



Sawyer County
Administration Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 13, 2026 @ 10:00 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/92546130740>. You can also use the dial in at 1-312-626-6799 with the Webinar ID: 925 4613 0740. 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. Admin Draft Minutes 7.9.26

9. REVIEW DISTRICT 15 SUPERVISOR POSITION (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

10. APPOINTMENTS (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

- a. County Board Supervisor & Committee Appointments
- b. Medical Examiner Appointment Recommendation- Reone Gheen.
Ms. Gheen has many years of experience including serving Sawyer County as a Deputy Coroner/Medical Examiner since 2018

11. PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

12. COUNTY CLERK REPORT

- a. County Clerk Department Report
- b. Preliminary 2027 Budget Request

13. VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE REPORT

- a. Veteran Service Office Report
- b. VSO-Letter of Thanks from Citizen
- c. Preliminary 2027 Budget Request

14. VETERANS TRIBUTE UPDATE

- a. Concrete Flatwork RFP (Discussion and Possible Action)

15. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

- a. IT Report
- b. Preliminary 2027 Budget Request

16. HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

- a. Human Resource Report
- b. Preliminary 2027 Budget Request
- c. Approve Recruiting for Sawyer County Administrator Candidate Within Wisconsin & Minnesota (Discussion and Possible Action)

17. SAWYER COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- a. Preliminary 2027 Budget Request

18. BOARD APPOINTED COMMITTEE UPDATES

19. CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS FROM CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

20. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**21. FINALIZATION OF BUSINESS****22. NEXT MEETING DATE /TIME: SEPTEMBER 10, 2026****23. 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.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the July 9, 2026 Sawyer County
Administration Committee of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- ☒ Chair: Ron Kinsley
- ☒ Vice Chair: Ron Buckholtz
- ☒ Marshal Savitski
- ☒ John Righeimer
- ☒ Stacey Hessel

Others Present:

Mike Markgren
Liz Klein
Nicole Clapero
Rose Lillyroot
Mike Coleson

Call to Order –Chair Kinsley called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

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

Meeting Agenda – Set

Public Comments – Linda Zillmer

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: June 11, 2026
Motion to approve by: Mr. Buckoltz Second by: Mr. Savitski
Motion carried without negative vote.

County Clerk Report-

Ms. Klein provided a written department report on June activity: the towns are doing a great job with entering their election data in WisVote. The Department is making progress toward Strategic Plan goals and the office remodeling has improved customer service for marriages. Public record requests are being handled smoothly without NextRequest.

Veterans Service Office Report -

Ms. Clapero presented a written report on June department activity: 532 phone calls, 883 letters/emails/faxes sent and 175 office visits. 107 disability claims have been filed to date with \$499,892.13 awarded in Veterans' favor. The department is co-hosting counseling sessions at La Crosse Vet Center and Coffee & Conversation; the social media report was provided.

Veteran's Tribute Update-

Mr. Markgren reported that he received incomplete schematics from the architect that need to include electrical conduit and address a ground water issue prior to placing two designs out for bids. Ms. Hessel and Mr. Markgren will work together as leads on the project to bring it to completion.

Information Technology Department Report -

Mr. Coleson provided a written IT report on ongoing IT projects. A new phone system to replace the existing system which has aged past supported service will be proposed as a 2027 budget CIP item request.

Human Resources Report - A written report was provided on staffing and recruiting for open positions within the county.

County Administrator's Report—

Mr. Markgren will meet with Brian Prieseter of the Economic Development Corporation regarding a July 31 application for Opportunity Zone tax status available to rural urban low income communities; a benefit of the designation is deferred capital gains tax on new businesses. Mr. Markgren will speak at the WTA District meeting on July 27. He

reported that Ms. Barry of Justice Point submitted a \$740,000 RCORPS grant that would replace lost funding for the Deflection program.

Mr. Markgren announced that he will be retiring on December 31, 2026.

County Administrator annual review—

After discussion on establishing an annual process, a motion to have all County Board members submit a County Administrator evaluation form to Chairman Kinsley by Thursday, July 16 was made by: Ms. Hessel

Second by: Mr. Buckholtz

Motion carried without negative vote.

Board Appointed Committee Updates – None

Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings– None

Future Agenda Items- Review District 15 Supervisor position

Adjournment – 10:53 am

Next Meeting: August 13, 2026 Time: 10:00 am Location: Board Room

Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk

**County Clerk Department
Monthly Report, Ending
July 31, 2026**



County Clerk Desk Activity/Revenue YTD:

Activity	Number of Licenses/Permits	Total Revenue (including amounts sent to the State of Wisconsin)
Dog Licenses	21	\$225.00
Late Fees (Retained by County)		510.00
Donation to Animal Control		
Marriage Licenses	Clerk (County Retains) = \$55/license Mediation = \$20/license State = \$25/license Waivers = \$10/license	\$1200.00
Plat Books	GL 218-00-42000	\$294.40
Mailing Fee	GL 218-00-42001	
Map		
Copies		\$0.00

General Department Report:

Elections

We are preparing for August 11 Primary: 31 contests have no ballot candidate so counting write-ins is required. I have been working with clerks and WEC on various training topics including Municipal Board of Canvass, counting write-ins in a Partisan Primary and helping new Providers navigate WisVote tasks.

District 8 Meeting

I attended a meeting with clerks from 7 surrounding counties to discuss marriage license updates, dog licensing, elections, clerk committees and county board procedures. It is interesting that each county has a unique way of doing things.

Operations- We have been busy with dog and marriage licenses. Laura is back to the 1930s on scanning resolutions.

Gary Elliott
Veterans Service Officer
Nicole Clapero
Veterans Benefits Specialist
(715) 634-2770

Sawyer County
Veteran Service Office
16096 US Hwy 63
Hayward, WI 54843



Office Report: Administrative Committee Meeting, August 13, 2026

Workload Perspective:

	Calls	Letters	Office	Walk-ins
July 2026	524	1,163	204	191

	Calls	Letters	Office
July 2025	419	596	213

VA Disability Compensation/Pension (C&P) claims:

	C&P Claims	Retro Payment
July 2026	129	\$601,153.23

	C&P Claims	Retro Payment
July 2025	97	\$256,348.16

La Crosse Vet Center:

The office co-managed and hosted 5 individual and 3 group counseling sessions.

Outreach:

Coffee and Conversation with Gary and Nicole

LCO Honor the Earth Pow wow

Social Media Recap: 279 followers (+8/2%), 3,548 Views (-53%), 109 Engagements (+59%) & 155 visits (+49%)

Sawyer County & La Courte Oreilles Veterans Fair – October 22, 2026, at the SevenWinds Casino, Lodge & Convention Center

Training/Miscellaneous:

Training up to date.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary
Gary Elliott
CVSO

Sawyer County Veterans Service Office

Social Media Recap (July 2026)

- **279 Followers (+8/1.8%)**
- **3,548 Views (-53%)**
- **109 Engagement (-59.0%)**
- **155 Visits (+49.0%)**

"Followers" - The total number of followers on your Facebook page or profile. This is calculated as the number of follows minus the number of unfollows over the last month of your Facebook Page or Profile.

"Views" - The number of times your content was played or displayed. Content includes reels, posts, stories, and ads.

"Engagement" - The number of reactions, clicks, comments, shares, and saves on your posts.

"Visits" - The number of times your profile was visited.

Insights: 63 Reactions. 1 Comments. 10 Shares. Direct visits to our page are up significantly, but shared content and individual post views are down.

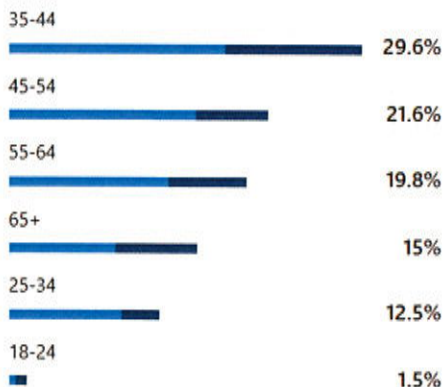
Audience

279

Age & gender ⓘ

Lifetime

● Women ● Men Unknown



Country ⓘ

Lifetime



Cities ⓘ

Lifetime



10541 Grandview Lane
Hayward, WI 54843
July 14, 2026

Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
10610 Main Street
Hayward, WI 54843

Dear County Supervisors:

I wanted to send you a note to make you aware of the exceptional work done by your Veteran's Services office, and specifically, Gary Elliott and his assistant Nicole Clapero. Approximately one year ago, my husband, Patrick Camp, had a meeting with Gary regarding veteran's benefits. Gary happened to ask, in passing, "Hey, were you ever in Vietnam or Guam?" My husband's answer to that question was, "Yes, but just off the coast". Gary took things from there and checked into additional disability benefits that my husband might be eligible for.

My husband has been 100% disabled by the Social Security Administration since 2015 due to a number of serious health issues. But that one simple question asked by Gary, and all the steps he took after that, set into motion a VA review of his medical records and ultimately led to a 100% total and permanent service-related disability designation by the VA. This designation has provided amazing life-changing benefits for both my husband and me!

We are so grateful for the work Gary and his staff do every day! Gary is humble, down-to-earth, gives great advice for navigating the VA system and really cares about assisting veterans in receiving all they are entitled to. Their work has made a huge difference in our lives and I'm sure in the lives of many other veterans and their families as well. Sawyer County is very lucky to have these two dedicated individuals on staff and hopefully, as County Supervisors, you can reach out and let them know how much their work is valued and appreciated! Thank you!

Sincerely,



Julie Manville-Camp

August 13, 2026

Mike Coleson

Sawyer County IT Director

Administration Committee

IT Department Report

Agenda items: none

Service Requests July 2026

New	54
Completed	53
Open	22

Tasks completed

- Onboarding 14 Terminations 1
- Computer replacements 3
- Mobile Device Management HHS phones upgrade
- Tourist Rooming House Inspections report in Novus
- Ojibwa Ambulance Internet/Wifi calling issue fixed

Tasks in progress

- Preparation for department moves to and from Oasis building
- Install network drop in new Transitions office
- Set up ambulances like squads for better integration with Dispatch. Realtime location tracking.

Pending Tasks

- Additional surveillance cameras for key Hayward intersections
- Replacement cameras for small courtroom, Kansas hallway, Firetower on Hwy B

Sawyer County Human Resources August 2026 Report

2026 Turnover

7/1/2026	Katherine Prickett	Sheriff	FT
7/2/2026	Savannah Harris	Ambulance	FT
7/2/2026	Natasha Shimko	Ambulance	PT
7/6/2026	Emily Rodriguez	HHS	Rehire
7/6/2026	Kendra Oldham	HHS	FT
7/6/2026	Anne Bethke	HHS	FT
7/6/2026	Christine Breault	HHS	FT
7/14/2026	Brian Gurney	Ambulance	PT
7/14/2026	Claire Aubert	Ambulance	PT
7/20/2026	John Quagon	Highway	PT
7/21/2026	Chloe Stewart	Ambulance	PT
7/22/2026	Benjamin Anderson	Ambulance	PT
7/24/2026	Amanda Gerken	Ambulance	PT
7/24/2026	Hannah Slabaugh	Clerk of Court	Term
7/27/2026	Kelsy Schultz	Clerk of Court	FT
7/27/2026	Karen Gordon	Highway	PT

Staffing Snapshot

- Vacancies: 6
- Separations: 1

Hired CLTS Caseworker, Real Property Lister, Medical Examiner

Interviewing for Economic Support Specialist

Recruiting for 9-1-1 Dispatcher, Driver/Operator and Flaggers at highway, Administrative Assistant for HHS, ADRC Specialist

Working with County Board Chair Kinsley on County Administrator recruitment process, materials

Working with Department Heads on various FMLA and work comp leaves, ongoing personnel matters and employee relations.