

**Minutes of the October 8, 2025 Meeting of the Sawyer County
Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee
of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room, Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- ☒ Chair: Steve Kariainen
- ☒ Vice Chair: Randy Neumann
- ☒ Kay Wilson
- ☒ Jim Evans
- ☒ Dale Magnuson- virtual

Mike Markgren
Liz Klein
Jay Kozlowski
Greg Peterson
Brian Lehner
Seth Zesiger

Others Present:

Tim Davison
Tim Seidl
Craig Morris
Brian DeVries
Natalie Erler
James Doss

Call to Order – Chair Kariainen called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

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

Meeting Agenda – Moved item 15 to 8

Public Comments – Linda Zillmer

Treasurer's Report—

Mr. Lehner requested committee approval to sell a parcel with Tax ID 42750 for under the minimum bid of \$500 for the price of \$300.

Motion to approve the sale by: Mr. Neumann Second by: Mr. Evans

Motion carried without negative vote.

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: September 10, 2025

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Neumann Second by: Mr. Evans

Motion carried without negative vote.

Events--

No applications were received

Register of Deeds Update--

A written report was provided by Ms. Thompson requesting increases to the Laredo program fees in 2026.

Motion to approve the proposed fee increases for recommendation to the County Board by: Mr. Neumann

Second by: Mr. Evans

Motion carried without negative vote.

Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report –

Land Records—A written RPL report was provided.

Surveyor—A written surveyor report was provided.

Forestry –

County Forestry Report—

Mr. Peterson reported that 11 sales were active in September. There is approximately \$4.3M in sold-uncut timber on file. Gross timber sales are at \$1.84M YTD.

A \$65,500 ATV Grant project on a 2.1 mile section of Trail 3 has been started.

Wisconsin DNR Report-

Mr. Morris reported that 676 of 2217 county hours for sale establishment and recon have been completed in 2025 to date. Fall fire season is underway with unseasonably warm dry weather.

USFS Report- No report

Motorized Trails Report— Mr. Davison updated the committee on fall cleanup, grading and trail rehab. The Association is waiting for the DNR to collaborate on culvert replacements on Tuscobia; lots of ATVs/UTVs have been out in the county, with no reports of incidents. Getting ready for snowmobile season.

Non-motorized— No report

Resolution 2025- to Support the Forestry Revitalization Act was discussed and approved for recommendation to the County Board on a motion by: Mr. Neumann

Second by: Mr. Evans

Motion carried without negative vote.

Zoning/Conservation Department -

Mr. Kozlowski reviewed the conservation report.

Mr. Seidl updated the committee on the Land & Water Resource Management Plan and Questionnaire and asked for committee approval of the Land Conservation Committee Notification form.

Motion to approve Land Conservation Committee Notification form as presented by: Mr. Neumann

Second by: Mr. Evans

Motion carried without negative vote.

There will be a Public Hearing at the next LWFRC meeting on November 5, 2025 at 8:30am.

USDA Report-

The 2026 USDA Wildlife Damage Abatement Program proposal was presented by Mr. Zesiger. Sawyer County contracts annually with USDA/APSIS to administer a state pass-through fund program that reimburses farmers for wildlife damage to crops.

Motion to approve the 2025 Crop Proce terms as presented by: Mr. Neumann

Second by: Mr. Kariainen

Motion carried without negative vote.

Motion to approve the 2026 Wildlife Damage Program budget as presented by: Ms. Wilson

Second by: Mr. Neumann

Motion carried without negative vote.

Motion to approve the 2026 Deer Donation Agreement by: Mr. Neumann

Second by: Mr. Evans

Motion carried without negative vote.

Motion to approve the 2025 Damage Assessment deadline of December 21, 2025 by: Ms. Wilson

Second by: Mr. Neumann

Motion carried without negative vote.

Board Appointed Committee Updates – None

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings -- None

Future Agenda Items – Public Hearing on the LWRMP will be held at the next meeting on November 5, 2025 at 8:30am

Adjournment -- 9:18 am

Next Meeting: November 5, 2025 Time: 8:30am Location: Board Room
Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk