

**Minutes of the August 13, 2025 Meeting of the Sawyer County
Public Works Committee
of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- ☒ Chair: Ron Kinsley
- ☒ Vice Chair: Marc Helwig
- ☒ Randy Neumann
- ☒ Chuck Van Etten
- ☒ Jim Evans-Virtual

Others Present:

Mike Markgren
John Pinnow
Liz Klein
Derek Leslie

Call to Order – Chair Kinsley called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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

Meeting Agenda – Set

Public Comments- None

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: July 9, 2025

Motion to approve by: Mr. Neumann

Second by: Mr. Helwig

Motion carried without negative vote.

Maintenance Department Report -

A written report was provided by Mr. Hagberg. Mr. Markgren noted that Mr. Hagberg is retiring after 22 years with Sawyer County.

Budget- Increases are insurance due to staff turnover and utilities for 2026

Resolution 2025—

A Resolution Approving Change of Ownership in Hayward Aviation and Release of Todd Van Nispen from Personal Guarantee was discussed. Mr. Markgren recommended that four Hayward Aviation, LLC contingencies have to be met for approval: the execution of the sale agreement between Van Nispen and Leslie, the executed sale of Van Nispen's 50% interest in the company, the assignment of shares from Van Nispen to Leslie and executed release of the personal guarantys, and the bank closing of the sale.

Motion to approve the resolution for change in ownership and release Van Nispen from personal guarantys if the four contingencies are met, to send to the county board for final consideration by: Mr. Helwig

Second by: Mr. Evans

Motion carried without negative vote.

Resolution 2025—

A Resolution to amend the FBO agreement was discussed.

Motion to approve as presented, contingent upon the criteria are met and the Resolution for Change in Ownership and Release of Van Nispen from Personal Guarantys is adopted by the county board by: Mr. Neumann

Second by: Mr. Van Etten

Motion carried without negative vote.

Sawyer County Airport Report-

A written report was provided. Mr. Leslie informed the committee that 34 jets landed on July 25. The runway project is complete and the final bill will be about \$150,000 to the county, matched by approximately \$4M paid by the FAA. The Airport Master Plan is still waiting for the BOA and FAA to move forward.

Budget--Mr. Markgren reported that about \$60,000 was recoupled from the sale of the pavement millings and will be used toward repairs on the terminal building. The Airport brought in \$30,000 to the county last year and appears to be on track to repeat that next year.

Mr. Leslie stated that the pavements are in excellent shape now and priorities are the Master Plan and terminal building going forward.

Highway Department-

Commissioner Pinnow updated the committee on completed and ongoing projects. County E work will start in 2027. The Thornapple Grade bridge is now completed and open.

He presented two proposals for options on CTH CC intersection in LCO with numerous accidents. The TGB favors option 1.

Motion to approve Option 1 by: Mr. Evans Second by: Mr. Neumann
Motion carried without negative vote.

Budget- Normal increases- the price of salt sand and wages has increased for 2026. Mr. Pinnow has identified new funding opportunities to balance expenses and is looking at a revised six year road plan using some chip sealing and overlays to extend road life and stretch the budget.

A thank you letter was received from the Town of Winter board for county support with the Thornapple Grade bridge.

Adding some additional ATV/UTV Routes to reach unserved businesses was discussed; Mr. Markgren will talk to TGB about possible options to see if they can be opened.

A proposed Trail 30 snowmobile crossing at CTH B was recommended by Mr. Pinnow, and the reroute itself was recommended by Greg Peterson at LWFRM today.

Motion to approve and send to county board for final consideration by: Mr. Neumann Second by: Mr. Evans
Motion carried without negative vote.

Board Appointed Committee Updates— None

Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings – None

Future Agenda Items – ATV/UTV Routes Discussion and Possible Action

Meeting adjourned at 7: 10 pm

Next Meeting: September 10, 2025 **Time:** 6:30 pm **Location:** Board Room
Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk