



Sawyer County
Land, Water & Forest Resources
Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 8, 2026 @ 8:30 AM
Sawyer County Board Room

AGENDA

1. ZOOM LINK

- a. To view or participate in the virtual meeting from a computer, iPad, or Android device please go to <https://zoom.us/j/99719807086>. You can also use the dial in at 1-312-626- 6799 with the Webinar ID: 997 1980 7086. Use *9 to Raise/lower hand and *6 to Unmute/mute. If you are on a computer, click the "Raise Hand" button and wait to be recognized. If you are on a telephone, dial *9 and wait to be recognized. If additional assistance is needed please contact the County Clerk's Office at 715- 634-4866 prior to the meeting. This meeting will be recorded and will be available on our website at: <https://sawyercountygov.org>.

2. CALL TO ORDER

3. ROLL CALL

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

6. MEETING AGENDA

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time, members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the Committee. Please adhere to the following when addressing the Committee:

- Comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less per individual.
- Comments should be directed to the Committee as a whole and not directed to individual Committee members.
- The Committee cannot respond to your comments during this time.
- Please sign in and fill out a public comment sheet if you wish to speak and hand it to the County Clerk (please respect the signs and do not approach Board members at the table).

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. June 10, 2026 Draft Minutes

9. EVENTS (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

- a. No Events Applications Received

10. REGISTER OF DEEDS REPORT

- a. Register of Deeds Report

11. LAND RECORDS AND COUNTY SURVEYOR REPORTS

- a. Real Property Lister Report
- b. County Surveyor Report

12. FORESTRY

- a. County Forestry Report
- b. Wisconsin DNR Report
- c. US Forest Service Report
- d. Recreational Trails Report

13. ZONING & CONSERVATION

- a. Conservation Report

14. BOARD APPOINTED COMMITTEE UPDATES

15. CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS FROM CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

16. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

17. FINALIZATION OF BUSINESS

18. NEXT MEETING DATE /TIME: AUGUST 12, 2026 AT 8:30AM

19. ADJOURNMENT

DISCLAIMER:

A quorum of the County Board of Supervisors or of any of its committees may be present at this meeting to listen and observe. Neither the Board nor any of the committees have established attendance at this meeting as an official function of the Board or committee(s) or otherwise made a determination that attendance at the meeting is necessary to carry out the Board or committee's function. The only purpose for other supervisors attending the meeting is to listen to the information presented. Neither the Board nor any committee (other than the committee providing this notice and agenda) will take any official action with respect to this noticed meeting.

Copy sent via email to: Committee Members, Associated Staff and News Media. Note: Any person wishing to attend whom, because of a disability, requires accommodation should call the Sawyer County Clerk's Office (715.634.4866) at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Land, Water, and Forestry Resources Committee Mission Statement: "Develop, guide and implement policies that protect and ensure the sustainability of our biodiverse community."

**Minutes of the June 10, 2026 Meeting of the Sawyer County
Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee
of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room, Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- ☒ Steve Kariainen
- ☒ Randy Neumann
- ☒ Kay Wilson
- ☒ Marshal Savitski
- ☐ Steve Longtine- Absent
- ☒ Allison Jonjak

Others Present:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Mike Markgren | Mike Martin |
| Liz Klein | Tim Davison |
| Jay Kozlowski | Craig Morris |
| Greg Peterson | Kimberly Peterson- Virtual |
| Brian DeVries | TJ Barnes |
| | Daryl McNutt |

Call to Order – Chair Kariainen called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call was taken; a quorum was met; the agenda was set.

Public Comments – Linda Zillmer

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: May 13, 2026

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Neumann Second by: Mr. Savitski
Motion carried without negative vote.

Events—

An application for the Stubborn Mule Adventure Race was approved on a motion
by: Mr. Neumann Second by: Mr. Savitski
Motion carried without negative vote.

Register of Deeds Update--

A written report for May was provided. The department hired a new Deputy ROD who started June 8.

Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report –

Land Records—A written RPL report was provided.
Surveyor—A written surveyor report was provided.

Forestry –

County Forestry Report—

Mr. Peterson reported that four sales were active in May. There is approximately \$5M in sold-uncut timber on file at the time of the report. The County is currently in oak wilt restriction through July 15. Three ATV/UTV trail rehab projects are out for bid with a deadline of June 25th. A Sustainable Forestry Grant project in the Draper area is out on bid. Decked hardwood around the county is starting to move to mills, the pine pulp market is not currently moving.

CAMBA Trail Reroute Development Proposal—

Mr. TJ Barnes from the CAMBA organization presented a proposal for adding an additional portion of trail near the Seeley fire tower to relieve two-way traffic. The proposed trail would split traffic into one-way uphill and downhill trails in that location.

The CAMBA Trail Reroute was approved on a motion by: Mr. Neumann Second by: Ms. Wilson
Motion carried without negative vote.

DNR Report—Mr. Morris reported on May DNR activity, including a correction to his report on county timber work, which was at 108% of goal hours. Fire danger on the forest has decreased in June with the rain.

USFS Report—Mr. Martin reported on staffing changes and indirect impact of the federal USFS reorganization. Local field operations are in full swing and timber sales are active. The USFS will start a state-funded brushing project on Dead Horse Trail. The West Zone Aspen and Fir Regeneration Project is advancing, covering a large part of the forest between Bayfield and Medford. Four large aquatic animal crossing culverts are being replaced including one on FR 164 (which will be closed most of the summer). The Venison Creek bridge is going out on bid and will impact traffic from the end of 2026 into 2027. The Castle Creek gravel pit in Clam Lake and the Little Cranberry pit off Hwy B will be expanding to supply the next five years of forestry harvest roads.

Zoning/Conservation Department – Mr. Kozlowski reported that the Price Dam fence was repaired by Town of Winter. The department is checking water levels at dams, continuing non-metallic mining inspections, and working on the Deer Lake IOMP. LCO Conservation is borrowing the county's tree planter. The AIS Coordinator has met with lake associations on controlling purple loosestrife and shoreline restoration projects, and LCC training is scheduled today, June 10 at 10am.

Board Appointed Committee Updates – None

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings – None

Future Agenda Items – None

Adjournment – 8:54am

Next Meeting: July 8, 2026 **Time:** 8:30am **Location:** Board Room
Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk



10610 Main St., Suite 19 - Hayward, WI 54843
Phone **715-634-4867** - Toll Free **877-699-4110**
Fax **715-634-6839** - Email rod@sawyercountygov.org

Rachel Thompson
Sawyer County Register of Deeds

ROD June Report: June 1 – June 29

Our office continues to feel the ebb and flow of heavy daily traffic at the courthouse. Real estate activity remains strong, with transactions steadily pouring in and transfer fees totaling just over **\$131,000** as of June 29, with one day still left in the month.

We recorded **507 documents**, including **78 sales**, with the highest sale at **\$2.9 million** and with 6 sales exceeding **\$1 million**.

We've also been busy assisting individuals pursuing dual Canadian citizenship. This often requires locating older birth, marriage, and death records that predate what's available on the State Vital Records website. As a result, we've been spending extra time pulling index and volume books from the vault rather than retrieving records online.

After eight weeks of managing the office on my own, my new deputy joined us on June 8. She has jumped right in, learned quickly, and has already made a noticeable difference. I'm grateful for the help, and together we're making great progress catching up.

Our office recently received a bit of a facelift with the enclosure of the County Clerk's office next door. The improvement has benefited both offices—noise is now minimal, interruptions have decreased, and visitors are navigating the two offices with far less confusion. Once the project is fully completed, we're looking forward to decorating our new wall space with more pictures of the history of Sawyer County.

— Submitted by Rachel Thompson, Register of Deeds – June 29, 2026



Sawyer County Land Records
10610 Main Street, Suite 54
Hayward, Wisconsin 54843-0248
Telephone 715-634-3564 Fax 715-634-3546
<https://sawyercounty.gov>

June 30, 2026

Real Property Lister Report

Due to being down one employee currently and a major NG911 project deadline in June, we are running about one to two weeks behind schedule in processing document transfers. We have processed about 190 documents and 6 Certified Survey Maps, with approximately 85 documents and 5 Certified Survey Maps still left to process from the month of June.

We are still waiting to hear when the final seven Boards of Review will be held for municipalities having revaluations this year.

Statements of Assessment and Assessment Rolls in XML format have been submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue for 13 municipalities so far this year. Town of Lenroot will be holding their Board of Review in July and we will get their reports submitted soon afterwards as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Peterson
GIS Technician and Real Property Lister

715-638-3279

kimberly.peterson@sawyercounty.gov



Sawyer County Surveyor's Department

10610 Main Street, Suite 54

Hayward, Wisconsin 54843-0248

Telephone 715-634-3564 Fax 715-634-3546

<https://sawyercountygov.org/>

County Surveyor's Report 7/8/26

Last month we performed maintenance on various PLSS corners in the Towns of Lenroot, Hayward, Edgewater, Ojibwa, Weirgor, and Draper.

Certain components of our GPS equipment were sent in for maintenance and firmware updates. The equipment has been returned to service and is working well.

I reviewed 12 Certified Survey Maps in June.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Gregory
Sawyer County Surveyor

Sawyer County Forestry Report June 2026

Active Timber Sales

Nine sales listed as active in the month of June

Sale Date	# of Sales	Acres	Bid Value	Received	Est. Remaining
11/1/22	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5/10/23	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11/3/23	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5/7/24	1	77	\$158,891.00	\$86,146.83	\$72,744.17
10/29/24	1	49	\$47,162.40	\$11,790.00	\$35,372.40
5/7/25	4	364	\$431,738.30	\$82,089.64	\$349,648.66
11/13/25	3	210	\$175,130.00	\$16,733.78	\$158,396.22
5/5/26	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Totals	9	700	\$812,921.70	\$196,760.25	\$616,161.45

Inactive Sales

Sale Date	# of Sales	Acres	Bid Value	Received	Est. Remaining
11/1/22	4	479	\$273,314.75	\$141,517.89	\$131,796.86
5/10/23	1	136	\$99,177.50	\$51,000.00	\$48,177.50
11/3/23	9	914	\$342,749.75	\$0	\$342,749.75
5/7/24	6	671	\$384,302.50	\$196,344.45	\$199,681.50*
10/29/24	12	984	\$652,212.35	\$145,491.72	\$506,720.63
5/7/25	16	1166	\$1,051,207.90	\$82,257.35	\$968,950.55
11/13/25	16	1626	\$984,706.13	\$161,938.43	\$822,767.70
5/5/26	21	1620	\$1,351,689.90	\$27,982.61	\$1,323,707.29
Totals	85	7596	\$5,139,360.78	\$806,532.45	\$4,344,551.78

* Sales having overruns

** Sales having underruns

One sale with final close out in June

Timber Sale Value (sold contracts-uncut) on file = \$4,960,713.23

<u>Timber Revenue</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Timber Sales	\$211,117.36	\$1,175,249.44
Christmas Trees/Boughs	\$0	\$0
Performance Bonds Cashed	\$0	\$0
<u>Other Revenue</u>		
Camping/Firewood/Access	\$20	\$125
Park Reservations	\$250	\$700
		<u>Budget</u>
Gross Timber Sale Revenue	\$ 1,175,249.44	\$2,000,000
10% Payment to Towns	\$ 117,524.94	
Net Timber Sale Revenue	\$ 1,057,724.50	
Performance Bonds Drawn	\$ 0	
Total Other Revenue	\$ 825.00	
Timber Sale Revenue Billed Out	\$ 222,969.83	

<u>Timber Sale Volumes Harvested</u>		
Pulpwood Volume (cords)		
	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Aspen	1,836.00	13,259.21
Mixed Hardwood	949.78	9,658.41
Basswood	305.80	1,528.94
Red Oak	533.65	1,461.79
Red Pine	434.08	1,461.08
White Pine	0	242.69
White Spruce	96.38	96.38
Black Spruce	0	0
Tamarack	0	0
Black Ash	0	0
Balsam Fir	0	9.64
Total Cords	4,155.69	27,718.14
Sawlog Volume (MBF)		
	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Mixed Hardwood	11.73	190.34
Basswood	4.24	109.13
Red Oak	18.15	275.96
Hard Maple	10.40	45.34
Total MBF	44.52	620.77

Timber Sale Inspections	<u># month</u> 36	<u>YTD</u> 173
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Comments: Goal for timber sale inspections is one inspection per week while sale is actively being harvested, or wood is being hauled.

Tract Establishment	<u># sales month/ YTD</u> 4/20	<u>acres month/YTD</u> 366/1675	<u>Goal</u> 3500
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Comments:

Recon Acres Updated	<u>June</u> 335	<u>YTD</u> 7590	<u>Annual Goal</u> 6,000 acres
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Comments: Recon is the assessment of geographic, structure and compositional attributes of forest stands. Field information is stored in the Wisconsin Forest Inventory & Reporting System (WisFIRS). Basic resource information is collected, stored, and updated systematically and continuously. Database is used to analyze existing resources, evaluate management alternatives, and assist in the development and implementation of management plans.

<u>Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) Hours</u>	
<u>June</u> 28	<u>FY27 Contract</u> 110.5
<u>Current Contract:</u> FY27: Approximately 535 hours of timber sale establishment/admin. \$42,955.30 Received reimbursement of \$18,710.85 for FY26 contract.	

Comments: Under the federal Good Neighbor Authority, the USDA Forest Service is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with states to perform forest management activities on national forest lands. WDNR has entered a GNA agreement with the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF). WDNR is authorized to contract with counties to assist with forest management activities on national forest lands. The focus of the GNA program is to assist in the implementation of the CNNF Forest Plan, which will provide:

- Forest products to the local economy
- Collaboration between federal, state and county forest managers
- Improved health and resiliency of forestlands and watersheds within Wisconsin

Oak Wilt:

Currently in oak wilt restriction, no harvesting or road maintenance activities April 15th through July 15th.

Mountain Bike Trails:

Nothing new to report.

Birkie Trail:

Nothing new to report.

ATV/UTV/Snowmobile Trails:

Completed Trail 3 Sissabagama Rd to bridge rehab project, 1.32 miles. \$28,747.50, grant funded.

Received bids for trail projects. See attached results sheet.

Received additional funding from DNR for Tuscobia trail

\$15,000 for hazard tree removal and \$16,520 for culvert replacement.

Parks:

Hatchery Park: Park continues to receive increased use. Five reservations for pavilion in June.

Nelson Lake Park: Nothing new to report.

Carbon Credit Project:

Nothing new to report.

Sawyer County Forestry Department



Sawyer County Courthouse
10610 Main Street, Suite 100
Hayward, WI 54843
Phone: (715) 634-4846
Fax: (715) 638-3234



6/25/2026

2026 ATV Rehab Projects Bid Summary

Trail 3 Rehab, Little Siss Road to Green Lake Road

Grant Amount \$50,870.00

*JD Excavating LLC	\$46,057.50
Northwoods Trucking LLC	\$47,450.00
Select Excavating Inc	\$51,570.00
STOUT Construction LLC	\$72,300.25

Trail 31 Rehab, Chip Trail to Mosquito Brook

Grant Amount \$96,450.00

*JD Excavating LLC	\$92,680.00
Northwoods Trucking LLC	\$98,500.00
Select Excavating Inc	\$106,704.00
STOUT Construction LLC	\$124,848.00

Trail 77 Rehab, Int. 37 to Rock Lake Fire Lane

Grant Amount \$49,410.33

JD Excavating LLC	\$56,681.00
Select Excavating Inc	\$60,764.75
STOUT Construction LLC	\$68,179.25
Northwoods Trucking LLC	\$76,500.00

Draper Road Project Rehab (Sustainable Forestry Grant)

Grant Amount \$39,490.00

Northwoods Trucking LLC	\$58,500.00
Select Excavating Inc	\$63,517.60
STOUT Construction LLC	\$77,958.70
JD Excavating LLC	\$78,400.00

*Acceptable Low Bid

Sawyer County Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee Meeting DNR Forestry Report for July 2026

In June there was minimal DNR activity on the Sawyer County Forest, the activity there was focused timber sale preparation and recon. We completed over 108% of our time standards goal of 2217 hours for FY26. The state fiscal year rolls over on July 1st so the clock has reset and we've begun work on FY27 time standards, with the focus being on timber sale establishment.

Oak Wilt restrictions are in place until July 15, we ask folks to please refrain from pruning or doing any activity that has potential to cause a wound to an oak tree until after then to prevent the spread of Oak Wilt.

Report Submitted by Craig Morris, DNR Forester, on June 30 2026



Zoning & Conservation Department Update June 2026 – July 2026

Prepared by Jay Kozlowski, Zoning & Conservation Administrator

- Conservation staff have been busy with additional site visits including a larger amount of individuals that have been interested in native plant restoration projects. Staff have also been busy with Grading Permit reviews, NR 135 compliance checks, meeting with DATCP engineers for project designs, and meeting with lake associations for AIS plant identification training and presentations.
- The Conservation Department has also done water collection samples for Lake Loretta and Barber Lake. These samples were then sent to the Stevens Point for analysis of the lake quality in conjunction with an approved grant project.
- The Sawyer County AIS Coordinator had a booth at Musky Fest showcasing specific types of AIS we are seeing here and providing additional education to people to help prevent the spread of these species.
- The Conservation Department is in early planning stages for a Land Conservation Committee Fall Tour. This tour would be for all LWFRM members to come on a guided tour with staff to showcase specific projects in the County.
- The Conservation Administrator has been in contact with DNR staff relating to livestock siting regulations and CAFO operations. We are planning on having DNR staff present additional information to the Committee in the following months.