

**Minutes of the September 11, 2025 Meeting of the Sawyer County
Administration Committee of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

Others Present:

☒ Chair: Ron Kinsley	Mike Markgren
☒ Vice Chair: Ron Buckholtz	Liz Klein
☒ Tom Duffy	Gary Elliot
☒ John Righeimer	Mike Coleson
☒ Stacey Hessel	Nicole Clapero

Call to Order –Chair Ron Kinsley called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

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

Meeting Agenda – Set

Public Comments – None

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: August 14, 2025

Motion to approve by: Mr. Duffy

Second by: Ms. Hessel

Motion carried without negative vote.

County Clerk Report-

Ms. Klein provided a written department report. County Resolutions are searchable online back to 1958. Three more clerks are working toward completing WisVote training. Upcoming training includes the Annual WCA/WCCA Conference, a WEC conference, a Command Central in-house training day and PIO training.

Nine of 13 new records requests in August were for the Sheriff's Department.

Veterans Service Office Report -

Mr. Elliot provided a written report of monthly department activity: 390 phone calls, 678 letters/emails/faxes sent and 219 office visits. 116 disability claims were filed to date and \$392,446.74 was awarded in Veterans' favor. The department is co-hosting counseling sessions at La Crosse Vet Center, hosting Coffee & Conversation, and the social media engagements are increasing. Training is up to date. Upcoming outreach includes the LCO Health Fair and Walk For Tomorrow Suicide Prevention Awareness on September 26.

Information Technology Department Report -

Mr. Coleson provided a written IT report. IT has been busy with the email domain migration.

Human Resources Report -

A written report was provided.

County Administrator Report—

Veterans Tribute update— Mr. Markgren has received the environmental report on the Hwy 63 site for review and will follow up. He presented a timeline of steps toward completing the memorial to the committee as requested. Ms. Hessel shared another preliminary rendering of the proposed tribute with suggestions for maintenance free materials and construction. Conversations with local veterans at Coffee & Conversation yielded the idea for incorporating resources panels into the design.

Mr. Markgren told the committee about a proposed highway grant partnership with LCO for a roundabout at CTH K and CTH B that will be presented for consideration at the County Board meeting next week; the TGB approved it on their end.

2026 Budget Update—

Mr. Markgren presented the preliminary 2026 budget to the Finance Committee where these committee members heard it. The file is attached to the Finance Meeting agenda packet.

Ms. Hessel asked about long-term budgeting to consolidate highway shops and move the ambulance service garage.

Board Appointed Committee Updates –

Mr. Buckholtz will attend the Northern Waters Library board meeting in Ashland on Saturday.

Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings—

Mr. Buckholtz advised that the materials he shared from his recent County Board conference may have board rules about when a 2/3 vote is required.

Ms. Hessel requested a moment of silence to observe 911.

Future Agenda Items- Veterans Tribute, 2026 Budget

Adjournment –10:39 am

Next Meeting: October 9, 2025

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Board Room

Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk