

**Minutes of the February 10th meeting of the Sawyer County
Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- ☒ Chair: **Bruce Paulsen**
- ☒ Ron Buckholtz – Vice Chair
- ☒ Jesse Boettcher
- ☒ Brian Bisonette - Virtual
- ☐ Marc Helwig
- ☐ Kevin Sheptick

Others Present:

Lynn Fitch
Mike Coleson
Jay Kozlowski – Virtual
David Todus – Virtual
Jessica Kujala – Virtual
Tim Siedl – Virtual
Greg Peterson – Virtual
Dan Ploeger
Don Mrotek
Linda Zilmer – Virtual
Terrel Bettcher - Virtual

Call to Order – Chair Bruce Paulson 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.

Meeting Agenda –

Public Comments --

Minutes from the previous meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021, meeting; second by Mr. Boettcher. Motion carried.

Events – Written reports were provided and Ms. Kujala advised that insurance for the upcoming Birkie events is in hand. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Bisonette to approve the following events: Birkebeiner Kortelopet, Barkie Birkie, Barnebirkie, Jr. Birkie and the 2021 Fat Bike Birkie permits. Motion carried.

Sawyer County Treasurer's Department – A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Boettcher to postpone the applications to purchase County-owned land in the towns of Bass Lake and Winter to the March meeting. Motion carried.

Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report – Dan Ploeger presented an oral report stating that the department's new staff is now on board and new county zoning maps are ready for the website. He stated that department staff would be interested in demonstrating the new services available at the March LWFR meeting.

Sawyer County Forestry Department Report – Written reports were provided. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Boettcher to release Chapters 1000 and 2000 to the public for public comment period. Motion carried. In regards to the revisions/corrections to previous chapters, a motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Boettcher to table the approval to the March meeting. In reviewing the list of fire wardens to be approved, Mr. Buckholtz recommended that a person from the Winter area be sought out as an additional southern warden. A motion was made by Mr. Boettcher; second by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the presented list of fire wardens. Motion carried. Mr. Mrotek reported on the motorized and non-motorized trail system. Sawyer County has had a very good snowmobile season this winter, due partly to the fact that Michigan businesses are closed. There is an increase statewide in new riders. Mr. Peterson reviewed the County Forestry report.

Zoning/Conservation Department Report – Written reports were provided. The 2020 and 2021 Annual work plans were discussed; zoning staff are focusing on working with landowners to offer cost sharing and technology assistance to landowners. Mr. Siedl presided over the PowerPoint presentation that he intends to bring to the Wisconsin Land and Water Board in April along with the Sawyer County proposed 5-year Land and Water Resource Management Plan. A motion was made Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Boettcher to approve the 5-year Plan and the PowerPoint presentation to move forward to the State. Motion carried. A County Board member needs to attend this April 6th meeting with the State and Mr. Paulson will represent the County Board of Supervisors in this capacity.

Mr. Bisonette provided an oral report on LCO activities. They are currently reconditioning cranberry beds for wild rice harvesting, and the USDA has granted Lac Courte Oreilles College a grant for Hemp research which they will now undertake.

Other Topics for Discussion Only –

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee will be Wednesday, March 10, at 8:30 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 am
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk