

**Minutes of the August 14, 2025 Meeting of the Sawyer County
Finance Committee of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- ☒ Chair: John Righeimer
- ☒ Vice Chair: Stacey Hessel
- ☒ Marc Helwig
- ☒ Tom Duffy
- ☒ Jeff Hoehne

Others Present:

Mike Markgren
Liz Klein
Ron Buckholtz
Rhandi Ehn
Brian Lehner
Ron Buckholtz

Call to Order – Mr. Righeimer called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

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

Meeting Agenda – Set

Public Comments – None

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: July 10, 2025

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Duffy

Second by: Ms. Hessel

Motion carried without negative vote.

Treasurer's Report –

Mr. Lehner provided a written report on sales of IN REM parcels and real estate tax collections. 26 out of 37 In Rem parcels were sold; the remaining 11 are actively for sale now. The department sent notices and reminders to delinquent tax payers and greatly reduced the number of In Rem parcels received by the county in July.

Mr. Markgren commended Mr. Lehner and his staff for doing a great job since starting in January.

Budget-Small decrease in staff insurance for 2026.

Mr. Markgren advised the committee that he is asking for three top priorities for all the departments by next Thursday for guidance in forming the county Strategic Plan.

Finance Department Report -

Mr. Markgren reviewed sales tax revenues for July, Budget Performance Reports for July 2025, and July CIP purchases.

Requested 2026 Budget Update— The Finance Department will save money in 2026 because Mr. Markgren's Finance Director salary is removed.

Going into the 2026 County Budget, there is a structural deficit: sales tax and interest revenue leveled off since the previous year, 2024 saw a shared revenue increase, no new revenue sources came in in 2025 and purchased services for out of county placements have continued to increase.

Department Financial Updates--

County Clerk Budget Reports--Mr. Markgren reviewed 2024 financials and assessed July 2025 revenues and expenses for County Clerk. 2025 YTD revenues are at 117% of budget; expenses are at 61%.

Treasurer Budget Reports—Mr. Markgren reviewed the 2024 financials and assessed July 2025 revenues and expenses for Treasurer. 2025 YTD revenues are at 0% of budget; expenses are at 57%.

Register of Deeds Budget Reports—Mr. Markgren reviewed the 2024 financials and assessed July 2025 revenues and expenses for the Register of Deeds. 2025 YTD revenues are at 100% of budget; expenses are at 55%.

Investments Review and Update—

June investment report was provided: interest rates are holding above 4%.

CD Purchase- A \$3M PMA CD matured in August and went out on bids for reinvestment; Mr. Markgren recommends a PMA WISC CD at 4.16% interest.

Motion to purchase a \$3M PMA WISC CD as recommended by Mr. Markgren by: Ms. Hessel

Second by: Mr. Helwig

Motion carried without negative vote.

Hazard Mitigation Funding— The BRIC grant funds have not been cut at this time- the item will be revisited in the future should it become necessary.

Board Appointed Committee Updates—Ms. Hessel reported that the PACE committee meeting was canceled and Economic Development is not meeting in August. The Sawyer County Fair is running this weekend.

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings – None

Future Agenda Items – None

Adjournment – 8:52 am

Next Meeting- September 11, 2025

Time: 8:30 am

Location: Board Room

Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk