

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter
Solid Waste Association of North America
Annual Meeting / Board Meeting
January 16th, 2025 at 10:00 AM
MINUTES – APPROVED**

Call to Order: 10:03 AM

Roll Call & Introductions

BOD: Abby Lichtscheidl, Benjamin Hintz, Dave Hagenbucher, John Welch, Julie Ketchum, Ali Rath sack,

BOD Not Present: Chris Anderson, Lee Daigle, Dave Hagenbucher, John Peralta

Also Present: Michelle Nieuwenhuis (RC), Alli Viso,

Minutes of Previous Meetings [December 2024](#)

Ali moves to approve December Minutes.

Abby – Seconded

Approved – Motion carries

Treasurer's Report [Abby \(emailed\)](#)

Checking: \$ 7,535.09

Savings: \$ 11,969.52

Abby reported about some transactions this past month.

John Welch motions to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Ben – Seconded

Approved – Motion carries

Committee Reports

DNR Report -

- Waste Program Staffing:
 - Melanie Burns hired as Southeast Region Supervisor, started on 1/13. She was previously a regional waste management specialist working on recycling and non-landfill solid waste in our program.
- SWIFR grant activities:
 - Contractor conducted statewide food waste surveys
 - Continued focus on outreach and partnerships
 - Assessing funds and capacity for second contractor: one-on-one technical assistance
- Upcoming meetings:
 - Natural Resources Board meeting on January 22 includes a request to conduct a public hearing on the scope statement for our non-landfill proposed rulemaking and a request to approve the landfill rule. The NRB agenda with links to those documents is on the DNR website: [January 2025 Agenda and Meeting Materials | Wisconsin Natural Resources Board | Wisconsin DNR](#) *Thanks again to SWANA for your comments in support of the rule!*
 - The [Waste and Materials Management Study Group](#) will have a virtual meeting on Feb. 6 at 9:00. The agenda is posted on the DNR website and includes DNR

updates, Battery Subgroup information, Rulemaking updates, and a discussion on DNR procedure efficiency ideas.

- Reminder that there will be a public hearing on Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. for the municipal landfill OFR rule. This is for both the emergency/temporary rule and the permanent rule – comments welcome. The rule and hearing info can be found at the DNR's [proposed rule webpage](#) under WA-08-24.
- Scope statements have been published for a [non-landfill solid waste rule](#) and an [electronics recycling rule](#). We expect to hold public hearings on the scope statements if approved by the NRB at upcoming meetings. The hearing on the non-landfill scope statement is tentatively planned for Jan. 30 at 9 a.m.

Safety Ambassador Report *Dave*

- Solid Waste Industry has been recently listed as the 4th most dangerous job
- Safety Resource center will be a mini RoadEO with RC vehicles to focus on operations safety and to promote our RoadEO with Iowa.

Membership / Social Media Report *Ali*

- Website will be added to the new/unfinished business next agenda.
- There are a total of 122 members: 12 students, 10 small businesses, 38 private, 59 public 1 international, 2 retired.
- There are 12 expiring members and they were contacted last week regarding their membership.
- Alli sent out a list of the expiring members and the board reviewed to contact familiar names to see if they've left the industry and if they have a replacement that could be contacted.
- Board not in attendance will also review list to see if they recognized any of the expiring names.

International *John Welch*

- WasteCon was a profitable conference with approximately 1,100 – 1,200 registrations.
- The next in person meeting is in April.
- There is a reduction in memberships, so the work being done to reach out to expiring members is very important.
- John's 2 year term is coming up in July, so he will be looking for a replacement.
- SWANA international is looking into partnering with NWRA to use SWANA trainings which would be good exposure for SWANA & the trainings.
- John's 2 year term is coming up in July – looing for replacement
- The nominations period is open for the SWANA international board which is a 5 year commitment. John will be applying and is looking for a letter of support from the board to be submitted by the chapter..
 - Abby motions to write a letter of support sending John to the National Officers
 - Julie Seconds.
 - Approved – Motion carries.

YP Report *Abby*

- WIRMC decoration creation party was successful with 9 people in attendance – all decorations were completed early so the welcome event is all set. Birthday cupcakes are also confirmed for WIRMC's 25th Birthday.
- All of the holes have been filled. There are 3 platinum sponsors that have been given a complimentary hole at no cost, 5 holes have been sponsored, and 1 hole is being held for

the YPs & Els. All hole sponsors have been contacted about setting up their extra obstacles. Cocktail tables will be located at each hole with a table topper.

Advocacy Report *Dave*

- Dave discusses the EPA draft assessment on biosolids application.
- Currently working on a draft 3 of a battery bill for Wisconsin and there will likely be a bill introduction soon for batteries and keeping them out of the waste systems. It involves battery manufacturers to fund a system similar to EPR only it will be called a safety bill because of the hazards of the battery.
 - Julie will send SWANA board the draft of the battery bill. Motions will be done via email to send a letter of support once the draft is reviewed.

Scholarship Report *Ben*

- Abby will reach out to the last winner to see if they will be attending WIRMC.

Timeline Review

Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	January	Treasurer
Send reminder via email regarding scholarships	February	Admin
Meet in person at conference	Feb/March	President/Admin
Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	February	Treasurer

Unfinished – New Business

- **Student Board of Director Position**
 - Still not filled.
- **RoadEO Update**
 - Met on the 8th of January and will be meeting again next week.
 - All details will be solidified by the end of the month.
 - A potential date is set for Wednesday, April 16th in Dubuque.
 - The location will be at Peosta College; there is blacktop area for trucks and a dirt area for equipment.
 - Killburg Equipment will supply trucks.
 - Martin Equipment will provide heavy equipment.
 - City of Dubuque will donate cones as well as Peosta College.
 - Sponsorship pushes will start in February. A draft letter was created but it doesn't have specific dates so once that is finalized it will be sent out. They are wanting to make t-shirts so sponsors need to be confirmed by 1st or 2nd week in March in order for the t-shirts to be ready.
 - Registration will open in March and will be \$200 a person. Hoping to lower it with more sponsors.
 - John Welch motions for chapter to pay for travel expenses for Abby to travel to this RoadEO event.
 - Julie seconded.
 - Approved – Motion Carries
- **WIRMC Update**
 - Raffle Item

- Ali motions to support up to \$250 for item donation to WIRMC.
 - John seconds.
 - Approved – Motion Carries.
 - Abby will do the Milwaukee Pack Out again.
- It is the 25th Anniversary Year! We were at Chula in the very first WIRMC, so that is cool we are there again to celebrate 25 yrs.
- Registration is at 148 (up 32 registrants from this time last year)
- Expo Hall is Full (56 booths. Up from 47 booths last year—but the hall was filled last year too, just a different layout.)
- Sponsorship is at an all-time high – \$54,300 in total.
- YELPs are doing amazing things planning the Welcome Event. We are very appreciative of them. And Foth is planning an excellent event Thursday night, and we also greatly appreciate that.
- No field trip this year.
- Request: Everyone look through their scrap books for a picture from 25 years ago. Where were you? What were you doing? We want to know. Michelle will send out form to board members. Picture cards are being created to put on display near the registration area. We ask all board members to please submit something by 2/21/25.
- **University Tour**
 - Abby developed a list of people who live around universities so they don't have to travel far to meet with a professor or local group that could potentially help reach more students.
 - UW Madison, Midstate College, UW Stevens Point, UW Platteville, UW Green Bay, UW Oshkosh, MSOE, and UW Milwaukee are all on the list.
 - Abby is looking for help to pair up YP and Els to go to different universities and present a PowerPoint about SWANA to help recruit members. She will be sending out a list to the board to help.
- **Rafter Networking Event**
 - The AROW executive committee met last week and was in support of this event; the AROW board meeting is next week on the 22nd and they will vote.
 - Aiming for late July/early August. A potential date would be July 19th, with a night game at 6:30pm.
 - Quick Update:
 - The prices were raised recently so instead of the original \$36 a person it would be \$40 a person which would raise the cost to \$667. Cost for members would be \$20 and it would be \$40 for a non-member to attend. The greater the attendance the less the organizations would have to pay.
 - The balcony area was raised from 75 people to 80 people and in order to keep the balcony exclusive 80 people would need to attend. Abby suggests keeping the number at 50 as planned and not worry about the exclusivity.
 - A final motion will be made at the next board meeting once we find out if AROW is in support.

- **Financial Report**

- Ben motions to approve financial report.
- Julie seconds.
 - Approved – Motion Carries.

Next board meeting is February 26th, at 9:45 AM

Motion to adjourn by Abby
Seconded by Ben
Approved

Adjourn – 11:29 AM

Minutes recorded by Michelle Nieuwenhuis, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant