

**Minutes of the August 5, 2024 meeting of the Sawyer County
Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- ☒ Vice Chair: Stacey Hessel
- ☒ Tom Duffy
- ☒ Steve Kariainen
- ☒ Randy Neumann

Andy Albarado
Liz Klein
Mindy Simons
Lori Baltrusis

Others Present:

Jim Ferguson
Adam Lamoureaux
Cathy Lareau
Rick Christian

Call to Order – Vice Chair Hessel called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call was taken. Quorum was met.

Meeting Agenda – Motion to approved by: Mr. Neumann Second by: Mr. Duffy

Public Comments – None

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: July 8, 2024

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Duffy Second by: Mr. Neumann

Motion carried without negative vote.

Sawyer County Agricultural Fair Association Report –

Mr. Christian reported that the fair will run from Aug 15-18th and feature new food vendors. Admission will be \$1 or a non-perishable food item.

University of Wisconsin-Extension Department Report -

Ms. Baltrusis reported that the budget is done. The Marketing and Communications position is now open for applications. Donna Knuckey of the Winter Library was awarded \$10,000.00 in funds by the 100 Who Care Association for county youth programs. The Twilight Garden Tour at the Spooner Ag Research Station is August 20th.

Hayward Lakes Visitors & Convention Bureau -

New Executive Director Ms. Simons introduced herself to the board and shared her goals for HLVCB in the upcoming months.

Northwest Regional Planning Commission Report –

No updates

Library Updates -

The Winter Library Report was provided to committee members

Motorized Trail and Non-Motorized Trail Report -

Ms. Lareau reported that over 2000 respondents have completed the survey. There have been no issues reported with opening the county roads except for some confusion on LCO roads. Assurance signs will be placed this fall to let riders know they are on an approved route. Mr. Duffy shared a report by Ben Popp and reported that early Birkie registrations are up to 8000. Lumberjack Fest was a success. The Telemark Base Camp Grand Opening Celebration is set for August 17.

Broadband Update -

Mr. Albarado reported on BEAD funding opportunities to providers for broadband coverage in the county with mapping, eligibility and timeline information becoming available; some of the County's remote areas will need satellite or fixed wireless coverage and this may be covered by BEAD.

Economic Development Corporation Report -

Mr. Lamoureaux reported that the Tribal Toolbox event was helpful for identifying funding opportunities. Free technical support for startup business is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-6pm at the LCO University. A Grand Opening for The Lot will be held at the end of August. Mr. Lamoureaux continues to work on grants including a Small Business Development Grant for \$50,000-\$250,000 for matching funds or loans to local businesses. Enbridge and Arcland are donating to the EDC. For questions, contact Adam Lamoureaux at (651) 308-8206.

Outside Committee Updates -

Mr. Kariainen reported that the CEP Board held an emergency meeting last week to remove the director and appoint an interim director until the future of CEP can be determined. There is an Indianhead Community Action Agency meeting coming up on August 29th.

Historical Society -

Mr. Ferguson reported on the Stone Lake meeting. The Society parked cars for the WLC event and raised \$600.00, and a citizen provided a historic trolley tour.

Future Agenda Items-

None

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings-

None

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee will be Monday, September 9th, at 8:30 am in the Board Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 am

Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, EO Deputy Clerk