



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

 **August 20, 2026**

 **10:00 AM**

 [Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 294 940 707 562 6

Passcode: w2FM9vR6

Opening Business

- Call to Order: 10:00 AM
- Roll Call
 - BOD: Julie Ketchum, Logan Dwyer, Allison Birr, Abby Sauer, John Welch, Ali Rathack, Ben Hintz, Jon Schroeder, Alan Kerr
 - BOD Not Present: John Peralta
 - Also Present: Michelle Nieuwenhuis (RC), Josh Allen, BreAnne Kahnk, Sarah Murray, Brad Vanderkin, Susan Schuller
- Approval of June 2026 Meeting Minutes
 - Abby motions to approve June minutes.
 - Julie – Seconded.
 - Approved – Motion carries.
- Treasurer's Report — **Abby Sauer**
 - Checking - \$26,292.79
 - Savings - \$10,471.17
 - Abby reported on transactions this past month.
 - John motions to approve the Treasurer's Report.
 - Ben - Seconded.
 - Approved – Motion carries.

Committee Reports

- **DNR Report** – Sarah Murray

Staffing:

- Cathryn Cox started as battery management specialist in July, implementing new battery law.
- Drae Rogers moved from a Northeast Region hydrogeologist position to a new emerging contaminants hydro position in our program (created by the PFAS law) in July.

Upcoming meetings:

- Council on Recycling Sept. 11 with tours of Brown County HHW/transfer facility. Registration link coming soon.
- Battery collection program information session Sept. 14. Registration link: [Wisconsin Battery Collection Program Information Session | Join meeting in Teams | Microsoft Teams](#)
- FFAS subgroup calls (see attached document: September 30 (1:00 – 3:00 pm),

October 13 (1:00 – 2:30 pm), and November 5 (9:00 – 10:30 am during our quarterly WMM Study Group meeting). Registration links coming soon.

Other updates:

- E-Cycle Wisconsin electronics collection grant applications due Aug. 31. More info here: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/ecycle/Collectors.html>
- Recycling Excellence Award nominations due Sept. 14. More info here: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Recycling/Awards.html>
- Non-landfill solid waste rule next comment period will open mid-September, public hearing planned for Oct. 15.
- Reminder that new landfill plan review fees take effect in January 2027: [Updates to Wisconsin Solid Waste Management Fees Administrative Code \[PDF\]](#)

Recently updated guidance for solid waste/recyclables haulers:

<https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/waext/WA1619.pdf>

- **Safety Ambassador Report – Abby Sauer**
 - John met with SWANA national for their Safety Ambassador update. They did a general info session on hydrogen sulfide.
 - There were no applicants for the Safety Award so the deadline has been extended to August 28th.
 - There was a route truck that had to eject load due to old fireworks and other hazards.
 - The Federation of Environmental Technologists is putting on a conference at the end of October.
- **Social Media & Membership Report – Ali**
 - Total membership number breakdown as of a couple weeks ago: 137 members (up 2).
 - 38 students (increased by 2), 41 private sector (increased 3), 45 public sector (down 1), and 11 small business (down 3). retiree 2 (increased 1)
 - Outreach for the 9 expiring members was completed earlier this month.
 - E-Newsletter was delivered on the 5th of this month. September newsletter will be drafted up soon.
- **International & National – Julie & John Welch**
 - Membership committee is meeting tomorrow. Some agenda items are total members to date, data consistency issues with renewal, and team advantage.
 - Membership initiatives are for emerging professionals for students and YPs. They are also developing a toolkit for chapters.
 - Committee is also asking about RCon and who will be attending the Chapter connect. Julie will be attending.

- 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.
 - The problems with membership management data system are about 99% solved. SWANA National is doing a targeted member campaign for those who didn't get renewal emails during the data management issues.
 - RCon is next month. All booths are sold out and sponsorship has exceeded expectation, but the registrations are about 15% behind of what they were last year.
- **Young Professionals – Logan & Abby**
 - The meeting was replaced with tours of 3 Veolia sites; 1 in Menomonee Falls and 2 in Port Washington. There was a great turnout and attendance was quadrupled compared to previous tours.
 - They are hosting a Lunch and Learn Webinar where Amanda from Portage County Transfer station will be presenting on contract navigation and recycling enforcement for businesses – looking into how to approach businesses that don't have a contract in place for recycling and how to convince them to get one.
- **Legislative Advocacy Report – Julie**
 - Julie was invited to the subgroup regarding PFAs and will be attending. There was a meeting in June with DNR and from that meeting they will be having subgroup meetings starting in September, October, November. EEAG is a remediation group working through the DNR and they will be meeting tomorrow.
 - Group continues to ask DNR questions to help identify priorities.
 - John, Julie, Allison should set up a time to meet before the 30th to discuss.
 - There will be a webinar regarding the battery implementation but because there is an election, we won't see too much on legislation issues..
- **Scholarship Report – John Welch**
 - Set up a meeting for next week. Slight tweaks need to be made to the application.
- **Trainings– Lee Daigle**
 - Tabled until next meeting.
- **Bylaws Update – John Welch**
 - Committee met last week to create the final draft of the Bylaws.
 - John Welch reports the updated changes.
 - John motions that the board considers this the final draft and approves sending it to an attorney for legal review.
 - Abby – Seconded.
 - Approved – Motion passes.

Ongoing & New Business

- **Timeline Review**

Ballots Approved	August	Nominating Committee/Admin
Prepare Budget for Approval at Annual Meeting	August	Treasurer
Prepare Meeting Schedule for Approval at Annual Meeting	August	Admin

Prepare Contract for Administrative Services for Approval at Annual Meeting	August	Admin
Send Meeting Invites	August	Secretary
Ballots Sent	August	Admin
Check Balance to Make Sure It's Not Under \$5,000	August	Treasurer
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

- **WIRMC Update**
 - Call for presenters closes on the 28th. Keynote speaker is being confirmed.
 - Expo hall has been confirmed.
 - Currently 8 sponsorships have been confirmed.
- **Annual Meeting Lunch**
 - Food at Grand Geneva is very expensive. Group discusses option of holding meeting at the Grand Geneva but going somewhere else for lunch. Michelle and Abby will discuss.
- **Board of Directors Ballot**
 - Michelle presents the draft ballot for the upcoming SWANA elections.
 - Abby motions to approve the ballot.
 - Julie – Seconded.
 - Approved – Motion passes.
- **RC Q4 Hours**
 - Hours have exceeded faster than we thought. Lee asked for an adjusted contract on the admin side to complete tasks. RC is asking for an additional \$650 to complete Q4.
 - Group discusses.
 - John makes a motion to have Recycling Connections continue with their administrative functions through the end of the fiscal year including overages beyond the contract amount of up to \$750.
 - Abby seconds.
 - Approved – Motion passes.
- **Draft Administrative Assistant Contract**
 - Susan presents the draft of Recycling Connections' administrative assistant contract.
 - This contract would start October 1st and go through June to match SWANA's fiscal year. Recycling Connections would submit an additional contract draft in June.

- Susan suggests for board to add an additional line in budget regarding communications work done by Recycling Connections not specifically indicated in the contract. Board could consider adding up to 9 additional hours to act as a buffer so RC doesn't go outside of contracted budget when extra work is asked by Board.
 - RC's rate has increased from \$52 to \$55.
 - Group discusses.
 - Susan will present two draft contracts at next meeting of potential hours options.
- **Draft Budget 2026-2027**
 - Abby presents draft budget. Budget has been created from October to June under the assumption that the Bylaw will be changed.

Upcoming Meeting

-  Next Board Meeting
-  September 17, 2026
-  10:00 AM

Adjournment – 11:41 AM

Abby motions to adjourn.
Ali - Seconded.

Approved – Motion carries.

Minutes recorded by Michelle Nieuwenhuis, SWANA-BC Administrative Assistant