

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
Teleconference  
Conference Call #: (605) 313-4159 / Access Code: 260738  
May 21, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order** – 11:03 am

**Roll Call** –

- BOD: Dave Hagenbucher, George Shereda, Meleesa Johnson, Ali Rathsack, John Welch, Lindsey Carlson, Chris Anderson, Chad Doverspike, Phil Gearing
- BOD Not Present: Erik Lietz
- Also Present: Susan Schuller (SWANA Admin Assistant), Mark Walter (Brown Co), Kate Strom Hiorns (WDNR), Alex Thomas (MCSWD), Susana Baker (MCSWD)

**Minutes of Previous Meetings** [April 2020](#)

Motion by Meleesa to approve April 2020 – no edits.  
Seconded by George  
Approved – Motion Carries (Unanimously)

**Treasurer's Report** [Meleesa](#)

- Report Sent Out
- \$6,280.45 in checking (It is important to keep the balance at \$5,000 or more so the organization doesn't occur any fees)
- \$30,334.95 in savings (WIRMC 2020 Earnings deposited)
- Lindsey question – will budgets to committees be decreased due to COVID?
  - Not sure yet but it is important to plan for this and be conservative.
  - John mentioned there are some reserves but we need to be mindful that we keep some services to our members – When we set our budget in September, think about a budget that keeps status quo, but also one for worse case scenario.
  - Susan added that WIRMC committee is watching other states on how they do their state conferences. Karin is talking with Chula Vista on current contract with them. The planning committee will be discussing alternatives or adjustments to the 2021 event.
- John – asked the group to also think about how contracts are budgeted in the future. Important to watch that.
- Lindsey - YP has \$2,000 left for the FY budget. They may ask if they can “roll” over some of the funds. Meleesa said that they haven't done this before, rather set the budget based on the needs for the next FY based on priorities set. But it doesn't mean it has to be that way.

Motion by Lindsey to approve financial report  
Seconded by Chad  
Approved – Motion Carries (Unanimously)

**Committee Reports**

- DNR Report [Kate Strom Hiorns](#)
  - Hiring freeze is ongoing including LTEs
  - PFAS Waste Disposal Draft Form is being routed internally and will come out for public comment as early as late June but could be later. Keep an eye out for this.
  - Tracking compliance assistance requests – those that are coming in so far are to request delayed monitoring so people can physically get out on a site. That is the only type of request received so far.
  - Working on Division Programs on how to get back into the field. They expect to be “phasing in” following the Statewide Badger Bounce Back Plan.

- Rule Making in programs ---
  - Coal combustion rules. Ongoing meetings throughout the year.
  - E-cycle rule writing in process
  - Fire fighting foam ruling in process
- Meat Processing Plants- WDNR are trying to work with sites who may need to shut down to encourage them to consider composting animal waste first. They are working with USDA and NRCS on this.
  - John has received a call in Dane County from hog farmers on this concern.
  - Chad is working with their local land conservation department with the same situation. 2-3 processing plants in Brown Co are concerned—there was a concern of animals coming in to the landfill, though it hasn't happened yet.
  - Meleesa received 2 calls. Urging compost as well with Rob Michitsch at UWSP.
  - Hopefully hogs will find its way to feed people first before entering the waste stream.
- Safety Ambassador Report *Erik (absent)*
  - No report
- Membership Report *Phil*
  - No meeting – next is in June
  - About 177 current members (about the same amount of students and YPs)
  - They are reaching out to those members with expiring memberships.
    - John asked what people are saying when they reach out to them? Are they saying why they may not renew?
    - Phil said most people just say “Thanks for the reminder.” No negative comments yet. With the phone calls, maybe different feedback will be received.
  - Phil also found it valuable to sit in on the national officers meeting and hear from other chapters.
    - Note: Week of June 22nd Virtual SWANApalooza (<https://swanapalooza.org/>) -- \$500 to be part of that. Get it out to Social Media
- International *John*
  - SWANApalooza is virtually being delivered. – 25 minute pre-recorded sessions available. Then during the live event with speakers for dialog and discussion/Q&A.
  - It was approved by the SWANA board to run WASTECon projecting a 75% attendance. John thinks there is a good chance it will not happen at all. People will likely not feel comfortable traveling. The budget already presented is not good. There are cuts from current positions or positions not being filled. There is a line of credit approved from the bank. The good news is that they have some reserves this time if they take a hit this year. It can be made up in the coming years.
  - John -- Waste Expo was moved from June to August and now they will be cancelling this event.
  - SWANA partnered with Glad to do a national campaign and fund to support frontline waste industry workers. They did a great job with national advertising.
- YP Report *Dave--/Lindsey*
  - Dave – there was a call yesterday. Talked about the newsletter. Excellent! Great content and organization. Kudos to Roxanne! They want to give more support to Roxanne. It is valuable to get university students like those at UWSP to publish an article. This is good for the students.
  - Waste Camp and River Clean-up is pushed off. No dates in mind maybe August/ September – but it is all tentative giving COVID19
  - Lindsey – Discussed the budget. Last year the remaining budget was spent on a fun activity after annual meeting. This year we are not sure if there will be an in-person annual meeting.

- No discussion on whether we will have an in person meeting in September. John will err on caution regarding this and thinks we should see how it goes. We may do this virtually this year.
- The committee will revisit swag items for our YPs. Purchasing items with SWANA high vis t-shirt. May bring a proposal to next meeting.
- Region 9 YPs – Zoom invite for happy hour with David Bittermen at 5pm today.
- Rob Michitsch reached out about revisiting a topic of an MOU with student board member position. Erik was going to draft something but it wasn't received. Rob would like to revisit this possibility. Dave and Lindsey will draft something to share.
- Social Media Report *Chris*
  - No meeting this month
  - We want to get the YP newsletter articles out.
  - Could each chair committees send Lindsey their committee meeting dates/time/invites. Those can be posted to social media.
- Legislative Advocacy Report *Meleesa*
  - Legislation is done. Most are out campaigning. Not much happening.
  - All PFAS Bills died in the senate except the one on fire fighting foam. If they come back, they will come back in the form of a new bill.
  - Nationally :
    - Infrastructure bill passed the house. Meleesa has doubts it will get on the senate.
    - Bill at federal – “Save our Oceans” passed the house. There are some concerns with the bill. Not sure it will even make it to the senate.
  - The Ash residual of La Crosse died in the senate
  - The Ecycle didn't pass
  - PFAS Work Group is organizing a presentation outreach information session on PFAS that will be recorded. This will represent both Solid Waste and Waste Water Industry. There will be three asks
    - Start to have a global perspective when addressing PFAS (phase out use when possible)
    - Use science and facts on PFAS before regulations
    - If we put regulations on the receivers of PFAS, then funding must be included
  - Chad has dealt with PFAS with 3 students from Miami – This is a nationwide leachate study that is moving forward. They expect to come to WI late summer/early fall to take leachate samples from Brown Co. to test PFAS levels. This is part of a national study. Results should be interesting.
  - Meleesa signed a letter of intent – graduate student at U of IL to work on PFAS in leachate. They are wanting to know about the impact on PFAS in waste water particularly in rural areas.
- Report *George*
  - 3 applications received
  - Chad, George and Pat Obrien scored these applicants. Phil knew one of them so he did not score.
  - All were college students -- no high school applicants this year.
  - 2 category 2 (undergrad)
  - 1 category 3 (grad)
  - Very strong applicants this year. Great letters of support. Above average applicants.
  - Committee recommendation
    - Sujata (Category 3) forward to SWANA National and receive the Brenda Q Award at \$2500
    - Adam Gorski forward to National and award \$2,000
    - Madison award \$1,000
    - Total \$5,500 of \$6,000 budgeted.
    - Budget Allocation Options

1. Roll over \$500 because some years we cannot award all the qualified applicants.
  2. Award the remaining budget we have budgeted for this year.
  3. Or just leave it.
    - No further discussion or decision on this.
- Meleesa requested an overview of ranking and metric was used. It was emailed out.
    - They used a rubric from National
    - They all scored in the same order
    - Note: SWANA national changed their form this year to align better with the scholarship application. The form you see is the committee's own made based on national's. They didn't have the new national form available by the time the committee met.
  - The committee has a deadline of June 1<sup>st</sup> to get to National and would like to confirm the award amounts, at least.

Motion by Lindsey to approve report and recommended awards for scholarships

Seconded by Chris

Approved – Motion Carries (Unanimously)

### **Timeline Reviewed – No updates, on track**

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Continuity of Operations Planning in event of COVID19
  - Dane re-opened clean sweep using increased safety precautions – the first week they opened they saw an increase of material
  - Brown county did the same – soft opening without advertising helped. They just started promoting, so they expect to see more people coming in since people are home cleaning.
  - SWANA Safety Monday had some good guidance just put out on this.
  - DHS has some general guidance as the state starts to re-open.
  - Dane County has some nice posters and templates you can hang up at your site. Think about this as you move forward, if or when you open more services.
- By-laws Changes will be voted on in June
  - John didn't have time to compile the last edits (sorry), but will get to this to Susan soon to get out to the membership and vote in June.
- Lindsey asked about a chapter wide strategic plan. John thinks it is a good idea. Asked about thoughts from the group on process this. If people have ideas, send them to John.
  - Chris - it is a good time to do it with COVID19 but let's get bylaws done.
  - Chad – this was done 5-6 years ago, Golder helped with this. Not sure they will do it again.
  - Item will be set for next meeting

Next Board Meeting *June 18, 2020*

Chris moved to adjourn

Chad seconded

Adjourn - 12:15pm

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Minutes recorded by Susan Schuller, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant