

**Minutes of the January 9, 2025 meeting of the Sawyer County
Finance Committee
of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- ☒ Chair: John Righeimer
- ☒ Vice Chair: Stacey Hessel
- ☒ Marc Helwig
- ☒ Tom Duffy – Arrived 8:37
- ☐ Jeff Hoehne- Excused

Andy Albarado
Liz Klein
Mike Markgren
Ron Kinsley
Ron Buckholtz

Others Present:

Brian Lehner

Call to Order – Chair Righeimer called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. There was no quorum present. The meeting was delayed briefly. Chair Righeimer called the meeting to order at 8:37 am.

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

Meeting Agenda – Set

Public Comments – Linda Zillmer

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: December 12, 2024

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Duffy Second by: Ms. Hessel
Motion carried without negative vote.

Treasurer's Report – None provided

Finance Department Report -

Written reports on sales tax revenues, the 2024 Budget Performance Report, and December CIP spending were provided and reviewed by Mr. Markgren.

Investment Update -

Mr. Markgren reviewed written reports showing interest earned on the County's accounts. YTD interest earned is \$1,103,723 with \$69,045 this past month. Three year CD alternatives for transfer of a \$3,000,000 PMA CD fund were explored with the best rate coming from Ampersand.

Motion to invest with Ampersand by: Mr. Righeimer Second by: Ms. Hessel.
Motion carried without negative vote.

EMS-Ambulance -

Mr. Markgren reviewed written reports on Ambulance billing. The new billing company is yielding better results but overall collection rates remain a challenge. The committee would like to see how Sawyer collection rates compare to other counties. calls per month are starting to level out compared to previous years as are the average billed per month and average collected per month. The percent collected is 36.19% with a goal being 50%. The dollars billed and collected per call is at an all-time high again this month. We continue to rely heavily on Medicaid/Medicare repayment which is historically low. Out of county placements are driving up costs. The state may provide more funding to cover the burden in the future. More facilities are needed in northern Wisconsin.

The committee would like Mr. Markgren to provide alerts on topics relevant to agenda items in his future reports as appropriate.

Board Appointed Committee Updates - None

Future Agenda Items – None

Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings – None

Adjournment – 9:28 am

Next Meeting: February 13, 2025

Time: 8:30 am

Location: Board Room

Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk