

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
Upper Dells Ballroom at Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI  
OR Teleconference  
Conference Call #: (605) 313-4159 / Access Code: 260738**

**February 26, 2019 at 9:45 a.m.**

**NOTES**

**Call to Order** – 9:50am

**Roll Call** –

- BOD: John Welch (President), Lindsey Carlson (YP), Dave Hagenbucher (YP), Phil Gearing (Membership), Meleesa Johnson (Treasurer), Chad Doverspike, Allison Rath sack, Chris Anderson (Secretary/Social Media)
- BOD Not Present: Erik Lietz (VP/Safety), George Shereda (Scholarship),
- Also Present: Susan Schuller (SWANA Admin Assistant), (Sign-in sent around), Chelsea Huckbarg, Abby Lichtscheidl, Paul Kluse, Sujata Gautam, Kyle Knudtson, Brandon Knudtson, Brian Tippetts, John Francis, Taylor Sorenson, Pat O’Brian, Ken Van Dyke, Gabby Romenebko, Krystal Clark, Staci Sanborn, Chris Milke, Kris Poston, Gerry Neuser, Jon Reisenbuechler, Mike Larson, Mark Walter, Vincent Miresse, Jan Suriano, Frank Vauwink, Jeremy Mack, no call-ins
- 33 total

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

Motion by Chad to approve January 2020 as written

Seconded by Meleesa

Approved – Motion Carries (Unanimously)

**Treasurer’s Report** [Meleesa](#)

Motion by Lindsey

Seconded by Ali

Approved – Motion Carries (Unanimously)

General comments – our conference is the largest revenue at around \$12K, membership dues also generate revenue.

Meleesa – 990 was filed recently. Nonprofit status filed with the state

\$8,502.73 in checking

\$15,995.77 in savings

Few outstanding finances

Healthy Balance for this organization.

Member Question: What problems may arise? John responds -- Not too much. Reduced attendance in a conference could effect that. Sometimes we want to support a project like the Into the Outdoors.

**Committee Reports**

- DNR Report [Kate Strom Hiorns \(emailed report will be shared\)](#)
  - John summarized the report. (See report at end of these notes)
- Safety Ambassador Report [Erik](#)
  - Dave gave a report. Eric Olson and John Peralta has the Safety Resource Center. Take a look at that. Looking at lithium ion battery disposal safety. It is a continual problem. Compress gas cylinder gas- safe disposal of these far exceeds the budgets of the communities involved. Additionally, there are safety issues too. There have been some fires in landfills and transfer stations related to cylinder gas.

- Visit the SRC and come to the session on that.
  - Take the Safety Pledge
- John gives kudos to the work in this group. This committee is relatively new and there has been a lot that has been accomplished. Get involved. Thanks to the leadership we have seen in this committee.
- Membership Report *Phil*
  - All time highs – 174total (75 YPs, 44 Students)
    1. Flyer sent out on Friday that includes Contact for Board of Directors & Upcoming events
    2. Connections to universities. Madison started a chapter.
    3. 3 universities represented at this year’s conference – 20 total students. Please introduce yourself and help us welcome these students.
  - Just a few comments from John, historically we have been at 80-85 members in SWANA-BC so this is really great to see the numbers really increased in the last few years. Keep encourage these students and YPs feel welcome. It is working.
- International *John*
  - Big changes at the international level – They used to have a voting member from every chapter (about 75 people). A strategic plan was done and it shrunk the board to 25 members. Now
    - 4 regions will make up the one voting structure.
    - Our representative is a regional rep from IL. There is a phone call with all regions with this representative before each meeting. They meet 3 times a year and the advisory board meets 1 time a year.
    - It is time to do another strategic plan. John will be going to OH to help with that plan. Please let John know if you have comments to take to this meeting.
    - There will be changes to the national conference. Changing SWANApalooza to “SOAR.”
    - WASTECon has also changed some. There are more leadership development different sessions. (storytelling, mindfulness, futurist, etc)
    - Comment from Brian Tippets – Comment on safety on the hauling side. Midsized and smaller haulers. SWANA may have a role here to help with these midsize/smaller haulers. ---- To keep the connections to SWANA national, invite leaders to this conference from national. Keep that connections.
- YP Report *Dave/Lindsey*
  - Met up last fall with annual meeting and had some fun. Keep an eye out for next fall for something in associated to SWANA-BC’s annual meeting
  - Dave and Lindsey – talked with UWSP students about SWANA. They were really excited.
  - Thanks Lindsey, Ali and Crystal for all the activities you see at this conference. So many great things planned.
    - Lindsey gave an overview of activities planned for this conference and the sessions at conference
  - Dynamic and 7River’s Recycling Tour - March 17<sup>th</sup>. (All are invited)
  - Tentatively: Marathon County Solid Waste Department – June event to tour, eat lunch, and mountain bike/hike. “WASTE CAMP” Camping afterwards with a river clean-up.

Motion by Dave - Request for financial support for this event to cover costs for this event up to \$500.

Seconded by Meleesa

Approved – Motion Carries (Unanimously)

- Other updates
  - Call out for student board member in the fall. Stay tuned for that.

- April 18<sup>th</sup> – Madison event coming up.
- Kudos to Brian Tippetts and Sarah B for starting this about 10 years ago to get involvement with YPs.
- Social Media Report *Chris*
  - Monthly meeting to help with communications from all committees.
  - FB – Google Groups – Linked In – Website
  - We are at 99 likes and 107 followers - Help us get to 100.  
Facebook.com/SWANAWisconsinBadgerChapter
  - There is a drawing at this event. Take the pledge to reduce single use plastic bag use. Great prizes to get!!
- Legislative Advocacy Report *Meleesa*
  - Assembly Session is in recess.
  - Fire Fighting Foam Bill – on the governor’s desk and likely to be signed.
  - The other PFAS bill on Clean Sweep for Fire Fighting Foam -- money would not come from the Environmental Management Fund, it would come from GPR. This bill creates a Clean Sweep Program to collect fire fighting foam.
  - CLEAR Act – Hanson bill out of Green Bay. On hold for this session. It would give DNR emergency permission to pull funds out of the Environmental Management Fund. That has been concerning to many landfills.
  - There is a session on PFAS at this conference. Come to that.
  - Meleesa will be presenting about PFAS to a county March 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Meleesa has been asked to write an introduction for an upcoming county newsletter focused on PFAS.
  - Save our Seas 2.0 Bill – SWANA National signed. Reduce plastic pollution in our oceans. Likely will not pass the Senate.
  - Owner Financial Responsibility Bill (Rep. Mursau – Crivits). Use the “net worth test” to measure worth for corporations but not municipalities. Muni-owned landfills want to use the net worth test. Right now counties cannot use the net worth test. This bill would allow munis to use this test. Likely won’t pass this session.
- Scholarship Report *George*
  - Phil gave a report – **May** 1<sup>st</sup> scholarship applications due – June 1st applications are due to national.

John encourages Members to take a look at these committees. Please feel free to join one of these

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

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Status of By-laws Changes – Hoping to have a vote on this today, but it is currently being reviewed by an attorney. We hope to send this out and do an electronic vote on this.
  - Summary of changes. Make our bylaws comply with the national SWANA.
    - Creates a Regional representative.
    - Hope to add a student member
    - Change our committees to have it match what we are doing.
  - Just a note: Our chapter wasn’t enthusiastic about this change. John actually voted against this.
  - Two choices – 1) we amend our bylaws and remain part of SWANA or 2) not amend and then not be associated with SWANA

Comments – Pat O’Brian – has come concerns with how much control national SWANA will have over us. Not sure if this is a long-term benefit to our chapter. Concerns this will dilute our organization. We will need to monitor this change. If this turns out to be not beneficial, then be prepared to make a change.

John Comments – it was really cumbersome to have 75 voting members. John is staying involved with National and have good relationships to give us voice.

Comments - Brian Tippetts. Echo's Pat's concerns. Michigan actually did not go with national. They faltered because of this and now they are trying to get back into SWANA as a result. It is important that our chapter stays involved and active nationally.

### **New Business - none**

### **Other Business**

Member Comment - Ken Vandyke – Waupaca County – Passing his experienced to get things changed. He feels the last decade has been the worst for solid waste, recycling, and conservation. Attitudes are worst ever. Concerns with the republic party (note, he is a rural republican). Recycling or Land Conservation we are being asked to choose. This is not acceptable. We must create change. I am going to be running against the republican accumdant. Please consider run and get involved. He has proposed resolutions. Village budgets are stressed and in trouble. Rural WI is paying for the “stat balanced budget.” Ken offered some direct examples of the costs rural WI is facing. He can be reached at VanDykeForAssembly@gamil.com

### **Next Board Meeting** *March 19, 2020*

### **Adjourn 10:55 AM**

Motion by Ali  
Seconded by Lindsay  
Approved – Motion Carries (Unanimously)

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### **DNR Report - Waste & Materials Management Update to SWANA**

Submitted by Kate Strom Hiorns 2/26/20

#### **Staffing:**

In hiring process: IT Specialist in Central office; Beneficial Use/Low Hazard Exemption Hydrogeologist in NER/CO; GIS Specialist (LTE) position – dates tbd

Recently hired: Bureau Director! – Brad Wolbert is returning to the program after a 3-year hiatus in Texas; Waste Management Specialists in Southeast Region for Haz Waste (starts 3/30 in Waukesha office) and Solid Waste (starts 3/2 in Milwaukee office)

#### **Rulemaking:**

Coal Combustion Residual landfill and surface impoundment rule scope statement presented to Natural Resources Board for approval February 26, rule writing can begin after approval

Multiple bureaus working on rulemaking related to 2019 Act 101 related to prohibition of using/discharging class B fire fighting foam that contains intentionally added PFAS – developing scope Keeping an eye on several legislative bills associated with solid waste:

- SB714 relating to: method for establishing proof of financial responsibility for solid waste facilities owned or operated by a municipality and granting rule-making authority
- SB670 relating to: exempting certain waste-to-energy facilities from tipping fees
- SB716 relating to: banning the use of coal (PAH containing) asphalt sealants in Wisconsin
- SB717 relating to: expanding the clean sweep program to include collection of certain fire fighting foams

General Program:

Legislative Audit Bureau Statewide Recycling Program evaluation continuing; still expecting a spring/summer report release

Waste Characterization Study RFP in final internal review stages

Waste & Materials Management Program Strategic Plan in final stages as well; thanks to all WMM Study Group members for input.

Annual reports season is in full swing: infectious waste (1000+), hazardous waste (2000+), MRF (40+), beneficial use (?), landfills (50+)

PFAS:

Many public input opportunities related to WisPAC and rule development; suggest going to <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Contaminants/PFAS.html> for all details

Notes Taken by Susan Schuller, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant