

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter
Solid Waste Association of North America
Board Meeting
December 16, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.
Zoom Meeting**

MINUTES – DRAFT

Call to Order: Start 10:11 am

Roll Call

BOD: John Welch, Dave Hagenbucher, Lindsey Carlson, Nate Schneider, Chad Doverspike, Meleesa Johnson, Ali Rathsack, Mark Toressani,

BOD Not Present: George Shereda, Alex Thomas, Chris Anderson

Also Present: Susan Schuller (SWANA Admin Assistant), Kate Strom-Hiorns (WDNR), Pat O'Brien, Gerry Neuser (Manitowoc County)

Minutes of Previous Meetings [November 2021](#)

Motion by Meleesa to approve

Seconded Nate

Approved – Motion Carries

Treasurer's Report [Meleesa](#)

Just an update: Checking \$6,541.81 Saving \$20,338.39

Committee Reports

- DNR Report [Kate Strom Hiorns](#)
 - Focus on Vacancies – There are new Hazardous Waste Specialists and a retirement coming up. And some other staff shifting going on.
 - Hauler meetings were held in November and early December. Information will be posted online.
 - MRF stakeholder meeting recently held and was recorded. That will be available online.
 - Overall, markets are going well right now.
 - PFAS External advisor group meeting tomorrow. The meeting will have a bit more of a landfill focus. Meleesa will be there sharing the perspective of waste professionals on the issue. EPA is considering listing PFAS as a hazardous substance. Brad Wolbert will be at the meeting too. Someone from MN is speaking at that meeting. John asked who is speaking from MN? The name is not on the agenda but the topic is related to a recent MN Landfill Study. That talk will be shared from 9-10:30am. This study was done at closed landfills (says Meleesa). It was used as the basis for helping to come up with a PFAS monitoring plan.

- Safety Ambassador Report - [Dave](#)
 - Didn't meet this month.
 - Continue the focus on survey for lithium-ion batteries
 - John Peralta is now the Safety Ambassador for the chapter. He plans to join the meetings quarterly to give updates to the Board.

- Membership / Social Media Report [Ali](#)
 - Meeting last week Wednesday morning.

- Ali will send some schedules and posts for social media to promote WIRMC.
- Professional headshots at the conference. Lindsey hopes to have a quote to get approved by the board.
- We appreciate the board feedback to the DEI initiatives received via email. Further discussion below.

- International *John*
 - YP is doing a student design competition. The topic is “Methods used to measure emissions.”
 - They received an investment report from National. All looks good. Things are stable.
 - SWANA National continues to work on their strategic planning efforts.

- YP Report *Lindsey*
 - No report. The meeting was cancelled this week.
 - Will meet next month to prepare for conference.

- Advocacy Report *Meleesa*
 - On the topic of Pyrolysis – SWANA National is looking for chapter input on this.
 - There are federal and state ramifications with this issue. Landfills could be in a difficult situation if we do not provide input into actions related to this issue.
 - National Recycling Strategy from EPA came out and SWANA National will be submitting feedback. They included a lot of strategies (50) for consideration. That is a lot.
 - PFAS will have a lot of money available in the infrastructure bill. No one knows where the money will go and the criteria used for distributing money. It will be important to be communication and keep up to date on this. Pat asked about the funds. Meleesa mentioned that the money will likely funneled through the EPA. To get to region/state, it likely will come through our EPA Region / WI DNR. Discussion on communications between WWTF and Landfills on this issue. We know the PFAS Work Group has put a large focus on this communication strategy between WWTF and Landfills, so we are ahead on that. It is very important that solid waste has a seat at the table when funds come available through the infrastructure bill.
 - Sediment bill – legislator from Two Rivers. All sediment coming out of the Great Lakes can be land applied anywhere. Meleesa wonders if we should work on getting river sediment treated the same way?

- Scholarship Report *George – given by Pat*
 - The process is just starting.
 - Still planning to give out the full \$6,000
 - Coordinate with WCSWMA to prevent a situation where money goes to the same person for both SWANA and WCSWMA – Gerry agrees. It would be nice to coordinate on that.
 - Susan asked that this committee send the update of the recipients from 2021. They are still not on the web. She needs description and headshot from recipients.

The timeline was reviewed

Molo CEU pre-approval	November	Chad asked Susan to look into the status of this
Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	November	Treasurer
Ask for YP Award nominations	December	Programs Committee
Review goals	December	Board
Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	December	Treasurer

Annual Progress Report	Dec 31	Admin
Annual Financial Report	Dec 31	Treasurer
Review bank statement	December	Treasurer
Website Updates	December	Website Chair

Unfinished Business

- DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) and webinar credits (Lindsey) – *refer to the image at the end of the notes for a screenshot of the proposal previously emailed to the board.*
 - The idea is to engage in the SWANA National webinar credit program. “Chapter Webinar Program”
 - The proposal (that was emailed) included a follow-up on how information learned was shared with others. The idea is to offer value to our members using an existing infrastructure model for delivering professional development to members.
 - Some felt the price point was a little too high.
 - Discussion
 - John and Chad shared some historical knowledge on similar efforts from the past. The Chapter did this before and had some good results. They would do a “viewing” party in the past where people would gather together, watch the webinar, and have a discussion.
 - Chad remembers when we offered this. He attended a few. He isn’t sure they were all used.
 - Funding this would need to be taken away from something else. The cost is high and we already approved an annual budget.
 - Susan asked for clarification. All SWANA National webinars are offered and are available to members already at a discounted rate. Would this program just make it free or even cheaper? Is the concern that \$50 is the barrier already? Lindsay said this program would make the webinars free and more accessible to members.
 - Meleesa isn’t excited about the infrastructure for offering credits at SWANA National. Maybe we could better share out information on opportunities that are already free. An example is the National Recycling Coalition. They offer really good free webinars.
 - This conversation ties to what is being discussed related to the strategic plan.
 - Suggestion for proceeding. Identify 3-5 trainings and pilot a watch party. See how it goes before purchasing more credits.
 - Chad – start with free before paying.
 - John – look if SWANA has 3-4 and start with that as a watch party.
 - Buy 4 at \$200 and pilot it.
 - Mark – Agrees with John. Look at trainings for free first.
 - Susan also says she thinks these webinars can be done virtually with a virtual conversation. Just to engage those throughout the state. WIRMC virtual was appealing to some in rural areas of the state where they can’t drive/attend.
 - DEI – AROW is looking at this. If anyone in SWANA would like to sit on that ad hoc committee can join.
 - Meleesa will send an invitation to Chapter Members for the next meeting.
 - Lindsey maybe offer ideas post conference.

- Chapter-wide Strategic Planning (John)
 - John gave an update.
 - We are currently working on a way to get feedback from membership. We will have two ways to get feedback from members through two survey methods.
 1. In person at WIRMC
 2. Online survey
- WIRMC 2022 Update (Susan/Planning Team)
 - 14 Sponsors. So far, things appear to be proceeding as planned.
 - Discussion about COVID. AROW executive committee would like to strongly encourage the wearing of masks. We have organizations that have restrictions on staff attending an event. Preference of strong recommendation of masks or a requirement that masks be worn at WIRMC.
 - Financial viability of the conference. We need to do what we can to encourage attendance and be safe.
 - Dane County staff are waiting to register. They likely won't go unless masks are required.
 - John – shared his personal thought on this. Stating that we “Strongly recommend” wearing masks does not go far enough. We should say it is required. That is not the same terminology as mandate.
 - Susan will take this feedback to the WIRMC Planning Team that meets in January (1/10 at 9:00am)
 - Replacing Dan Roche on WIRMC Committee. Dan is stepping down from the WIRMC Committee. He is changing jobs. SWANA WI BOD to Confirm Nate as his replacement on this committee.
 - Motion by Mark to approve Nate as the SWANA WI representative on the WIRMC planning team (along with Chad and George)
 - Seconded by Lindsey
 - Passed.
- Awards – picture frames.
 - AROW is ordering reclaimed wooden frames for their awards this year. We feel it would be nice to have the same or similar frame for consistency. They are very nice.
 - We would like frames for YP of the Year, Scholarship Recipients, and maybe for board members stepping off as an appreciation of their service.
 - Could we order 6? Committee agreed. No need for a motion on this since it is within budget.
 - Susan will coordinate with AROW to order.

Next meeting January 20, 2021 at 10:00am

Adjourn – 11:28 AM

Minutes recorded by Susan Schuller, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant

ATTACHMENT – screenshot from Lindsey referencing a previous email sent to the board for consideration.

11/29/2021

SWANA Badger Chapter Board-

The membership committee asks the board's approval to purchase 50 SWANA National webinar credits at the price of \$2,100 through the [SWANA National Chapter Webinar Program](#).

As a member benefit, SWANA chapters purchase webinar credits to be used by chapter members. Members use these credits to attend SWANA Webinars at no cost to themselves or their employer

The purchase of these credits will make valuable industry related content available to our members, meanwhile, promote a culture of knowledge sharing within the Badger Chapter of SWANA and its member organizations.

In order to be granted webinar code access, members will need to demonstrate their intent to foster those goals by filling out a brief google form. Information requested:

- 1) Name, organization, member standing, and SWANA member ID
- 2) Title of webinar (e.g. "Developing LFG to Renewable Natural Gas Projects")
- 3) Brief explanation of interest in attending the webinar (e.g. "My organization is interested in the potential of LFG to RNG at our Wisconsin site")
- 4) Briefly explain how you plan to share and/or utilize the information shared in the webinar? (e.g. "I plan to share a summary of what I learned in the webinar with my coworkers at our weekly check-in meeting" or "I plan to host a watch party of the webinar with fellow young professionals in my organization")

Continuing education units (CEUs) may be earned through this program by registering for webinars under your SWANA account. If a webinar is viewed as a group, it must follow the submittal requirements outlined [here](#), and e-mailed to certification@swana.org.

Below is a table summarizing the different purchase options for the Chapter Sponsored webinar [credits](#).

	OPTION I	OPTION II	OPTION III
Number of Registrations	50	100	200
Price	\$2,100	\$3,700	\$6,400
Price Per Registration*	\$42	\$37	\$32

We propose an initial purchase of 50 credits. The cost savings is less on a per credit basis compared to the other options, but will serve as a good starting point to gauge members' interests and perceived value of the program.