

**Minutes of the August 12, 2026 Meeting of the Sawyer County
Public Works Committee
of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

☒ Ron Kinsley
☒ Marc Helwig
☒ Randy Neumann
☒ Chuck Van Etten
☒ Jim Evans

Others Present:

Mike Markgren
Liz Klein
Derek Leslie
John Pinnow
Jayne Schroeder

Don Mrotek
Rhandi Ehn
Rick Schmidt- Virtual

Call to Order – Chair Kinsley called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

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

Meeting Agenda – Set

Public Comments- Don Mrotek, Linda Zillmer

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: July 8, 2026

Motion to approve by: Mr. Helwig

Second by: Mr. Evans

Motion carried without negative vote.

Maintenance- Mr. Schmidt presented a written report on maintenance projects.

Preliminary 2027 Budget request—No major changes. CIP includes 5 Sheriff squad units, 1 maintenance truck, HHS and count fleet vehicles.

Sawyer County Airport Report- Mr. Leslie provided the July Airport report. Airport is busy, Young Eagles provided 60 rides for kids. No update from state or FAA on ALP for the Master Plan. The snow removal contract was signed.

Preliminary 2027 Budget request—Additional funds for brushing and snow removal.

Highway Department- A written report was provided on July Highway work: crack sealing, mowing and brushing operations continue. Cty F and DD construction started August 10. STH 27 from Carol Dr. to Boylan Rd. is ongoing with delays and flagging operations. STH 70 from GG to Price County is completed. CTH E project appraisals are higher than estimated. The county received \$118,000 in a 90/10 award for a small structure replacement on CTH W by Connors Lake

Highway Facilities discussion— Mr. Pinnow presented his ideas for a facility plan to the members and requested funds for consulting and design plans; after discussion he was asked to provide a plan for new construction and a plan adding on to existing buildings in September.

Preliminary 2027 Budget request— Winter maintenance increase to cover the price of salt. CIP request to cover the 20% match for the CTH E project in 2027 for the purpose of not cutting into other planned work: increasing highway work and utilizing equipment will help move the county away from the state's Actual Cost model.

Board Appointed Committee Updates-- None

Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings – None

Future Agenda Items – Highway facility plans, Ad hoc committee update on tower and ATV/UTV routes

Meeting adjourned at: 5:40 pm Next Meeting: September 9, 2026 Time: 5:00 pm Location: Board Room
Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, Sawyer County Clerk

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