

**Minutes of the July 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: John Suralski
- ☒ Vice Chair: Steve Kariainen
- ☒ Kay Wilson
- ☒ Randy Neumann
- ☒ Brian Bisonette

Others Present:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Lynn Fitch | Andy Albarado |
| Jay Kozlowski - virtual | Brian DeVries |
| Brody Fischer | |
| Greg Peterson | |
| Jerry Wright | |

Call to Order – Chair Suralski 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: June 12, 2024

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Kariainen Second by: Mr. Neumann
Motion carried without negative vote.

Register of Deeds Update -

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

Events -

No requests

Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report -

Written reports were provided. The department performed several maintenance requests on GPS coordinates on corners within the county and installed approximately 100 new and replacement fire number signs in June. Eleven CSMs were reviewed. Three municipalities have scheduled their Boards of Review to take place within the next several weeks, with three municipalities still unscheduled for 2024. Mr. DeVries reported on the increase of office activity.

Sawyer County Forestry Department -

Recreational Trails Report – Mr. Wright reported out on non-motorized trail maintenance. They hope to have almost all of the Sawyer County Trail system rehabbed by the end of this year.

County Forestry Report –

A written report was provided and June had six sales to report. Rainfall has slowed activity down. Timber sale value on file is at \$4.6M and we are on target for making revenue goals for the year and there are three trail rehab projects underway.

Draper Road Project – The Forestry Department is applying for a grant program to promote sustainable forestry in the Town of Draper to improve access to a section of property. Mr. Fischer described the project boundaries and advised that it is a 100% grant funded program. A narrative description of the project was included. A motion was made by Mr. Neuman to approve the request to submit the grant; second by Mr. Kariainen. Motion carried without negative vote.

Non-motorized Trail Ordinance Update – E-bike Review – Mr. Peterson advised that CAMBA has submitted a request to formalize the proposal to allow Class 1 E-bikes on Sawyer County Forest trails. Mr. Wright advised that trail modifications that they are putting in place will accommodate safe use of the trails with these bikes. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson to approve the request to allow Class 1 E-bikes on the trails; second by Mr. Neumann. Motion carried without negative vote. This will require an update to our ordinance and 15-year Plan.

DNR Forestry Report – A written report was provided. As of the 15th of June, WI DNR had committed 2373.25 hours to Sawyer County. A couple projects are underway between Sawyer County Forestry and the DNR to improve access on the forest. Mr. Fischer provided an update on the DNR hours provided to Sawyer County.

Zoning/Conservation Department -

County Report – A written report was provided. Mr. Kozlowski advised that the zoning office continues to be very busy and start plans for the FishTrap Lake Dam project which will begin in the fall of 2025 and they continue to monitor water levels at the seven County-owned dams with all of the rainfall we have received this year.

USDA Report – No update

LCO Report – Mr. Bisonette advised that LCO has been dealing with daily nuisance bear complaints and the fish hatchery operations have been going well. The joint Chippewa Flowage management plan with the DNR continues discussions.

Outside Committee Updates --

Future Agenda Items –

Other Topics for Discussion Only –

Adjournment – 9:04 am

Next Meeting: August 7, 2024 Time: 8:30 am Location: Board Room
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk