

**Minutes of the September 5, 2024, meeting of the Sawyer County
Board of Supervisors Special 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		03	T Hayward W-1 & 2
☒ Stacey Hessel-virtual		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		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 –

Presentation by John Will – Northwoods Technical College

A PowerPoint presentation was made by President John Will, President of Northwoods Technical College. This presentation is included in the agenda packet. Wisconsin is considered a model state in how we provide technical college programs.

Presentation – Preliminary 2025 Sawyer County Budget

Mr. Markgren provided a review of the preliminary proposed 2025 budget. The presentation will be added to the packet. A 2%/1% staff wage increase is included as well as a 5% increase in health insurance. Sales tax revenue continues to grow but at a slower pace; we are getting good returns on our investments. The fund balance draw would be \$2,369,790, after adjustments \$630,348. Projected increase in partner organization funding would have an increase of \$24,401 over last year's budget.

Public Safety Radio -

Participating in Partnership with BugTussel – Mr. Albarado advised that all packet documents have been reviewed by legal counsel. Administration has been working on completing due diligence regarding financial analysis of both

proposed options and a review of how the financing options would work. PMA, our financial advisor, completed a financial analysis of funding options. There is about a \$1M difference in project costs using BugTussel/GenComm or just GenComm with the higher cost involving only GenComm options. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve GenComm as the network builder/provider for the towers; second by Mr. Helwig. Mitchel Olson of BugTussel provided an update on the timelines and responded to board member questions. Legal Counsel, Andy Phillips reviewed the risk assessment. Mr. Buckholtz rescinded his motion; Mr. Helwig rescinded his second. Mr. Shuman made a motion to postpone this discussion until the September 19th meeting; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion carried without negative vote.

Other Topics for Discussion Only –

Adjournment – 8:20 pm

Next Meeting: September 19, 2024 **Time:** 6:30 pm **Location:** Board Room
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk