

**Minutes of the April 10, 2024 meeting of the Sawyer County
Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- ☒ Chair: **Ed Peters**
- ☒ Vice Chair – Marc Helwig
- ☒ Kay Wilson
- ☒ Brian Bisonette - virtual
- ☐ Jason Weaver

Others Present:

Lynn Fitch	Andy Albarado
Jay Kozlowski	Seth Sesker
Kris Treland-Neumann	Brian DeVries
Brody Fischer	Craig Olson
Greg Peterson	Stacey Hessel
Tweed Shuman	Ned Zuelsdorff
Brian DeVries	Rick Peters

Call to Order – Chair Ed Peters 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 dated: **March 13, 2024**

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Helwig Second by: Ms. Wilson

Motion carried without negative vote.

Register of Deeds Update -

A written report was provided detailing activity in the office of ROD.

Events -

Mr. Peterson presented an application for the August 17th Seeley Lions PreFat Mountain Bike Race. Precautions will be taken to advise ATV/UTV riders that a race is in progress over the portion of the export course section. They are expecting 250-300 riders for the event. Mr. Zuelsdorff provided a review of advertising and traffic control efforts for the race. This is the largest fund raiser for the Lions each year. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson to approve the race request; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion carried without negative vote.

Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report -

A written report was provided, showing a review of 13 certified survey maps in March. Mr. DeVries advised that their annual state data has been submitted.

Sawyer County Forestry Department -

Recreational Trails Report – Ms. Neumann reported that they have been working on the ATV/UTV routes and readying trails for opening season. Their annual banquet was held last night and they want to thank this committee for the support they have received.

County Forestry Report – A written report was provided and reviewed by Mr. Peterson. Sales income is very close to being on target despite the winter weather conditions this year. Recon acreage is on target and they have put in 3 hours on the Good Neighbor Authority project. The Trail 5 ATV trail rehab project is on hold at the moment and should resume work by the end of April. Anew has scheduled a site verification visit for the carbon credit project.

Developing Shooting Sports Facilities on County Forest Land – A map of the proposed project was included in the packet. Mr. Peterson advised that the SCOPE shooting group approached him to develop this project. It is an

acceptable use of county forest land and is adjacent to the existing Hayward Rod & Gun Club. This would be a public facility and property would remain in County ownership. Mr. Peters from SCOPE advised that the lack of a range to hold events has been an issue in the past. Numerous training courses could be held on the new range if it were to be developed. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig to move forward with develop a plan of scope for this project; second by Mr. Bisonette. Motion carried without negative vote.

LCO Resolution for ATV/UTV Trail Aids Application – Mr. Peterson presented a resolution from the Tribal Governing Board supporting approximately 16 miles of tribal land use and. A motion to accept and support the resolution was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Ms. Wilson. Motion carried without negative vote.

Request for trail connection for proposed Mosquito Brook Flowage development to Birkie Trail – Mr. Peterson was approached by Hill Construction to use two of our Mosquito Brook Flowage trail systems to connect to their development project to provide access to the Birkie trail. This would open the area for public access, as well, and would likely require an MOU with the party who would maintain the trail, if developed. The Committee would like more detailed information on the development of the housing area before making any commitment.

DNR Forestry – A written report was provided. The warmer temps and low moisture will lengthen our fire season. Timber sale establishment has remained steady, and they are looking forward to the 4th grade tree planting day on Sawyer County forestry land on May 3rd.

Zoning/Conservation Department -

County Report – A written report was provided. They continue to search for an ag rep to sit on this committee. The tree sale has moved to April 26th and 27th, and they are starting to have more onsite inspections with the warmer weather. A conference report is provided later in the agenda.

USDA Report – No update

LCO Report – Mr. Bisonette reported that LCO the fish hatchery operations were put temporarily on hold due to snow arrival. There is another project on the old cranberry field.

Future Agenda Items –

Other Topics for Discussion Only – Mr. Peters thanked the committee for the years of participation.

Adjournment – 9:23 am

Next Meeting: May 8, 2024 **Time:** 8:30 am **Location:** Board Room
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk