

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
Annual Membership Meeting  
February 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82044450983?pwd=OEVPSFg1OXNBREtQcFFuemdmNIYvUT09>

Call in: +1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 820 4445 0983 Passcode: 378542

## MINUTES

**Call to Order:**

### **Roll Call**

BOD: George Shereda, Alex Thomas, John Welch, Ali Rathsack, Mark Torresani, Dave Hagenbucher, Meleesa Johnson, Lindsey Carlson, Chad Doverspike, Chris Anderson,

BOD Not Present: Erik Lietz,

Also Present: Susan Schuller (SWANA Admin Assistant), Kate Strom Hiorns, Valerie Parker, Jonathan Logan, Pat O'Brien, Jill Martin, Brian Tippetts, Cyndi (GeoLogic), Dan Michiels, Brian Tippetts, Jennifer Semrau, Amanda Haffele, Gerry Neuser, Abby Lichtscheidl, Chris Blan, Mark Walter, and Jon Reisenbuechler

### **Minutes of Previous Meetings** [January 2021](#)

Motion by Alex to approve the January 2021 Minutes

Seconded by Meleesa

Approved – Motion Carries

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

Checking balance is \$6,133.23 RC paid for admin support. Income came in from National Savings \$22,336.75

Motion by Chad to approve the financial report as stated

Seconded by Lindsey

Approved – Motion Carries

Expect about \$5,000 from Conference to each organization.

Transfer from reserves was put in checking to keep the balance at the minimum balance.

Tax filing is done.

### **Committee Reports**

- DNR Report – [Kate Strom-Hiorns](#)
  - 26 people from DNR attended WIRMC this year as opposed to about 10-12 from the DNR in the past when it is a face-to-face event.
  - Waste and Materials Management Study Group. Two spots to fill on this study group. Alan Alby and Amber Myers-Smith took a new position. Clean WI interested to join. Currently accepting nominations to fill those positions.
  - Digitation project is underway for digitizing documents for sharing and organizing files so they are more available.
  - Hired an IT contractor to create more electronic inspection forms and database improvements. All tablets for field staff. Mobile phones for field staff are being added.
  - Infectious Waste and Haz Waste Reporting. Additionally, MRF Self Certification reports are open. And the Responsible Unit reporting is also coming out very soon (next week).
  - Electronics Recycling Rule will be posted soon for economic impact comments. Full rule language will be included in this. Keep an eye out. DNR welcomes comments.

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter - Solid Waste Association of North America**

- Question from John – Update on where the legislative audit bureau is going. There was a Hearing at the end of January on this. DNR reported back to them. After that, they didn't have questions at the hearing. Sec Cole testified and Bureau Director Brad Wolbert – we implemented all recommended procedures. That is a pretty typical/standard internal procedure. Final report will go to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee next month due April 1<sup>st</sup>. We haven't heard back from any activity from the legislature on this.
- John emphasized and reminded everyone that the three orgs did send a response to this report.
- Safety Ambassador Report *Erik*
  - Excellent job on this week.
  - AROW and this committee are starting to talk about working closer together.
- Membership Report *Dave*
  - 171 members (about half are YPs)
  - Combine efforts with Social Media, still separate committees for the time being but are having joint meetings for efficiency.
  - They are working on renewal strategies to communicate with members for renewing memberships.
  - They are working on ways to involve members.
  - Trying to define the value of being a membership and sharing this with members.
  - Working on updating the website and keeping people connected through Facebook.
- International *John*
  - YP members overall are dropping internationally – it is almost half of what it was.
    - Meleesa found this interesting. Perhaps the reason we are strong in our YP membership is our relationships with universities in the state?. WI is a model and so has FL.
    - Alex mentioned that this topic came up at the YP National Steering committee. He is interested in discussing this more with those interested.
  - This year experienced some financial challenges but they did cost cutting measures and applied for a line of credit (have not needed to use the line of credit yet). Got a PPP loan to help and applied for another.
  - Down about 5-10% financially overall, but doing ok. They did not need to use reserves yet.
  - Good communication with regional team. They continue to meet.
  - Discussed PFAS at a regional level and are in communication on this topic with national.
- YP Report *Dave--/Lindsey*
  - TRIVIA tonight. Ali, Krystal, and Hunter took the lead on this. Giving awards are planned for drawings and winners. They will give away \$25 gift cards to a local business and state park stickers.
  - YP Newsletter out. EXCELLENT JOB!
  - Looking at an educational opportunity coming up this summer. Maybe with Brown Co with their ongoing landfill construction project.
    - Chad mentioned that Brown Co is interested in hosting an event for board members and YPs. Everything will be new – buildings, utilities on site, landfill prep, etc.

- Social Media Report *Ali*
  - Efforts continue. Dave reported on this as well under membership report.
  - Would like more non-board members to join. Our goals for the year.
    1. Update Chapter Website
    2. Advertise meetings
    3. Add Instagram
    4. Create base calendar for social media blasts
  
- Legislative Advocacy Report *Meleesa*
  - Roxanne, Gerry, John, and Meleesa met to discuss a response to the governor's budget that came out last week. There are several things related to PFAS. The Environmental Management Account is being used to address issues relate to PFAS. This is also the fund used for Recycling grants. Standing with our platform – “The Recycling Fee needs to go to Recycling.” But to say that the EMA account can't be used for PFAS is like saying, “we don't care about the environment.” We need to make an ask for treatments, if that is the direction we are going at landfills. We expect more conversations on this.
  - The budget will be a big thing. Meleesa hasn't seen anything from the Legislative Audit Bureau specifically on the formula that will be used for distribution of recycling funds/grants.
  - We already send them the Forward Report – our response to the LAB.
  - Stuff related to Fire Fighting Foam. Be prepared for what is coming. They will use a hazardous index. Meleesa attended the PFAS Policy Advisory Group of the DNR Secretary. They are using a hazard metric matrix to identify a when a responsible party or organization would need to provide an alternative source of water based on PFAS contamination. No public comment on the use of this hazard metric matrix. What it means for us is to watch as testing for PFAS contamination gets implemented. Then how they identify the party responsible for the contamination based on the matrix. There is no answer yet. WMC has already filed a suit related to clean-ups and the authority of DNR to actually impose PFAS clean-up standards.
  - PFAS is the focus.
  - Mark Commented: This reminds him of the discussion of 30 years ago when we looked at responsible parties. It is so important that this does not fall just on the landfills. This is something to also watch what SWANA National does on this issue.
  - Meleesa: We really need to be active and talking with legislators and policy makers so they understand the role of landfills in this issue and impact.
  - There is a presentation today on this topic at WIRMC to provide an update on the Solid Waste PFAS Work Group.
  
- Scholarship Report *George*
  - Met Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. National applications forms have been released.
    - George, will send updates to Susan for the website.

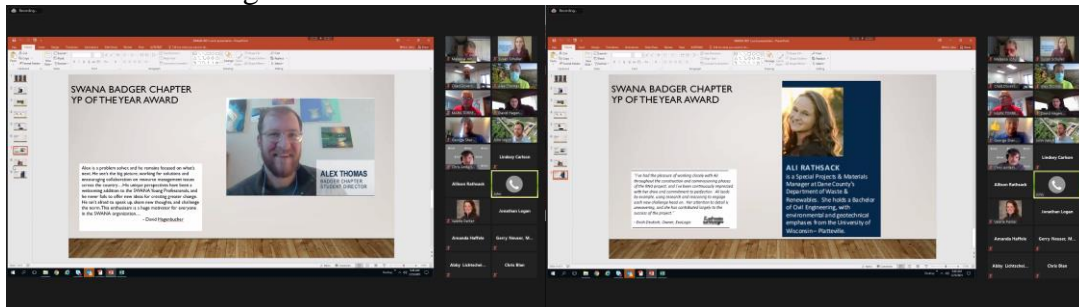
## **Timeline Reviewed**

Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000 (DONE)  
 Send reminder via email regarding scholarships (DONE)  
 Meet in person at conference (virtual this year) (DONE)  
 Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000 (DONE)  
 Website Updates (ONGOING)  
 Review goals (DONE)  
 Wisconsin Non-Stock Corp Annual Report Form (DONE)  
 Tax Form 990 (DONE)  
 Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000 (DONE)  
 Review bank statement (DONE)

January	Treasurer
February	Admin
Feb/March	President/Admin
February	Treasurer
March	Website Chair
March	Board
March	Treasurer
March	Treasurer
March	Treasurer
March	Treasurer

**Unfinished Business**

1. **AWARDS:** Recognition to our awardees Alex and Ali, our SWANA Badger Chapter YPs of the Year! Congratulations!



2. COVID vaccination advocacy for waste & recycling industry
  - o Sent letter to state but did not get in the next tier starting March 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - o We will continue to advocate for this.
3. WIRMC 2021 Update (Susan/Planning Team)
  - o 183 registrants and 200+ participants overall.
  - o Thanks to everyone helping with this event.
4. Chapter-wide Strategic Planning:
  - o Call for people to help. John did get some people respond.
  - o We want to bring in past leadership and YPs. Private and public sector.
  - o John created his list: Alex, Chad, Meleesa, John, Kenny, Sujata, Lindsey, and one more private sector person TBA.

Next meeting March 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

Motion to adjourn by Meleesa  
 Seconded by Chris  
 Adjourn – 9:55am

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Minutes recorded by Susan Schuller, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant