

**MINNESOTA LAND OF LAKES SWANA CHAPTER
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

April 15, 2008

Conference Call.

President Jason Haus called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

PRESENT: Jason Haus, Gary Bruns, Dave Lucas, Ryan Tritz, Michael Reed, Steve Steuber, Kathy Osborne, Doug Morris, Brad Hanzel, Dan Costello, Curt Hoffman, and Don Chapdelaine.

EXCUSED: Kathy Holland Hanson and John Lloyd.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Don reported that he put \$20,000 in CDs for 5 months at 2.35% and that we have approximately \$53,000 in all of our accounts. RAM is now all paid up with a recent check from them for \$8,205. Jason asked if the finance committee can look at ways to use some of these funds. Kath O. wondered about hiring an executive director. Gary added that we could look at paying for administrative support and Don agreed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- **Membership:** Ryan announced that the winner in the 2007 membership drive is John Exner of Sherburne County. Michael asked how many members we have and Ryan said we have 90. Dan has a list of attendees of our seminars and it was suggested to give this list to Ryan. The Board members will call or send letters to encourage them to be SWAWA members. For 2008, there was discussion on ideas to recruit new members. One thought was to offer the \$25 from national and \$20 to \$30 additional from our Chapter. Brad added that this discount may entice a hauler to be a member. Gary suggested making this offer at a seminar but Jason thought some people may need approval before joining. Curt suggested we get the list of attendees of our seminars and send them a letter offering the discount. Brad said then they could bring the completed application to the seminar and receive the \$5 discount for being a member.

Curt asked for a vote to give new members a \$50 discount. Ryan made a motion to give this discount for 2008 and was seconded by Curt. Don asked if this is for only one seminar and Curt suggested offering this all year. Jason offered an amendment that this individual must not have been a member within the past 12 months. The motion carried with the amendment.

Michael asked about offering e-seminars to groups. Gary was not sure about this with National having budget issues and that National would not support this since members get discounts already. Michael wondered if could offer them on a limited basis and Curt asked if could offer these e-seminars during a lunch. Steve thought we should ask National first and Gary said he would do that.

Brad said he was updating the "About us" section of our website. It was suggested we contact Gene Kramer and Rick Pearson for some history of the Minnesota Chapter. The Board discussed contacting RAM about putting our link on their website and vice versa. Someone said RAM does include our seminars in their regular electronic newsletters. And finally, Ryan contacted National to see how we can count hits to our Chapter website.

- **Programs and Arrangements:** Curt said Jason contacted Valley Fair and the Mall of America for potential behind the scenes tours but so far they have not called back. Jason will continue to try to make a connection. Curt said we wanted to tour Valley Fair in May before they opened but someone thought was that a tour would be more interesting if the

park was open during our visit. Jason asked for other ideas for the May seminar and Michael wondered if could have Rep. Paul Gardner give a legislative update. Since the session ends May 17th, Don thought it might be hard to get Rep. Gardner for the planned May 22nd seminar. Jason said he would give Rep. Gardner a call. Doug asked if we could get someone to give us a summary of the executive report to the Governor on greenhouse reductions through solid waste management.

- Conference Planning: Jason asked if everyone had looked at the conference committee and encouraged everyone to sign up to help out. Curt asked for help on the silent auction. Kathy O asked to be added to the program committee. Michael mentioned that Rick Person is retiring in September and that we should honor him during the fall annual meeting.
- Scholarship: Jason asked to contact Tom Halbach regarding the \$2,000 scholarship for 2008. Curt suggested we offer a membership as well as the scholarship. Don asked why not offer the runner-up for the scholarship a membership too. Steve made a motion for the \$2,000 scholarship and two memberships to be offered for 2008. Curt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS: Jason asked for financial help to send Gary to the annual meeting. There was motion by Don to authorize \$1,000 to help with Gary's expenses. Michael seconded the motion. Motion carried

Jason noted that Gene Kramer resigned his Board position. Gary made a motion that we bring Tom Halbach in to finish Gene's term. Kathy O. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADJORNMENT: There was a motion by Jason to adjourn the meeting. Don seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:15.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Steuber
Secretary