

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
Board Meeting  
November 18, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.  
Zoom Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** Start 10:01 am

**Roll Call**

BOD: John Welch, Dave Hagenbucher, Mark Toressani, Lindsey Carlson, Chris Anderson, Nate Schneider, Alex Thomas, Ali Rathsack, Chad Doverspike

BOD Not Present:, Meleesa Johnson, George Shereda

Also Present: Susan Schuller (SWANA Admin Assistant), Kate Strom-Hiorns (WDNR), Joe Pesante (Clean Earth Environmental), Karin Sieg (Recycling Connections)

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

Motion by Nate to approve

Seconded Lindsey

One edit under International – name change to John, not Dave.

Approved – Motion Carries

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

No Report. Not much has changed since last month.

**Committee Reports**

- DNR Report [Kate Strom Hiorns](#)
  - *Happy America Recycles week. DNR recently announced our 2021 Recycling Excellence Awards, which included a few food waste recovery or diversion programs this year, including Madison College Culinary Baking Program's Chester the Digester and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Compost Program. We've had a couple press releases and social media posts related to the REAs and current recycling markets that have gotten a lot of attention.*
  - E-Cycle Wisconsin annual report will be out in December that includes summary of program year 12, information about program challenges, and recommendations for legislative changes. From June 2020-July2021, registered collectors took in 23.4 million pounds of electronics, or 4 pounds per Wisconsin resident, an increase of 10% from the previous program year. This brought the total collected for recycling through E-Cycle Wisconsin since January 2010 to nearly 350 million pounds of electronics.
  - Related, we are in the early stages of developing a grant program to expand electronics recycling and recovery programs in underserved areas of the state, which was authorized in recent legislation. If you have any suggestions for how best to set up or allocate funds for this, please contact me. MI has a similar grant program that we are learning from.
  - Rulemaking: A big focus right now is finalizing language for the coal combustion residual landfill rule (WA-17-18). We had a public hearing in late October with comments mostly in support and we're working with the U.S. EPA on ensuring the rule would be as protective as the federal CCR rule.
  - Upcoming meetings open to anyone:

- WMM Study Group meeting December 2 at 9:30, update on Battery Management and Q&A session with Group members
  - DNR doing its first Hauler Stakeholder Meetings on Dec. 1 at 2:00 and Dec. 7 at 11:00. They will include a brief overview of legal requirements and how haulers can assist their municipal customers with recycling reporting.
  - MRF Stakeholder meeting on December 13 at 1:00, will include discussions on federal infrastructure bill & other legislation, MRF grant initiatives, and WI MRFs round table on markets, labor, supply chain impacts & operations
- Safety Ambassador Report - *Dave*
    - Dave will be the chair for this group since we have a lot of connections to those on the committee.
    - John Peralta and Eric Olson have been leading the charge on this. Lithium batteries is a big focus. They want to bring more awareness to the conference.
    - This committee seeks approval from the board to have a survey at the conference to ask attendees about lithium ion battery fires in an effort to identify the extent of the issue statewide. Ultimately to start putting some real numbers behind this issue in WI.
      - Dave makes a motion to approve having a survey at WIRMC to offer attendees
      - Alex seconds that.
      - Discussion: There was general discussion on if this survey would be different than the survey the organization is working on for members/strategic planning. Generally, these are different types of questions being asked. It can be offered differently.
      - Approved - Motion Carries
    - Erik will step down from as the National Safety Rep. John Peralta from Marathon County would like to step in that position.
      - Motion by Ali to name John Peralta as our representative on the National Safety Committee.
      - Seconded by Mark
      - Approved - Motion Carries
    - It would be great to have John attend quarterly or when there is an important issue to report to the board.
- Membership / Social Media Report *Ali*
    - The committee met recently. Two priorities
      1. Promote and advocate for WIRMC
      2. Potentially hiring someone for headshots – photographer for conference – free for YP/ELs and charge for others.
- International *John*
    - WasteCon happened. WasteCon had a lower attendance and fewer booths than were budgeted. But overall the financial situation for the organization is good.
    - Our regional rep attended. John emailed the board a nice detailed report our rep sent following the conference. Check your email.
    - International is continuing with their strategic planning process.
    - Chapter survey results came out. It touched on some of the concerns we have expressed in the past. There are some good things happening.
    - National sent an invitation for a meeting titled “From Acquisition to Retention: An Inside Look at SWANA Membership” December 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm CST. Many membership committee

members were sent the invite. If you did not receive this and would like to attend, ask Susan.

- YP Report *Lindsey*
  - 9 attendees attended the meeting yesterday.
  - Main focus is on the conference.
  - 3 main goals for the year.
    1. Increase engagement with YPs and students
    2. Waste Camp 2022! (Marathon Co)
    3. Leadership succession – make a smooth transition.
  
- Advocacy Report *Meleesa (emailed) John also added details*
  - Emailed a report. The Lake MI/Superior sediment bill will likely become law.
  - Not much going on. There were a number of bills introduced related to deer carcasses and PFAS, but no movement on those. Watch issues related to PFAS. It is good we have a website to help share our perspective and resources.
  - DNR is stopping their efforts for drinking water rule making process for nitrates because of an unrealistic timeline.
  - Discussion on Rulemaking process and timelines. Kate offered some clarifications and further explanation on how rulemaking works to meet deadlines.
    - o Basically, if deadlines are not met on time, then the process must start all over. When this happens, a lot of the steps are done, so it does go faster when done again.
  - John adds: This Rulemaking process changed during the time under Gov Walker. It created a more complex process than it was before.
  - It is not an easy process. If anyone would like to learn more about the rulemaking process, Kate can do a report on this.
  -
  
- Scholarship Report *George*
  - John provided a report.
  - Pat, George, Chad, and John met last week.
  - They agreed to stay at the \$6,000 awardee level.
  - We may need to decrease this in the future depending on the conference revenue and other financials with our chapter.
  - They would like to reach out to WCSWMA on their scholarship program. We understand that there are differences in these programs, but want to talk with them since sometimes the same individual gets awards from both organizations. The group feels it is important to just be aware of the process they use for their scholarship program.

**The timeline was reviewed**

Update Board Member List & Send To Members with appointed committees	October	Admin
Inform National of New Officers with appointed committees	October	Admin – In Progress
Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	October	Treasurer
Molo CEU pre-approval	November	Conference Chair
Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	November	Treasurer
Ask for YP Award nominations	December	Programs Committee
Review goals	December	Board
Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	December	Treasurer

Annual Progress Report	Dec 31	Admin
Annual Financial Report	Dec 31	Treasurer
Review bank statement	December	Treasurer
Website Updates	December	Website Chair

### Unfinished Business

- Committees – Any changes, please let Susan know. Susan will send National our Committee Chairs for the year.
- Chapter-wide Strategic Planning – Lindsey gave update.  
The group meets every other week.  
Working on brainstorming some strategic issues and action items in 4 areas.
  1. *How can we effectively collaborate as committees and make the best use of our volunteer resources?*
  2. *How can we create and deliver quality trainings to provide direct value to our members?*
  3. *How can we create a steady pipeline of leaders and members actively involved in committee work?*
  4. *How can we change the misconception that SWANA is the “landfill” organization in our Wisconsin resource management community?*
- WIRMC 2022 Update (Susan/Planning Team)
  - 14 Sponsors / 14 attendees registered so far / 12 Exhibitors signed up
  - Promotions are the focus at this point.
  - Still need one of you to take the lead on the workshop. (Hint, hint to Mark from Susan)
  - John asked: Is anyone under current travel restrictions to prevent people from attending? No Response
  - Keep a pulse on COVID - There could be a surge after the holidays that we will be watching.
  - Karin will send the schedule to DNR and get this listed as an event approved for CEU opportunities.
  - Susan will send the schedule to Chad to send to National SWANA for CEU approval.
  - Discussion about COVID.
    - Susan said a lot of conversations have happened. They will assess the situation after the new year before any mandate or requirements will be announced to attendees. At this point, it is too preliminary to decide.
    - Chris shared his experience with attending public concerts: Proof of vaccination or proof of negative test within 72 hours is often required to attend these events. A strategy to consider. John noted that this may be unfavorable by some members and they won't attend if this is required.
    - Ali asked on the protocols or mandates from the Hyatt. Susan shared some of the procedures in place to keep guest safe. They have implemented new practices of cleanliness and food service. It is of their best interest to apply these practices. No mandates are in place as far as requiring guests to do anything. Karin elaborated on information from the Hyatt.
    - We as an organization can require masks or implement our own required protocols and Karin would like to know how those decisions get made. Is it up to the 9 member committee? Is it up to the Board Presidents? Who

ultimately makes this decision? John feels the committee can present recommendations and send to the presidents. He asked when the next meeting will be. Susan will send this to him.

Next meeting December 16, 2021 at 10:00am

Motion to Adjourn by Chris

Seconded by Alex

Adjourn – 11:01 am

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Minutes recorded by Susan Schuller, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant