

**Minutes of the June 20, 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		01	T Lenroot W-1, T Hayward W-7, C Hayward W-5
☒ Kay Wilson		02	T Lenroot W-2, T Round Lake W-1
☐ Tweed Shuman-exc		03	T Hayward W-1 & 2
☒ Stacey Hessel		04	T Hayward W-3 & 4
☒ Randy Neumann		05	T Hayward W-5 & 6
☒ Marc D. Helwig		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		09	T Bass Lake W-3 & 4
☒ Chuck Van Etten		10	T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W-1
☒ Jeff Hoehne		11	T Edgewater W-2, T Bass Lake W-5, 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
☒ John Suralski		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.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met.

Meeting Agenda –

Public Comments – Ben Kurtzweil, Brenda Dettloff, Andrea Wittwer

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: May 16, 2024

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Buckholtz Second by: Ms. Hessel

Motion carried without negative vote.

Appointments -

Sawyer County Board of Appeals (Steve Kelsey) and Sawyer County Board of Appeals (Dee Dobilas) – A motion was made by Ms. Hessel to approve the appointments; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion carried without negative vote.

Zoning Committee – Steve Kariainen and Marshal Savitski (alternate) – A motion was made by Mr. Righeimer; second by Ms. Wilson to approve this change. Motion carried without negative vote.

Outside Committee Appointment Adjustments – Senior Resource Center (Marshal Savitski replacing Ron Buckholtz), ICAA (Steve Kariainen replacing Ron Buckholtz), Northern Waters Library (Ron Buckholtz replacing Steve Kariainen) and NoRTEC (Don Mrotek as citizen representative) – A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve these appointment adjustments; second by Ms. Hessel. Motion carried without negative vote.

Tourist Rooming House Ad Hoc Committee – A list of candidates was presented by Mr. Albarado with four new members, Marshal Savitski, Jim Tiffany, Jon Vollmers and CJ Danaske. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel to approve the Ad Hoc committee slate of candidates; second by Ms. Wilson. Motion carried without negative vote.

Zoning Committee -

Chair Report – Mr. Buckholtz advised that the committee approved one conditional use permit for a new gravel pit and a preliminary subdivision platt. The department remains busy with requests.

Zoning District Map Amendment RZN #24-007 Medical Service, Inc. to rezone 67.6 acres from Agricultural-one – Mr. Kozlowski presented the original request as it was approved at the Town of Hayward and Zoning Committee levels which would approve signage on the property. The Town of Hayward has since withdrawn their support of the rezone as was originally presented. He recommends that this County Board remand the decision back to the Zoning Committee for further consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to remand it back to Zoning Committee; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion carried without negative vote.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Storage Shed in Platted Subdivisions – Mr. Kozlowski presented the amendment which would remove language in our ordinance for storage shed exemptions. Town board votes to make this amendment change came back as 8 for denial and 7 for approval.

Zoning Committee Resolution to Amend Zoning Ordinance for Storage Sheds in Platted Subdivisions -- A motion was made by Mr. Helwig to deny the amendment; second by Ms. Wilson. Motion carried without negative vote.

Public Works Committee --

Chair Report – Mr. Helwig provided a review of the June meeting. The new ambulance has been delivered, and the airport traffic has been steady and busy. On June 22nd, the Young Eagles and Civil Air Patrol will hold their fundraising benefits at the airport this summer. An update of highway repairs was included. The ATV/UTV signage is up so County roads are available to users.

Control Access Policy – Mr. Albarado advised that the item does not require board action.

Public Safety Committee --

Chair Report – Mr. Buckholtz provided a review of the June meeting. Sheriff's Department reports were shared, identifying that call volume is up over last year. The total jail population was 50 for last month and our inmate numbers continue to slowly decline. We are undergoing a review of a new EMS radio system proposal to increase indoor and outdoor coverage for personnel. The Town of Round Lake is interested in establishing a more permanent ambulance crew in the Town and are offering land for such purpose.

Code Enforcement Specialist – Animal Control Amendment June 2024 – Mr. Albarado presented the Resolution to Approve the Amendment to Animal Control Ordinance and Approve Permit Fees. He reviewed the specific changes that have been recommended. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the Resolution; second by Mr. Kariainen. Motion carried without negative vote.

Search and Rescue MOU between the County and Search and Rescue – Mr. Albarado presented the MOU between the two entities as a document that will clearly identify the relationship and authority between the two as well as outline the insurance relationship. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Ms. Hessel to approve the MOU as presented. Motion carried without negative vote.

Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee -

Chair Report – Mr. Suralski provided a review of the June meeting relaying department reports of activities. The FishTrap Dam grant has been approved by the State.

Health and Human Services Board --

Chair Report – Ms. Wilson reported that the public hearing for the Tourist Rooming House was held at the monthly June meeting. The Tourist Rooming House Ordinance was denied at Committee level. The LCO Falcon drug awareness program was shared.

Citation Authority Resolution Ordinance Amendment – Mr. Albarado presented the Ordinance Amendment that would provide authority for staff to issue citations. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson to approve the Ordinance Amendment; second by Mr. Buckholtz. Motion carried without negative vote.

Finance Committee -

Chair Report – Mr. Righeimer provided a review. We are on target with our budget projections and the 2025 budget process has begun. Health insurance is budgeted with a 5% increase and departments have been asked to provide a 5-year CIP projection for planning purposes. NWCEP has requested assistance in a \$5,000 advance which has been referred to administration for further investigation.

Kroger Settlement June 2024 Resolution – Mr. Albarado presented this recent opioid settlement resolution. This document accepts the Kroger settlement and attaches it to the prior settlements received. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the Resolution as presented; second by Mr. Righeimer. Motion carried without negative vote;

Economic Development & UW Extension Committee --

Chair Report – Mr. Righeimer provided a review. Room tax revenue was down about \$10,000 but sales tax revenue was up. There is a joint broadband application underway with NWRPC and some area counties.

Outside Committee Updates --

Ms. Carrie Sabin, Manager at Namekagon Transit provided a report from their monthly meeting. Mr. Kariainen provided a review of the Northern Waters Library and Northwest Regional Planning Commission meetings, as well as the meeting with CEP. Ms. Wilson provided an update on the Sawyer County Housing Authority meeting.

Administrator's Report -

A written report was provided and highlights were reviewed by Mr. Albarado.

Other Topics for Discussion Only –

Adjournment – 7: 59 pm

Next Meeting: July 18, 2024 **Time:** 6:30 pm **Location:** Board Room
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk