

**Minutes of the May 11th 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: **Jesse Boettcher**
- ☒ Vice Chair – Marc Helwig
- ☒ Ed Peters
- ☒ Brian Bisonette
- ☒ Jason Weaver - Virtual
- ☒ Kevin Sheptick

Lynn Fitch
Mike Coleson
Jay Kozlowski
Greg Peterson
Cathy LaReau
Barb O'Brien

Others Present:

Andy Albarado
Roy Zubrod
Mike Keefe – Virtual
Linda Zillmer – Virtual
Josh Spiegel
Kris Treland-Neuman

Call to Order – Clerk Fitch 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.

Elections – Chair Fitch conducted the election of the Chair and Vice Chair. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig to nominate Jesse Boettcher as Chair. With no other nominations coming forth, a voice vote was cast to unanimously accept the nomination of Jesse Boettcher as Chair; motion carried without negative vote. A motion was made by Mr. Bisonette to nominate Marc Helwig as Vice Chair. With no other nominations coming forth, a voice vote was cast to unanimously accept the nomination of Marc Helwig as Vice Chair; motion carried without negative vote.

Meeting Agenda –

Public Comments – Barb O'Brien and Pat O'Brien

Minutes from the previous meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Helwig to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2022, meeting; second by Mr. Bisonette. Motion carried without negative vote.

Events – Mr. Peterson presented a request for the Chequamegon 100 on June 18th. A motion was made by Mr. Bisonette; second by Mr. Boettcher to approve this request. Motion carried without negative vote.

Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report –

Sawyer County Forestry Department Report –

Trail Report -- Ms. LaReau advised that county trails open on Friday and the Chequamegon on the 15th. The Alliance is continuing to work on ice storm cleanup, and they are grading the Tuscobia Trail with the new commercial grader. They will begin working on additional signage next.

County Forestry Report – A written report was provided. Mr. Peterson advised that we had no April timber sales, county road bans are coming off this morning, and sale revenue YTD is slightly more than \$575,000. Recon is on target for the year. A listing of grant applications was provided. Cleanup at Hatchery Park was completed along with a 103-acre prescribed burn.

Timber Sale Bid Approval – Mr. Peterson relayed we had bid openings on April 29th; he recommended approving the high bid provided in the report. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Mr. Peters to approve this request. Motion carried without negative vote.

Seeley Trails Update – Mr. Peterson advised there is a meeting scheduled next Monday at the Seeley warming house to review options and concerns at 1:30 pm. Public comments were provided by Barb O’Brien.

Carbon Tax Credit Update – Mr. Peterson provided an update. The proposal is in legal review at this time. Mr. Albarado advised that Bluesource will provide a presentation at County Board meeting.

DNR Forestry Report – A written report was provided and was reviewed by Mr. Zubrod. Mr. Spiegel reviewed the DNR CDW committee process. In 2020-2021 test results found no CWD in Sawyer County.

Zoning/Conservation Department Report – A written report was provided. Mr. Kozlowski advised the tree sale is this weekend. A lift system break in the Price Dam has occurred and a contractor is scheduled to look at it. 50% of repair costs would be shared with the Town of Winter. Bids for Upper Brunet River Dam have gone out and are extended until May 25th.

USDA Report – Mr. Sheptick advised that the USDA office in Ladysmith is fully open and provided a list of key dates for USDA projects.

LCO Report – Mr. Bisonette advised spring stocking programs are gearing up, and they are dealing with bear complaints.

Other Topics for Discussion Only -

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:44 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk