Minutes of the May 16, 2024, meeting of the Sawyer County
Board of Supervisors Organizational Meeting
Sawyer County Courthouse/Virtual

Voting Committee Members Present (X)	Roll Call	District	Wards
☒ Steve Kariainen	YY	01	T Lenroot W-1, T Hayward W-7, C Hayward W-5
☒ Kay Wilson	NY	02	T Lenroot W-2, T Round Lake W-1
☒ Tweed Shuman	YY	03	T Hayward W-1 & 2
☒ Stacey Hessel	YY	04	T Hayward W-3 & 4
☒ Randy Neumann	YY	05	T Hayward W-5 & 6
☒ Marc D. Helwig	NN	06	C Hayward W-1 & 2
☐ Thomas W. Duffy-exc		07	C Hayward W-3 & 4
☐ Marshal Savitski		08	T Bass Lake W-1 & 2
☒ Brian Bisonette	YY	09	T Bass Lake W-3 & 4
☒ Chuck Van Etten	YY	10	T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W-1
☒ Jeff Hoehne	YY	11	T Edgewater W-2, T Bass Lake W-5, T Meteor, T Couderay, V Couderay
☐ John Righeimer	YY	12	T Spider Lake, T Round Lake W-2, T Winter W-1
☒ Ron Kinsley	YY	13	T Hunter, T Radisson W-1, T-Ojibwa W-1, V Radisson
☒ Ron Buckholtz	YY	14	T Radisson W-2, T Ojibwa W-2, T Weirgor, V Exeland, T Meadowbrook
☒ John Suralski	YY	15	T Winter W-2, T Draper, V Winter

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance– Chair Kinsley called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Roll call was taken; quorum was met. Sheriff Mrotek served area law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met.

Meeting Agenda –

Public Comments – Tim Sheldon, Rhonda Eisold, Linda Zillmer, Jayne Schroeder, Gerald Wright, Steve Beining letter, Barry Thornton letter

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: April 25, 2024
Motion to approve made by: Ms. Hessel Second by: Mr. Buckholtz
Motion carried without negative vote.

Appointments -
NW Broadband Committee-Steve Kariainen, HHS board members Petit and Pearson, Senior Resource Center Marshal Savitski, ICAA-Ron Buckholtz, LEPC, Animal Control Office-Chaz Ann Olson, and a list of individuals for land information council that was provided. A motion was made by Mr. Shuman; second by Ms. Wilson to approve all appointments. Motion carried without negative vote.

Zoning Committee -
Chair Report – Mr. Buckholtz advised that two rezone cases were heard and approved at Committee level as well as two conditional use permits. They are also holding interviews for a new administrative assistant position.

Zone District Map Amendment RZN #24-005 Lester & Katie Troyer – Mr. Kozlowski presented this rezone request to the board; it had been previously approved at Zoning Committee. A motion was made by motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Buckholtz to approve this request. Motion carried without negative vote.

Zone District Map Amendment RZN #24-006 Phyllis TePaske -- Mr. Kozlowski presented this rezone request to the board; it had been previously approved at Zoning Committee. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson to approve the request as presented; second by Mr. Suralski. Motion carried without negative vote.

Public Works Committee --
Chair Report – Mr. Kinsley advised that they are working on the airport runway project and beginning road work. They received data from the Sheriff's Department regarding ATV/UTV.

ATV/UTV Annual Route Renewal – The existing routes were presented for annual renewal, and new requests were presented for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig to approve the existing ATV/UTV route renewal requests; second by Ms. Hessel. Motion carried without negative vote. The 2024 LCO Temporary to Permanent Route CTH NN Green Lake Rd to Gurno Lake Rd request to make NN a permanent route. A motion was made by Mr. Shuman to approve #2 and #3 on the LCO list; second by Mr. Neumann. Motion carried without negative vote.

2024 New ATV Route Requests – A motion was made by Ms. Hessel to approve the request; second by Mr. Buckholtz. A roll call vote was taken and passed 11:2 with "nay" votes from Wilson and Helwig; "yes" votes from Bisonette, Hoehne, Hessel, Suralski, Van Etten, Shuman, Buckholtz, Kinsley, Neumann, Kariainen and Righeimer.

ATV/UTV Ordinance Amendment – A motion was made by Ms. Hessel to amend the ordinance resolution with the attachments included in the packet; second by Mr. Van Etten. A roll call vote was taken and passed 12:1 with "nay" votes from Helwig; "yes" votes from Bisonette, Hoehne, Hessel, Suralski, Van Etten, Shuman, Buckholtz, Kinsley, Neumann, Kariainen, Wilson and Righeimer.

Public Safety Committee --
Chair Report – Mr. Buckholtz advised that the chair and vice chair elections were held. The jail report showed that calls went down last month with a total population of 56. Dispatch interviews continue with one new hire beginning training. The current radio EMS equipment cannot be improved for any better coverage and new equipment will be coming to the board in the future for new equipment and two new towers. The estimated cost is $2M. Narcan continues to be given throughout the county.

Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee -
Chair Report – Mr. Suralski advised that the Register of Deeds announced that she will not seek re-election to the position. The Alliance reported that all trails were opened and they expect a busy season. Timber sale bids were approved. The water levels on seven of our county dams continue to be monitored by the Zoning Department staff. All LCO trails are now open for the season.

Health and Human Services Board --
Chair Report – Ms. Wilson reported that Ms. Lyons provided a detailed overview of the HHS departments and functions. The out-of-home placements of youth continue to grow which causes an increase in expenses. FoodShare distribution was over 1,000 accounts last month. The Community Health Survey is available online and all residents are encouraged to complete it. The public Hearing for the tourist rooming house topic will be held on June 2nd before the regular monthly HHS board meeting.

Finance Committee -
Chair Report – Ms. Hessel advised that Mr. Markgren reviewed the purpose of each report and stated that rates remain high for investments. He also provided an update on the Wellness Committee along with its purpose and projects undertaken. The ambulance report was reviewed and explained in detail.

Economic Development & UW Extension Committee --
Chair Report – Ms. Hessel advised that Mr. Righeimer was elected as Chair and Ms. Hessel as Vice Chair. Updates were provided by stakeholder representatives. An incubator project will be developed at the LCO College for new businesses.

Administrator's Report -
A written report was provided and highlights were reviewed by Mr. Albarado. He recognized Mr. Mike Markgren and Alex Butterfield for all their work in completing the courthouse remodeling project. They are seeing some success in their new hire initiatives. The Code Enforcement Officer will assist in enforcing policies for animal control, zoning and HHS. The airport runway project is open for bids at this time. The next process of broadband expansion is the BEAD program with additional potential funding becoming available from the state sometime in the near future. Our jail population has continued to decrease partly due to the diversion program efforts and having two courtrooms available to move court cases through the system quicker. Any new staff positions have to be requested when the budgeting process begins in June. We are considering establishing a presence in the Winter area at WALDO that will rotate some of our county departments one day a week in that area.

Other Topics for Discussion Only –

Adjournment – 7:37 pm

Next Meeting: June 20, 2024 **Time:** 6:30 pm **Location:** Board Room
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk