

**Minutes of the November 6, 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

Mike Markgren
Liz Klein
Ron Buckholtz
Rhandi Ehn
Ron Kinsley

Others Present:

John Pinnow- Virtual
Mindy Simons- Virtual
Kerri Sabin-Virtual
Skyler Dural-Eder

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 – Linda Zillmer

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: October 9, 2025

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

CEP Request—

Ms. Dural-Eder representing CEP spoke to the board about the services they provide for ten northern counties. CEP is asking the county to waive or extend repayment on a temporary \$5,000 loan that is due at the end of December.

After discussion it was determined that it would set a bad precedent to waive loans and a better alternative would be to require repayment and reissue the loan at another meeting if the entity requested further financial assistance.

Motion to require repayment of the \$5,000 loan by: Ms. Hessel
Second by: Mr. Helwig
Motion carried without negative vote.

2026 Budget—

Mr. Markgren reduced the projected CIP interest by approximately \$3,000 after working with the bank and entered that adjustment in several places in the budget. The 2026 proposed budget documents were reviewed again.

Discussion about the SRC request for \$9,000 more than the recommended amount centered on the SRC being a non-profit and the committee asking to see a specific budget showing where funds are applied. Concerns were expressed about increasing funding for outside entities when county departments had cuts.

Resolution 2025- to Adopt the 2026 Sawyer County Budget and 2025 Property Tax Levy to be collected in 2026, the 2026 Compensation Plan, the 2026 Authorized Employees, the 2026 Fee Schedule and the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan by: Ms. Hessel Second by: Mr. Helwig
Motion carried without negative vote.

Mr. Markgren explained the CIP borrowing resolution and stated that he would like to move toward not doing this as much in future years. The loan is largely for funding the public safety radio communications project.

Resolution 2025—to Approve Bank Loan not to exceed \$2,177,558 for 2026 Capital Improvement Projects
by: Ms. Hessel Second by: Mr. Helwig
Motion carried without negative vote.

Treasurer's Report –

Mr. Lehner provided a written report.

Finance Department Report -

Ms. Ehn reviewed sales tax revenues, Budget Performance Reports for October 2025, and October CIP purchases.

Department Financial Updates--

Budget Reports--Ms. Ehn reviewed December 2024 financials and October 2025 revenues and expenses for Maintenance. 2025 YTD revenues are at 0% of budget; expenses are at 86%.

Budget Reports—Ms. Ehn reviewed the 2024 financials and October 2025 revenues and expenses for IT. 2025 YTD revenues are at 0% of budget; expenses are at 79%.

The Maintenance and IT departments do not generate revenue.

Investments Review and Update—

The September investment report was provided: interest rates are still holding above 4%.

Board Appointed Committee Updates— None

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings – None

Future Agenda Items – None

Adjournment – 9:27 am

Next Meeting- December 11, 2025

Time: 8:30 am

Location: Board Room

Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk