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The Leading Professional Association in the Solid Waste Field



**MINNESOTA LAND OF LAKES SWANA CHAPTER  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
June 8, 2009**

Conference call.

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

PRESENT: Brad Hanzel, Jason Haus, John Lloyd, Ryan O’Gara, Steve Steuber, Gary Bruns, Kathy Osborne, Michael Reed, Dan Costello, Don Chapdelaine, and Maggie Mattacola.

EXCUSED: Doug Morris, Curt Hoffman, Dave Lucas, Tom Halbach, Troy Schuette, and Ryan Tritz.

MINUTES: There was no discussion of the minutes from the last meeting.

Jason started the meeting by introducing our Chapter’s new Executive Director (ED), Maggie Mattacola. Maggie talked about what she has been working on since being appointed to the ED position. Maggie spoke about sending out monthly e-newsletters, updating the website, and just started working on the RAM/SWANA conference. Jason gave Maggie kudos for her good work. Michael said we have realized that Maggie’s projects are taking longer than planned and that we might have to prioritize what is important to stay on course with what we have budgeted for her position.

Jason started a discussion on having Maggie join SWANA and our chapter paying for her membership. Gary mentioned that there was very little trouble getting access to membership info from National for Maggie but he thought National would like to have Maggie as a member. Kathy asked what will be the cost for her membership. Brad concurred that Maggie should be a member so after some discussion on the type of membership Maggie would fall under; Gary made a motion to pay Maggie’s SWANA membership cost with a second by Michael. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- **Membership:** Brad has been working with Maggie on contacting non-members who have attended seminars to see if they want to be SWANA member. They also have been working on a list of benefits of being a SWANA member to promote signing new members and putting this information on the website. Steve asked about our chapter’s website stating that the font size needs attention. Maggie will contact National about the website.

- **Programs and Arrangements:** Jason said our recent seminar at Landscape Arboretum had a great turnout with 46 people in attendance. Tentative dates for upcoming seminars are July 16<sup>th</sup>, September 17<sup>th</sup>, and December 10<sup>th</sup>. For July 16<sup>th</sup>, there may be tour of Dem Con Recycling and Recovery in Shakopee. Maggie asked about a possible joint RAM SWANA seminar. After some Board discussion, it was agreed to look into the two organizations getting together on a seminar. Steve said he was approached by CLIMB Theater to see if we were interested in a seminar where CLIMB would perform one of their plays on waste reduction for the group. Steve also said that Scott County has CLIMB perform various plays in all K-12 schools in Scott County. Jason thought, depending on how the issue of greenhouse gas (GHG) evolves, we might bring in a speaker on GHG this fall. Gary suggested a seminar on the report that is being drafted by the Construction, Demolition, and Industrial Landfill Work Group. Ryan O suggested a report from the Integrated Solid Waste Management Stakeholder Process. Maggie thought in order to keep the “stakeholder” presentation from taking on a bias, depending on which stakeholder made the presentation, we should have the Minnesota Environmental Initiative (the facilitator of the stakeholder group) to give the presentation.
- **Scholarship:** Maggie will be meeting with Tom and they will discuss what her role will be on this committee.
- **Conference Planning:** Jason said the conference final format is near completion. We are moving toward a one day conference to keep costs down and the conference will return to the same venue as last year. There might be a pre-conference work shop but nothing has been finalized. There was a lot of positive feedback about the location last year except for the cost of the hotel adjacent to the McNamara Alumni Center.
- **Seminars:** Jason initiated discussion about attendance to seminars being difficult for some with travel costs being restricted. Should we consider taping the seminars and hosting them on our website? The seminars could be viewed at a low or no cost to anyone who would be interested. Steve wondered what it costs to put on the seminars and how that would impact what to charge someone. Jason asked if we start taping, will people stop coming. Dan said we don’t know what will happen unless we try and it may increase our exposure. Ryan O said we could send out DVDs but it will also need to be professionally done. Gary said we should figure the cost first and price it accordingly. Jason asked for help in researching this idea. Gary and Dan agreed to help. Michael wondered if having the seminars on the web, would this impact the speaker’s content.

**INTERNATIONAL BOARD (IB) UPDATE:** Gary recently attended the mid-year IB meeting in May. There were 197 new members added nationwide. The International Board voted to add five additional directors whose responsibility is to review SWANA’s training courses. National reported that sponsorship for Wastecon in Long Beach this year is looking good but attendee registration is down. Consequently hotels are cutting their rates in half. Gary said there is going to be no dues increase in 2010 and the costs for most SWANA products will not increase. SWANA National also said there will be no salary budget increases for employees in 2010.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Don reported that there is approximately \$19,000 in the bank and about \$26,000 investments, of which \$16,000 is on loan to National.

OTHER BUSINESS: Maggie noted to the Board members that she sent out via e-mail some documents for review to update the chapter's website. She is looking for any feedback the Board can provide. And finally, Maggie mentioned that RAM is looking for donations of books to start a library open to RAM members. She wondered if SWANA wanted be involved with the library. This will be discussed at a later time.

ADJORNMENT: There was a motion by Michael to adjourn the meeting with a second by Gary. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Steuber  
Secretary