

**Minutes of the November 15th meeting of the Sawyer County
Board of Supervisors
Large Courtroom; Sawyer County Courthouse/Virtual**



Voting Committee Members

Present (X)	District	Wards
☒ Dale Schleeter	01	T Lenroot W-1, T Hayward W-7, C Hayward W-5
☒ Jesse Boettcher	02	T Lenroot W-2, T Round Lake W-1
☒ Tweed Shuman	03	T Hayward W-1 & 2
☒ Stacey Hessel	04	T Hayward W-3 & 4
☒ Jason Weaver	05	T Hayward W-5 & 6
☒ Marc D. Helwig Virtual	06	C Hayward W-1 & 2
☒ Thomas W. Duffy	07	C Hayward W-3 & 4
☐ Marshal Savitski	08	T Bass Lake W-1 & 2
☒ Brian Bisonette - virtual	09	T Bass Lake W-3 & 4
☒ Michael Maestri - virtual	10	T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W-1
☐ Chris Rusk	11	T Edgewater W-2, T Bass Lake W-5, T Hayward W-8, T Meteor, T Couderay, V Couderay
☒ John Righeimer	12	T Spider Lake, T Round Lake W-2, T Winter W-1
☒ Ron Kinsley	13	T Hunter, T Radisson W-1, T-Ojibwa W-1, V Radisson
☒ Ron Buckholtz	14	T Radisson W-2, T Ojibwa W-2, T Weirgor, V Exeland, T Meadowbrook
☒ Ed Peters	15	T Winter W-2, T Draper, V Winter

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance— Chair Tweed Shuman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Roll call was taken; quorum was met.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met.

Public Comments – Tracey Lindquist, Linda Zillmer, Rick Christian, Betsy Stocker, Leslie Sullivan, Ernest Martinson, Karen Duffy, Joan Jacobowski, Hazel Jonjak, Karen Melasecca, John Rainville, Sr.

Minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Kinsley; second by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the October 20th County Board meeting. Motion carried without negative vote during a voice vote.

2023 Budget Discussion – Mr. Markgren reviewed the budget presentation with the board, highlighting only certain areas since the same presentation was shared at the October meeting. The total tax levy would add to the taxpayer amount. The Finance Committee approved this 2023 budget as presented and was forwarded to County Board for final approval. A motion was made by Mr. Righeimer; Second by Ms. Hessel to approve the 2023 budget as presented. Roll Call vote was taken and passed 12-1; with “aye” votes from Schleeter, Boettcher, Shuman, Hessel, Weaver, Helwig, Bisonette, Maestri, Rusk, Righeimer, Kinsley and Peters; one “nay” vote from Buckholtz. Mr. Buckholtz made a motion to amend the budget to fund \$10,000 to Hayward Library and \$20,000 to Namekegon transit taking the funds from HLVCB for a total deduction of \$30,000; second by Marc Helwig. A roll call vote was taken and failed 5-8 with “aye” votes from Schleeter, Helwig, Maestri, Buckholtz and Peters. “Nay” votes from Boettcher, Shuman, Hessel, Weaver, Duffy, Bisonette, Righeimer, and Kinsley.

Zoning Committee Chair Report – Mr. Boettcher reported that three conditional use permits were heard at the zoning committee; two were approved and one was denied and several new business matters were discussed. Mr. Kozlowski presented the rezone request for #22-014 for Seth and Ashley Zesiger. A motion was motion made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Peters to approve this request. Motion carried without negative vote in a voice vote. Case #22-015 was presented by Mr. Kozlowski in the name of the Knapmiller Family LLC. A motion made by JB; second by TD. Motion carried without negative vote.

Public Safety Report – Mr. Buckholtz advised that the courthouse remodel is on schedule. Two former law enforcement officers passed away, and Lt. Woller was introduced as the new jail administrator. Our females currently remain housed in Barron County. John Froemel was appointed as the new interim Emergency Management/Ambulance director and Mr. Albarado is reviewing the possibility of moving this position to a medical examiner. No action was taken on item 10b; it will return in the December meeting.

Public Works Committee Chair Report – Mr. Kinsley advised the Oasis building now has signage, the airport terminal building is almost complete, and the roles and responsibilities for the committee were approved.

Land, Water and Forest Resources – Mr. Boettcher reported that some of the ATV/UTV trails are closed until after deer season. The committee approved several timber bids and they expect to reach the budget by the end of the year. Land Purchase Proposal discussion was postponed until future meeting.

Carbon Marketing and Development Agreement – A motion to hear the Resolution Approving Carbon Marketing and Development Grant made by Mr. Weaver; second by Mr. Kinsley. A roll call vote was taken with a 2/3rds majority required to pass. Motion carried 13-0 with “aye” votes from Boettcher, Hessel, Righeimer, Kinsley, Weaver, Schleeter, Shuman, Buckholtz, Peters, Duffy, Helwig, Maestri and Bisonette.

Mr. Albarado presented the carbon credit summary. A second bid was requested but the committee did not choose to move forward in pursuing that second company for a variety of reasons. Taylor Fritsch, attorney who reviewed the terms of the 10-year agreement was present at the meeting to explain the components of the document. Currently six counties have signed on to this process and a seventh is in process.

A motion to accept the Resolution 2022 – Approving Carbon Marketing and Development Grant was made by Mr. Boettcher; second by Mr. Righeimer. A roll call vote was taken and passed 11-1 with “aye” votes from Schleeter, Boettcher Shuman, Hessel, Weaver, Helwig, Duffy, Bisonette, Maestri, Rusk, Righeimer, Kinsley and Buckholtz; “nay” vote from Peters and Mr. Duffy’s vote did not register thus was not counted; this did not affect the vote results.

Health and Human Services – Mr. Schleeter advised that there was no quorum so no meeting was held in November.

Finance Committee Chair Report – Mr. Kinsley reported that the County received high marks on its 2021 audit and that the request from WALDO for funds had not been approved at committee. The committee reviewed the ambulance billing, received an update of expenses on the courthouse remodel, and reviewed the ARPA funds distribution to date. A motion was approved to pass the resolution for the State Trust Fund loan and was forwarded to the full county board. A motion was made to accept the Resolution to Fund the Resolution Authorizing State Trust Fund Loan Application for \$320,000 by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion passed 12-1 with “aye” votes from Boettcher, Shuman, Hessel, Weaver, Helwig, Duffy, Bisonette, Maestri, Righeimer, Kinsley, Buckholtz and Peters. “Nay” vote from Schleeter.

Economic Development and UW Extension Committee – Mr. Duffy advised no action items were taken at Committee. Representatives were heard at Committee. Additional trail counters have been purchased by the Snowmobile Alliance and will be put in place soon. The Birkie has 9,500 skiers to-date and are on track to reach 11,000. The Sawyer County/LCO Development Corporation held a placemaking event and had nine participants.

County Administrator’s Report – A written report is provided in the packet and Mr. Albarado reviewed the highlights of his report.

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings –

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the County Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, December 15, at 6:30 pm in the Large Courtroom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

DRAFT