

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
Annual Membership Meeting  
August 19, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.  
Zoom Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by 10:03am

**Roll Call**

BOD: John Welch, Erik Lietz, Chad Doverspike, Meleesa Johnson, Dave Hagenbucher, Ali Rathsack, George Shereda, Alex Thomas, Chris Anderson,

BOD Not Present: Lindsey Carlson & Mark Toressani

Also Present: Susan Schuller (SWANA Admin Assistant) & Nathan Sandwick (UWExt), Victoria Chanez (scholarship winner)

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

Motion by Chad to approve as amended the June 2021 Minutes

Seconded by Meleesa

Approved – Motion Carries

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

Checking: \$12,815.10

Savings: \$20,337.86

Some funds were moved to checking to cover scholarship payments.

Motion by Chad to approve as presented.

Seconded by Erik

Approved - Motion carried

**SWANA BC Strategic Plan (Nathan Sandwick)** – An overview of the process for strategic planning as recommended by Nathan was presented to the group. A document was shared with the team that was previously sent out to the board.

**Committee Reports**

- DNR Report [Kate Strom Hiorns \(emailed report\)](#)
- Staffing: Waste & Materials Management Program is currently recruiting two IT positions and soon two Hazardous Waste Specialist positions
- Program budget: steady and slightly increased (for planned statewide pay increases) for this biennium
- Gathering information on potential updates to [NR 544](#) related to effective recycling programs and material recovery facilities. Feedback is welcome and we're happy to discuss with this group at another meeting.
- E-Cycle Program legislation signed by the governor [Full text of 2021 Wisconsin Act 79](#). Includes:
  - Reducing or eliminating annual registration fees for electronics manufacturers that sell fewer than 500 covered electronic devices per year in Wisconsin.

- Requiring manufacturers to report the weight of electronics collected from rural counties separately from electronics collected from urban counties.
  - Requiring the DNR to create a program to provide grants to expand electronics recycling and recovery programs in underserved areas of the state. The DNR expects to begin work setting up the grant program later this year.
  - Transitioning E-Cycle Wisconsin from a July-June program year to a calendar program year, beginning with an 18-month transition period that runs from July 1, 2022, to December 31.
- Electronics management and E-Cycle Program rule proposal will be going to the Natural Resources Board for approval in September
- Coal combustion residual landfill rule tentatively has a public hearing set for October 28. The rule includes federal regulations into WI code so these 6 landfill sites in WI are regulated under state rules rather than differing federal and state regulations.
- PFAS Technical Group and External Advisory Group meetings tomorrow: Aug. 20, 2021, 9-10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., respectively. Agendas on DNR website.
- Planning underway for the Solid Waste Interested Parties meeting on October 7, after the Waste & Materials Management Study Group meeting
- State employees wearing masks indoors for all work. Inspections continuing so far.
- Safety Ambassador Report *Erik*
  - Members of Marathon County Solid Waste Department—Eric Olson and John Peralta are taking the lead.
    - This committee is interested in getting a few more people to join the discussions. Please ask if someone in your unit would be interested in a statewide committee discussing safety issues. We are missing representation from small hauling companies. They meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed each month. Erik can send out the standard call-in information. He will send that to Ali for posting on Social Media.
  - Lithium Batteries and fires is an issue. Looking into ways to create a reporting system to help better document the occurrence of these incidents. Fires from lithium batteries seem to be increasing, but it is only anecdotal at this point.
    - Meleesa mentioned that there is work happening with AROW and the Waste Material Study Group on this topic.
    - Susan mentioned WIRMC presentations that were done last year and are recorded on this topic. Attendees of WIRMC 2021 have access to these recordings. And a reminder to consider a proposal at WIRMC 2022 on this topic. Deadline is coming up in September.
  - We do not have an update from national on fatality/incident report. Erik contacted national on that.
- Membership / Social Media Report *Dave / Ali*
  - Met last week (maybe two weeks ago). We want to be sure our current members are getting value. Still working on a survey to members but are waiting on how the strategic planning efforts are moving forward.
  - They reached out to members who have membership dues coming up.
- International *John*
  - National is undergoing strategic planning at the national level. John reports that it is an interesting process as they brought in a “futurist” who is helping with the process. John is on the planning committee related to safety.

- WasteCon is still expected to be in person in Orlando, FL this fall. That has not changed yet. No discussion on hybrid. John is scheduled to go, but he will not attend if it is in-person due to COVID concerns.
- Two rounds of PPT loans were received nationally. They did a nice job shifting during COVID. They did so well financially, that for the first time, national gave back credited funds to each chapter that covered most our insurance fees for the year. That was helpful.
- YP Report *Dave/Lindsey*
  - We did not meet this last month again.
  - Working on the YP newsletter!
  - Seeking applications for the Student Board Member. If no applicants are received, perhaps keep Alex in that role. National did something like this. We would need to reference the bylaws if this ends up being the case.
  - Trying to spark interest for all YPs. It seems to be difficult. People don't have time and are overwhelmed.
- Advocacy Report *Meleesa*
  - Continued discussion with Kohl's office with the recycling grant formula. AROW is taking the lead, but this relates to SWANA as well.
  - Comments on the PFAS water quality standards were due today.
  - The Green Tier Program is being analyzed as a potential model for PFAS reduction/elimination. The PFAS Work Group met and feels this model does not seem like a very effective way to reduce PFAS.
  - EPA has rule that requires manufacturers to report on the amount of PFAS they take in/use. There is concern if landfills are seen as units knowingly taking in PFAS. That would be a major issue if they require that for landfills. This is just something to watch.
- Scholarship Report *George*
  - Scholarship funds were sent out.
  - Victoria was awarded the National Harvey Gershman Scholarship in addition to a state scholarship. Huge accomplishment for her and great for our chapter. Congratulations Victoria!!!
  - George will send the bios and headshots to Susan to post on the website.

### **The timeline was reviewed**

### **Unfinished Business**

1. Fall In-Person Training/ September BOD Meeting – 11 registered, one paid non-member. Most are public employees (4 private).
  - Concerned with the situation of COVID was discussed.
  - The planning team will discuss and make a recommendation to the board.
  - Susan will send up a meeting with the planning team.
  - Since the Annual Meeting was preceding this training, John asked which board members are planning to attend virtually and who is planning in-person next month. It was about split in half of BODs planning for in-person vs virtual. Either way, there will be a virtual option for attendance at the annual meeting.
2. Elections – Susan gave a report. We have 5 candidates on the ballot. Four are incumbents.

- Erik is not continuing. We appreciate his many years of service on the board. Kind words shared and some good stories thanking Erik for his service.
3. Other items in preparation for the next meeting.
- Susan will create a schedule for next year and send to BOD to approve at next meeting.
  - Susan will draft a service agreement for administrative support that will be sent to the board to review before the next meeting.

Next meeting September 23, 2021 at 8:30am

Motion to Adjourn by Meleesa  
Seconded by Erik

Adjourn 11:20am

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Minutes recorded by Susan Schuller, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant