

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter
Solid Waste Association of North America
Annual Meeting / Board Meeting
February 26th, 2025 at 10:00 AM
MINUTES – Approved**

Call to Order: 9:46 AM

Roll Call & Introductions

BOD: Dave Hagenbucher, John Peralta, John Welch, Lee Daigle, Ben Hintz, Chris Anderson, Julie Ketchum, Ali Rathsack

BOD Not Present: Abby Lichtscheidl

Also Present: Michelle Nieuwenhuis (RC), Chris Blan (virtual), Logan Dwyer, Aden Clark, Jennifer Semrau, Amanda Haffele, Paul Klose, Jon Reisenburchlor, Mark Walter, Allison Birr, Valerie Parker, Chad Doverspike, Kenneth Miller, Joe Mayne, Megen Hines, Betsy Powers, Casey Hines, Zeke Schwartzhoff

Minutes of Previous Meetings [January 2025](#)

John Welch moves to approve January Minutes.

Ben – Seconded

Approved – Motion carries

Treasurer's Report [Abby \(emailed\). Presented by Lee.](#)

Checking: \$ 6,428.15

Savings: \$ 10,969.52

Lee reported about some transactions this past month.

John Peralta motions to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Ali – Seconded

Approved – Motion carries

Committee Reports

DNR Report - [Jennifer](#)

- Waste Program Staffing
 - We are waiting on internal processes to post and hire Hazardous Waste Management Specialist, Complaints Coordinator, and E-Cycle Coordinator positions. Solid Waste Engineer Anne Ebent, out of the Green Bay office, left our program last week and we have submitted a request to hire another engineer as well. Keep an eye on wisc.jobs if interested in any of those.
- Federal Grants
 - SWIFR grant activities: (federal grant)
 - Contractor has conducted statewide food waste surveys and some results are coming back. Presently producing draft reports discussing results.
 - Continued focus on outreach and partnerships. Ruth O'Donnell is our Organics Waste Management Specialist (meet her at the conference!).
 - We are working on request for proposals for another contract to provide one-on-one technical assistance to businesses (or municipalities?) interested in preventing and reducing food waste.

- DOE grant on batteries- no contact from DOE since Jan. 20 (federal grant)
 - ~\$1.6M for battery education and collection
- Rulemaking
 - Natural Resources Board approved the landfill rule on January 22. It is still with the governor's office and is expected to be referred to the Legislature soon.
Thanks again to SWANA for your comments in support of the rule!
 - Today's NRB meeting includes a request to conduct a public hearing on the scope statement for an E-cycle rule, and a request to approve the scope statement for a non-landfill rulemaking. The NRB agenda with links to those documents is on the DNR website. The E-Cycle scope hearing, if approved, is tentatively planned for March 7 at 9:00 a.m.
 - The recycling rule and hazardous waste rules are currently being reviewed by legislative committees. Jennifer met with the co-chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee to address a few questions.
 - The DNR is working with its Waste and Materials Management Study Group to assess existing procedures that impact WMM Program customers and determine potential ways to streamline and improve efficiency. The department wants to learn from partner efficiency examples and incorporate ideas into its plan review, reporting, inspection and other regulatory procedures. Please contact your Study Group representative if you have suggestions, or contact Kate Strom Hiorns at DNR directly (kathrynm.stromhiorns@wisconsin.gov).
- Other
 - Reporting season- multiple reports open (IW, HW, LF, MRF); RU opening mid-March.
 - Council in Recycling meeting March 7 at 10:00 (virtual). Agenda includes report on EM account and the American Beverage Association/WI Beverage Association "Every Bottle Back Initiative." Agenda and Teams link online at [Wisconsin Council on Recycling | Wisconsin DNR](#).

Safety Ambassador Report *John Peralta*

- Happy Protect Your Heart Month!
- Last meeting was focused mostly on setting up SRC for WIRMC.
- Dropped from 7th to 4th most dangerous job so there has been a lot of focus on fatalities in our industry.
- Don't forget about the mini RoadEO located near the registration desk this week!

Membership / Social Media Report *Ali*

- Ali reviewed the 2025 goals.
- Total member numbers 122 (as of 1/8/2025). Reached out to suspended members
- Reviewed E-Newsletter from the previous years
- Some upcoming events are the YP Welcome Event tonight, Lunch & Learn on March 27th with AROW, RoadEO in the middle of April, Rafters Game on July 19th.
- Ali reminds us all to take pictures during our stay for WIRMC 2025.

International *John Welch*

- International Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis which is more than it has been in the past which is good.

- WasteCon was successful and turned a profit.
- SWANA membership is declining which is an indicator of some of the challenges there has been over the last few years, but a new Director of Membership was hired who has 25 years of experience. They are working on a membership campaign drive.
- Next in person meeting will be held in California.

YP Report *Lee*

- University Tour Prep in progress. Expect to plan presentations in March-May.
 - The goal of the university tour is to increase awareness of SWANA, fill the student board of directors position, increase membership and increase applications for the scholarship
- Make sure to come to the Welcome Night tonight at 7pm. Your entertainment for the night is Mini Golf!! Mini Golf tournament signup starts at 7. Tournament runs from 7:30-8pm. Top 3 places win \$100 Gift cards. Make sure to check out the sponsorship at each hole! After the tournament there will be free play until 10pm. Also look for the Anniversary cupcakes and 25th anniversary party favors.

Advocacy Report *Dave*

- The owner financial responsibility bill that was changed last year has started to be used by a few government solid waste departments.
- There should be some finality of the NR-500 rules and they are already considering a plan on how the changes will be implemented.
- As wastewater treatment plants try to reduce their PFAs sources they are also going to try to manage their biosolids and how they dispose of them. If the concentrations are high, they will have to find landfills or other disposal options.
- Battery bill is on hold until June due to legislature withholding any legislation with funds attached.
- A lot of opposition between the Wisconsin Manufacturer's Commerce and the Portable Battery Recycling Association.
- In the federal level, if you've applied for grant funding such as SWIFR waste reduction, education, and recycling programs may be on chopping block regardless of already existing contracts or spent funds.

Scholarship Report *John*

- SWANA National is changing scholarships – we're waiting to hear back from National to see what the timeline is.

Timeline Review

Meet in person at conference	Feb/March	President/Admin
Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	February	Treasurer
Website Updates	March	Website Chair
Review goals	March	Board
Wisconsin Non-Stock Corp Annual Report Form	March	Treasurer
Tax Form 990	March	Treasurer
Check Balance to make sure it's not under \$5,000	March	Treasurer
Review bank statement	March	Treasurer

Unfinished – New Business

- **Student Board of Director Position**

- Ties directly to University Tour in hopes to gain more interest.

- **RoadEO Update**

- <https://isoswo.org/Road-E-O>
- Event is April 15 & 16th in Dubuque IA

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, April 15

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Course and expo building set up by volunteers |
| 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. | Possible networking event in the area |

Wednesday, April 16

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 8:30 am – 9:00 am | Volunteer and Participant Check-in |
| 9:00 am – 9:30 am | Judge and volunteer training |
| | Participant Safety Brief and written test |
| 9:30 am – 11:30 pm | Truck and Equipment Course Operation |
| 11:30 pm – 12:30 pm | Lunch break at registration building |
| 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm | Truck and Equipment Course Operation |
| 3:00 pm | Course tear down |
| 3:30 pm | Awards Ceremony at registration building |

- Registration is Open. Go to the website to register before March 31st
- ISOSWO Road-E-O will consist of six events:
 - Wheeled end loader
 - Tracked dozer or loader
 - Articulated truck
 - Rear loader collection truck
 - Side-loader collection truck
 - Roll-off truck
- Looking for sponsors. Looking for sponsors to secure funding by the first week of March. Contact Joe Farris jfarris@mahaskacountysolidwaste.org or Abby for more details.
- Check out the mini Road-E-O at the SRC across the hall from the registration desk.

- **University Tour**

- Final edits are being made on the PowerPoint.
- We need Eps/Board members to team up with the YPs that are on the Google Doc.
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/12d3JmNkcIElr7EusLB888eiNvZe3FzIem3EOLW7UDz0/edit?tab=t.0>
- Presentations are to be done between March-May.
- After the presentations please report back to the board as a follow up.

- **Baseball Outing**

- Arow, WCSWMA and SWANA Members are invited to the Baseball Networking event, Saturday July 19th, 2025. 6:30 pm. Limited Tickets available. \$20 for members, \$40 for non-members. Look for the flyers at the back of the room? Or the registration desk?
 - All you can eat until 7:30PM, All you can drink until the 7th inning.

- **SWANA Bylaws**

- John Welch reviewed the changes in the SWANA bylaws.

There is a motion to renew MOU with Region 9.

John Peralta motions to approve.

John Welch seconds.

Motion Approved.

Next board meeting is March 20th, at 10:00 AM

Motion to adjourn by John Peralta

Seconded by John Welch

Approved

Adjourn – 10:58 AM

Minutes recorded by Michelle Nieuwenhuis, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant