

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
Teleconference  
Conference Call #: (605) 313-4159 / Access Code: 260738**

**November 21, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.  
MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order** – 11:05 AM
2. **Roll Call**
  - a. BOD: John Welch (President), Lindsey Carlson, George Shereda (YP), Erik Lietz (VP/Safety), Phil Gearing (Membership), Alison Rathsack, Meleesa Johnson (Treasurer), Chris Anderson (Secretary/Social Media), Chad Doverspike (Programs)
    - BOD Not Present: Dave Hagenbucher
  - b. Also Present: Joe Van Rossum (DNR), Jana (Stevens Point), Susan Schuller (SWANA Admin Assistant)
3. **Minutes of Previous Meetings** *August, 2019 and September/Annual Meeting 2019 (October meeting was cancelled)*
  - a. Motion by Erik to approve August 2019 and September/Annual Meeting Minutes 2019 as written.
  - b. Seconded by Meleesa.
  - c. Approved – Motion Carries (unanimously)
4. **Treasurer's Report** *Meleesa* – No new updates. Membership share is expected soon. Checking account balance is at \$10,696.76 and Savings is at \$15,993.75
  - a. Motion by Lindsey to approve the financial report as stated.
  - b. Second by Chris.
  - c. Approved – Motion Carries (unanimously)
5. **Committee Reports**
  - a. *DNR Report Joe* – He thanks SWANA-Badger Chapter for the representation on the recent PFAS Meeting. Regarding the semi-annual interested parties meeting, slides are on the website. <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waste/SWIP.html> Highlights coming up:
    - December Natural Resources Meeting – 3 items on agenda
      1. Seeking Approval on revisions of chapter NR538, WI Admin Code, regarding Industrial use of byproducts
      2. Approval to work on Electronic Recycling (Scope Approval)
        - a. Further description on this item was requested.
        - b. Joe clarifies. The focus is on the operations of the E-Cycle Program
          - i. Using statues to operate

- ii. Asking to get some clarity on the statute and put some into code.
  - iii. Would like to outline further how the department provides oversight of e-cyclers in WI.
  - iv. In the past, e-cyclers were dealt with like scrap recyclers, but there are some issues with that. There is a need to have more appropriate oversight of these facilities.
- 3. Approval will be sought for a public hearing on a scope statement on the state permit rules for CCR
  - Appleton meeting coming up soon.
  - PFAS Technical Advisory Meeting December 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Legislative Audit Bureau – State Recycling Program
    - 1. Info and data is being collected by L.A.B Staff conducting the audit.
    - 2. Some people have been interviewed already. Karin Sieg is one. Meleesa has been contacted.
  - Rep Mursau seeks draft bill for co-sponsors on owner financial responsibility at solid waste sites/municipalities to use networks analogous to utilities and private entities.

b. *Safety Ambassador Report* Erik –

- Sent a fatality notice to the BOD. Traffic incident (fatality) in Racine.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> fatality in Sheboygan – child riding on a sidewalk and crossed the road when truck was turning right.
- Safety committee talked about the Sheboygan incident.
- This year there have been 4 fatalities with collection vehicles. Erik reported that this is a disturbing trend.
  - 1. We have ideas in our committee to help address this and raise awareness of safety in this industry. One is regarding driver attentiveness. Also, it was noted that staffing is getting older, so there are some ideas to address this. They are waiting from some messaging and information from SWANA National.
  - 2. It was noted that SWANA-BC does not have a strong representative in Racine and Sheboygan on membership or board.
  - 3. John's reached out to Racine – they stated they will handle the situation and seems uninterested in support offered.

- Safety committee will be presenting at the upcoming WIRMC – co-presenting with Chris from Brown County.
  - The Safety Committee will have another resource center in the public area in WIRMC.
  - Not meeting this month. Due to conflict with Thanksgiving. May be one in early December to prepare for WIRMC.
  - Meleesa Question: How does the safety committee approach communities like Racine and Sheboygan?
    1. Erik responded: We reach out to them to let them know we are a resource. We have extra safety resources in the state with a connection to SWANA National. We share examples like “safety 5 to stay alive.”
    2. Meleesa mentioned that she has some contacts in Sheboygan. She will reach out to see if she can make some connections.
    3. Erik – mentioned that these situations are difficult and sensitive. People often get quiet or have reactions like – “No, we are fine. We don’t need help.”
  - Meleesa has a DOT Contact. We hope to get on message boards along freeways. Solid Waste Slow Down and Move Over.
  - SWANA National has a safety pledge on their website. Safety starts with you. This is a reminder to ask everyone to take the pledge. Go to SWANA Safety Website Hauler Outreach. <https://swana.org/Safety/HaulerOutreach.aspx> It states:  
*I pledge to help everyone get home safe every single day. I will consider worker, customer, and public safety in every decision that I make.*
- My ultimate mission is to serve the community safely for myself, my company, and those who depend on me. If I cannot do it safely, then I will not do it at all.*
- John mentioned that it would be nice to get a video or something visual from SWANA on training in this area. —I think we should ask National about this.
    - a. ACTION ITEM: Erik will reach out to National about this.

c. *Membership Report Phil*

- We are at historic highs 172 members. Influences of student sign ups this fall – 36 students (up from 20). Good things there.
- We are looking at the value of being a member.
- We hope to meet in Early December.
- It was asked where these students are coming from. Responded that many are from Stevens Point.

d. *International John*

- Waste Con is done
- SWANApalooza is coming up
- Bylaw changes are done. Discussion below.
- 5 year strategic planning is coming up a weekend in March in Silver Spring, Maryland.
- Michigan became a probationary chapter – 1 year they have to meet some metrics to become an official chapter of our region.

e. *YP Report* *George*

- Had a call in October and November at the beginning of each month.
- Regular activity included the YP Newsletter, River Clean-up, and WIRMC planning
- New item – UWSP students are more active on the calls. There is a request to have some SWANA representatives travel to Point to present about SWANA itself or what our YPs are doing or EPs. Anyone interested in going to Point? Some dates are picked out for this.
- YP chapter liaison applications came in. Two applicants received: Dave and Lindsey applied. They want to fill the position together. Phil Ali, and George reviewed the applications and feel good to recommend to the board to appoint Dave and Lindsey to the YP Chapter Liaison position.
  1. Motion by George to approve the appointments of Dave and Lindsey as the YP Chapter Liaison Positions
  2. Seconded by Ali
  3. Approved – Motion Carries (unanimously)

f. *Social Media Report* *Chris*

- Met November 6<sup>th</sup>. Susan was introduced.
- Google groups were discussed. (model after AROW)
- LinkedIn was changed from a group to a page.
- Updated website.
- Like our social media page. Ask people to like our page or get something... There is a question and discussion around getting a prize or some sort of SWANA swag to reward people for showing their support or winning something. Is there money available to purchase on merchandise or funds to get a prize on our website?
- Marketing and programing budget has \$1,000.
  1. Lindsey and Meleesa discussed. There may be some money. It would be helpful to have a plan. Maybe offer a gift card. Some people might not want the swag stuff. Some discussion on this.

2. ACTION ITEM: The social media committee will come up with a plan with more information. They hope to have something in time for WIRMC.
3. In the past, when we had new members, we worked with them to get a shirt with the SWANA logo. Karin might have done that in the past. ACTION ITEM: Susan will look into doing that for the new members.

g. *Legislative Advocacy Report* *Meleesa*

- PFAS calls focus a lot on legislative topics and discussions.
- Amazing factsheet drafted by the PFAS group.
- We are reaching out to wastewater professionals on the PFAS issues to create dialog. We hope to organize a lobby day or legislative day to talk to legislators.
- Talked with Sen Kohl's staff recently. (Tony and Evan). Asked about the Clear Act. – identified responsible parties. (those with sources of PFAS and PFOS) felt the bill will not get a hearing in its current form. There are some issues with it.
  1. Recycling grants and the funding. They had questions on that.
  2. What is recycling? What is responsible use? Need to define terms and have agreement.
- The Firefighting Foam Bill has a bit more movement. It was emphasized not to use the Environmental Management Account for funding that because it would hurt funds available for other recycling and waste management funds.
- National Bills to Note
  1. Tom Udall Bill – Marine Plastics – not confident it will go anywhere.
  2. 5 million dollars for Recycling Infrastructure Bill. Not confident it will go anywhere.

h. *Programs Report* *Chad*

- There was discussion about the reimbursement of sponsors going back to the Rodeo. Not sure where we are at with that. Meleesa thought that was resolved. There was outreach to the sponsors that if they want reimbursement. Hilltopper requested reimbursement. Chad does not recall this communication. ACTION ITEM: Meleesa will check back on these records.
- Lindsey asked if the programs committee will continue? Perhaps this is the last update?
  1. John responded, “Yes, that is correct.” Bylaws may effect committees moving forward.

i. *Scholarship Report* *Roxanne*

- No report.

## 6. Timeline Reviewed

- a. John shared this summary of the timeline at the end of the meeting.

## 7. Unfinished, New, Other Business

a. *Recycling Connections Update-Susan is your new contact*

b. *Final Review of By-laws Changes*

- Sent out to all. Note the edition revised on 11-13-19.
- John gave a summary of changes.
  1. Regional director added to represent our regions.
  2. Cleaned up definitions such as YP because it was repetitive.
  3. If you are not a paying member, national deals with it, not chapters.
  4. Some chapters have higher membership fee. Clarity is included in the updated bylaws.
  5. New member category for a student. Election process is outlined. For a one-year position only.
    - a. Lindsey asked – would this be in effect after bylaws passed or next round?
    - b. John said he isn't sure.
    - c. Chad – Commented: be sure students are going to be able serve the full year if they are a senior.
  6. Committees change
    - a. Membership, Scholarship, Legislative, Social Media, YP, Safety
  7. To make bylaw changes in the future it can be done electronic.
- Lindsey – discussion on the comments received by membership encouraging people to vote no.
  1. Chris – Pat's issue is with national taking more control over the Badger Chapter.
  2. Meleesa – shares the membership concern (Pat). Although, she noted, we have had good representative with at the national level.
  3. Erik – shares the same concern, but he doesn't feel there is a problem now.
  4. John – keeping our national connection tight will be important. If we vote no, then we are saying we don't want to be a SWANA organization. So it is important to move forward. John did vote no at national to share the concerns of membership in the Badger Chapter.

5. Erik – some members don't know that background. Board should respond to Pat.
6. ACTION ITEM: John will create a statement to create clarification and information to the membership about this change. He will share with the group.

- Additionally, Susan shared an email from Pat.

Member Email: *I will be traveling to Deer camp today during the meeting. Because I anticipate numerous dead zones I will be in and out on the call. I continue to be skeptical of the recommended bylaw changes for a number of reasons. My question is what happens if numerous chapters reject changes? Or just the Badger Chapter? Pat OBrien*

- In response: John said he does not think any other chapter will reject these changes. There has already been a vote, and most chapters already approved the drafted changes. It is likely that if rejected in Wisconsin, then we would be the only one.
  1. Motion by Erik to approve the bylaw suggested revisions as outlined that will go to membership for approval.
  2. Seconded by Chad
  3. Approved – Motion Carries (unanimously)
- c. *Student Board Member Discussion* – No discussion. Hold for future meeting.
- d. *Committee Appointments* – got feedback from most but not all.
  - Confirmed that George, Chad, and Phil are on the WIRMC Committee and all would like to remain on the committee.
  - John reported out the committees and their members. He will send this out to all. Let John know of any changes.
  - Reminder: Members can be on the committee. BOD's must be a chair of the committees.
- e. *Addition*: Susan asked about voting for the bylaw changes.
  - The BOD agreed that a ballot voting was most appropriate. We will use the BOD voting procedure. It will be sent out via email.

## 8. Next Board Meeting *December 19, 2019*

### 9. Adjourn

- a. Motion by Erik to adjourn.
- b. Seconded by Chris.
- c. Meeting adjourned 12:20pm.

Minutes by Susan Schuller, Administrative Assistant