks before an effort was made to collect the outstanding civil penalty of \$3,000.00 as Helton legal counsel had filed a motion asking the judge to review and reconsider the case.

The director, Steven Rogers updated the board on several issues.

The next regular board meeting which would include a hearing schedule was set for Tuesday July 19th 2022, to be held at the Arkansas Towing & Recovery Board office in North Little Rock, Arkansas.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:10 P.M.

Signed _____
Joe Spadoni, Chair

Attest _____
Steven Rogers, Director

Approved _____ (Date)