

**Minutes of the January 5, 2026 Meeting of the Sawyer County
Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee
of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- ☒ Chair: John Righeimer
- ☒ Vice Chair: Stacey Hessel
- ☒ Tom Duffy
- ☒ Steve Kariainen
- ☒ Randy Neumann

Mike Markgren
Laura Bruce
Ann Larson
Donna Knuckey
Mindy Simons

Others Present:

Adam Lamoureaux

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

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: December 8, 2025

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

Motion carried without negative vote.

Library—

Ms. Larson reported on the comparison statistics for 2025 versus previous years, with e-books and patron counts increasing from the previous year. She reported on the library repairs completed in 2025 and the needed repairs for the 2026 year. The upcoming fundraisers were discussed along with the added program additions. Ms. Hessel asked if there was a fund balance available, Mr. Duffy asked regarding any available grants, Mr. Righeimer requested information on Municipality contributions, and Mr. Kariainen questioned the need for the bridge and pier replacement.

Ms. Knuckey reported her summary of 2025, she thanked the County for the monetary support of the Winter Library. She gave an update on the completion of their strategic planning and discussed the upcoming programs and fundraisers.

Hayward Lakes Visitors & Convention Bureau Report—

Ms. Simons reported the Marketing Report for 2025 year in review, which showed growth in both Social Media and Website traffic. Mr. Duffy inquired how the closing of the Flat Creek has impacted the area. Mr. Righeimer inquired about updates on Room Tax.

NWRPC Report— None

SC/LCO Economic Development Corporation Report— Mr. Lamoureaux gave an update on the Downtown businesses. He reported on the upcoming Financial Literacy Class, the submission of the THRIVE grant, and the (TRG) Talent Recruitment Grant Program. There were no updates on the Forestry Revitalization Bill. Mr. Righeimer asked how the TRG works monetarily and if there were any deadlines in regards to the Forestry Revitalization Bill. Mr. Duffy inquired about the Titus building being sold.

Trail Reports--

Ms. Hessel read a report from the Sawyer County Snowmobile Alliance on motorized trails; the report included updates on the current trail conditions, local business updates, upcoming fundraisers and the placement of trail counters.

Mr. Duffy reported on Non-Motorized trails; There are over 10,000 skiers registered for the upcoming Birkie, there are two and three groomers operating on the trails and there will be a Seeley Hill Classic held this weekend.

Board Appointed Committee Updates –

No reports

Correspondence, Reports from Conferences— None**Future Agenda Items – None**

Adjournment – 9:25 am

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee will be Monday, February 9, 2026 at 8:30 am in the Board Room.

Minutes recorded by Laura Bruce, Elected Official Deputy Clerk