



Wisconsin Badger Chapter

SWANA

Solid Waste Association of North America

Wisconsin Badger State Chapter

Solid Waste Association of North America

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda

Minutes - APPROVED

 **September 17, 2026**

 **10:00 AM**

 [Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 273 945 796 411 075

Passcode: r27aC9Mc

Opening Business

- Call to Order: 10:05 AM
- Roll Call
 - BOD: Lee Daigle, Logan Dwyer, Allison Birr, Abby Sauer, John Welch, Ali Rathack, Ben Hintz, Alan Kerr, John Peralta
 - BOD Not Present: Jon Schroeder, Julie Ketchum
 - Also Present: Michelle Nieuwenhuis (RC), Madison Thompson
- Approval of August 2026 Meeting Minutes
 - John Welch motions to approve June minutes.
 - Ali – Seconded.
 - Approved – Motion carries.
- **Board of Directors Elections & Elections of Officers**

The election results: 34 votes cast online (0 mailed or emailed)
0 thrown out (repeat votes)
34 valid votes cast.
RESULTS: Abby Sauer, John Peralta, John Welch, Lee Daigle, and Ben Hintz.

Election of Board President – John Welch nominates Lee Daigle.

Motion by John Welch to close nominations and accept nomination of Lee as President.

Ali seconds. Approved – Motion carries.

Election of Board Vice President – Alan Kerr nominates himself. Ben Hintz nominates himself.

Logan Dwyer nominates Abby Sauer.

Group discusses nominations.

Motion to close nominations and accept nomination of Alan as Vice President.

Approved – Motion carries.

Election of Treasurer – Ali nominates Abby.

Motion by John Welch to close nominations and accept nomination of Abby as Treasurer.
Approved – Motion carries.

Election of Secretary – John Welch nominates Ali.

Motion by John Welch to close nominations and accept nomination of Ali as Secretary.
Approved – Motion carries

- Treasurer's Report — **Abby Sauer**
 - Checking - \$26,531.41
 - Savings - \$10,471.17
 - Abby reported on transactions this past month.
 - Alan motions to approve the Treasurer's Report.
 - John Peralta - Seconded.
 - Approved – Motion carries.

Committee Reports

- **DNR Report** – *Jennifer Semrau*

Staffing:

- No changes since last month; still hoping to hire Northern/West Central Region supervisor (replacing John Morris) and new Landfill Section Manager (new position) sometime this fall.

Upcoming meetings:

- FFAS subgroup call Sept. 30, 1-3 p.m. [Register](#)
- MRF Stakeholder Meeting Oct. 2, 9 a.m.-noon [Agenda and registration](#)
- Solid Waste Interested Parties Oct. 8, 1-3 p.m. (budget review, recycling data, non-landfill rule update) [Register](#)
- Non-landfill solid waste rule next comment period will open next week, public hearing planned for Oct. 15, 1 p.m. [Register](#)

Other updates:

- Reminder that new landfill plan review fees take effect in January 2027: [Updates to Wisconsin Solid Waste Management Fees Administrative Code \[PDF\]](#)
- Revised guidance for on inspection landfill groundwater monitoring wells available for public input through Sept. 25
 - [Inspecting Groundwater Monitoring Wells at Landfills \(WA-1796\) \[PDF\]](#)
- On Sept. 10, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a proposal to approve the Wisconsin DNR's application to allow the DNR coal combustion residual permit program for CCR landfills to operate in lieu of the federal CCR program. EPA preliminarily determined that the Wisconsin CCR permit program meets the standard for approval under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. EPA will accept comments on this proposal for 60 days after Federal Register publication. EPA will hold an online public hearing about this proposed approval on Nov. 9, 2026, starting at 3 p.m. CT. For more information, visit the [EPA webpage](#) about the application.

- DNR and The Battery Network held a webinar on the battery recycling law Sept. 14; ~75 participants
 - [Video recording of webinar](#)
 - [Department of Natural Resources presentation slides](#)
 - [The Battery Network presentation slides](#)
- **Safety Ambassador Report – Abby Sauer**
 - September is National Preparedness Month. Group discussed natural disasters across the country and how landfills can help handle all the debris as a result.
 - A reminder to update your emergency response plans!
 - Zero applicants for the Safety Award – committee is considering preparing a presentation regarding Vehicle Incident Prevention, a topic that was widely remarked in the survey distributed at WIRMC. Committee asks board if they would support this presentation at WIRMC assuming there is availability to present
 - Group discusses.
- **Social Media & Membership Report – Ali**
 - Total membership number breakdown as of a couple weeks ago: 136 members (decreased 1). 38 students (stayed the same), 42 private sector (increase 1), 44 public sector (decreased 1), and 10 small business (decreased 1). retiree 2 (stayed the same)
 - Open rate for e-newsletter is 33.5% which is above industry standard.
- **International & National –John Welch**
 - RCon is next week. Registration is down about 10% from last year. Sponsorships and exhibitor booths have met the budget.
 - SWANA and the CEO Amy have decided not to renew her contract. One of her executive deputies will be taking over in the interim. Her position will be posted on Monday, 8/24. Interviews will be held through the month of October.
 - Financial issues with membership and trainings but interim CEOs are doing their best to handle them.
 - SWANA National is doing a targeted member campaign for those who didn't get renewal emails during the data management issues.
- **Young Professionals – Logan & Abby**
 - Committee held a webinar lunch and learn with Amanda Haffele regarding setting up agreements with municipalities and businesses.
 - Meeting attendance has been great!
 - Beginning to work on 2027 goals. Once those are more solidified committee will put focus back on Welcome Night for WIRMC.
- **Legislative Advocacy Report –**
 - A new EPA rule was recently issued that will reduce the value of RIN tax credits associated with landfill renewable natural gas (RNG). Industry representatives are reviewing the rule and will provide information on its potential impact, although RINs will continue to be available.

- EPA recently issued a rule that will reduce the value of RIN tax credits associated with landfill renewable natural gas. More information will be provided on the potential impact.
 - Group discusses whether SWANA should support efforts to emphasize the importance of maintaining future landfill airspace.
 - Committee has been involved in meetings with DNR regarding the PFAs law, but still has questions for DNR regarding implementation.
 - Another law allows certain public landfills with Clean Water grants to convert the grants into loans. Applications are opening up soon and committee will keep an eye on which projects receive funding.
 - DNR has formed a new PFAs task force/work group. Next meeting will be September 30th from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM.
- **Scholarship Report – John Welch**
 - Group met last week and agreed on path forward. Our scholarship will align with SWANA National's and will also have a scholarship for high school seniors. John will be working on this next week.
 - Scholarship will open in October and be open until December.
- **Trainings– Lee Daigle**
 - SWANA National is investing in training. Process is slow due to SWANA National staffing changes, but it is still happening.
- **Bylaws Update – John Welch**
 - All changes to the Bylaws were approved. Bylaws need to be reviewed by Wisconsin attorney. Lee will reach out to one.

Ongoing & New Business

- **Timeline Review**

SEPTEMBER		
Assess Administrative Assistant Contract	September	Board
Annual Meeting: Election of Officers, Service Provider Agreement	September	President/Admin
Post Board of Directors Election Results on Social Media	September	Admin
Check Balance to Make Sure It's Not Under \$5,000	September	Treasurer
Review Bank Statement	September	Treasurer
Review Goals	September	Board
Website Updates	September	Website Chair
OCTOBER		
Update Board Member List & Send to Members With Appointed Committees	October	Admin
Inform National of New Officers with Appointed Committees	October	Admin
CEU Pre-Approval for WIRMC	October	Admin
Check Balance to Make Sure It's Not Under \$5,000	October	Treasurer

- **WIRMC Update**
 - Planning committee is meeting next week and will discuss RFPs for Venues for 2028-2029 as well as speaker schedule.
- **Student Board of Director Position**
 - Jon is interested in continuing on the board, but is unable to attend meetings at the current time.
 - To follow current Bylaws, A nominating committee of Lee, Alan, and Michelle was selected to open up
- **Approve 2026-2027 Meeting Schedule**
 - Michelle presents draft meeting schedule.
 - Group discusses.
- **Budget Approval**
 - Abby presents budget.
 - Alan motions to approve budget for 2026 – 2027.
 - John Peralta seconds.
 - Approved – Motion carries.
- **Administrative Services Contract**
 - Michelle presents two draft administrative services contracts.
 - Alan motions to approve 8 hours plus 4 contract.
 - Abby seconds.
 - Approved – Motion carries.
- **Committee Appointments**
 - Board should send Lee and Alan their top three choices for committee appointments.
- **Changing Industry Interests**
 - New companies and investors are showing more interest in the financial side of the landfill industry.
- **International Training**
 - SWANA-WI could consider taking a larger role in the opportunities to provide international landfill and solid waste training. This could provide a new revenue stream for the chapter.

Upcoming Meeting

 Next Board Meeting

 October 15th, 2026

 10:00 AM

Adjournment – 11:41 AM

Alan motions to adjourn.

Lee - Seconded.

Approved – Motion carries.

Minutes recorded by Michelle Nieuwenhuis, SWANA-BC Administrative Assistant