

# 2023 Annual Meeting



**SWANA**  
MN/ND CHAPTER

# Agenda

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- 2023 in Review
- 2023 Events
- Advisory Board Update
- Applied Research Foundation
- Treasurer update
- Goals for 2024
- 2024 Upcoming Events
- Board election
- Thank you!



## 2023 in Review

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- Membership: 139 members from MN, ND, and SD
- 2023 Goals
  - Host a successful RAM/SWANA Conference in May
  - Maintain and strengthen ties with other similar organizations
  - Maintain a checking account balance greater than \$5,000
  - Identify new creative educational opportunities for members

# 2023 Events

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- **Webinar**

- *The Psychology (and Unsustainability) of Our Garbage* - July 19, 2023
  - National attendance (26) and engaging topic
  - [Recording](#)

- **In-Person Events**

- Solid Waste Operators Conference: February 28, 2023 - St. Cloud
  - 59 paid, 74 total attendees - net revenue \$3,318.37 (split with AWMA)
- RAM/SWANA Conference: April 27-28, 2023 - Mystic Lake
- Safety stand-down at the Fargo Landfill on June 14, 2023
- Arrowhead Conference
  - 31 paid, 46 total attendees - net revenue \$2,647.96 (split with AWMA)

# Advisory Board Update

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- Advisory Board and Board of Directors met in Boston on September 26 prior to WasteCon-Highlights:
  - New Executive Director/CEO Amy Lestition Burke started November 9, 2023
  - Audit by Marcum LLP not yet complete - expected within next few weeks
    - Strong financial position overall
      - FY23 revenue exceeded projections.
      - FY23 expenses less than projections
      - FY23 ended with \$100,000 deficit, \$300,000 less than planned
  - Reimbursement to Chapters is now tied to National dues at 12.5%
  - Membership ~ 10,200, 600+/- lower than last year, primarily reflecting removal of non-paying
    - 59% public, 25% private, 9% small business, 6% students, 2% retired, 2% life/honorary
  - Chapter Connect - ongoing - seeking to share success/lessons learned and share resources
  - Presentation by our second YP Leadership Academy cohort “ Bridging the Gap - Enhancing Communication in the Solid Waste Industry to Engage Young Professionals”
    - Both YP Leadership Academy reports available at:  
<https://swana.swoogo.com/ypla/presentations>

# Applied Research Foundation

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Our Chapter is members of the SWANA Applied Research Foundation. The current project approved for ARF is a battery collection and safe disposal technologies study.

Through the ARF, MN/ND SWANA Chapter members can access the papers related to:

- Alternative Fuels for Refuse Collection Trucks
- Efficient Management of Waste and Recycling Collection Resources
- PFAS Fate and Transport in WTE Facilities

Chapter members can access the ARF papers through our website here:

<https://www.swanamn.org/applied-research-foundation>

When prompted, enter the password: *SWANAMNND*

# Treasurer Update–Continuous Improvement

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- Financially successful year
  - Utilized reserves to assist with cash crunch
  - RAM/SWANA Conference success replenished reserves
- Online banking records for transparency
- Audit Committee Meetings & Support
  - Discuss finances–challenges and success
  - Document all larger expenses for Board action
  - Document processes and procedures

# Goals for 2024

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- Host a successful RAM/SWANA Conference in April
- Maintain and strengthen ties with other similar organizations - RAM, MRRA
- Add one ND educational event (NDSWRA)
- Engage and invest in new membership and incoming workforce (*example: scholarship, conference experience, etc.*)
- Host two webinars on relevant industry topics and schedule one facility tour
- Board is currently revisiting the mission statement





# Upcoming Webinars and Conferences

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*Mark your calendars!*



## 2024 RAM/SWANA Conference

- April 2-3, 2024 (Tuesday & Wednesday)
- Location: Mystic Lake Center
- Registration coming soon
- Interested in presenting, sponsoring, or exhibiting?  
Email [eventsbyemilymn@comcast.net](mailto:eventsbyemilymn@comcast.net)

## 2024 Solid Waste Operator Training

- Wednesday, February 21, 2024
- St. Cloud Holiday Inn & Suites
- Registration coming soon

# Board Election

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There are 8 seats up for re-election for 2024.  
Please cast your votes by December 30th. Results will be  
announced on January 5th.

[Vote here!](#)

Thank you!

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Questions or comments welcome!



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Website: [swanamn.org](http://swanamn.org)

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