



# Sawyer County

## Agenda

Land, Water, & Forest Resources Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 9, 2023 @ 8:30 AM

Sawyer County Board Room

Revised: Monday, August 7, 2023 12:33 PM

Page

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. To view or participate in the **virtual meeting** from a computer, iPad, or Android device please go to <https://zoom.us/j/99719807086> You can also use the dial in at 1-312-626- 6799 with the Webinar ID: 997 1980 7086. Use \*9 to Raise/lower hand and \*6 to Unmute/mute. If additional assistance is needed please contact the Sawyer County Forestry Office at 715-634-4846 prior to the meeting. This meeting will be recorded and will be available on our website at: <https://sawycountygov.org>. If you are on a computer, click the "Raise Hand" button and wait to be recognized. If you are on a telephone, dial \*9 and wait to be recognized.

### 2. ROLL CALL

### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 4. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

### 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. At this time, members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the Committee. Please adhere to the following when addressing the Committee:
  - Comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less per individual.
  - Comments should be directed to the Committee as a whole and not directed to individual Committee members.
  - The Committee cannot respond to your comments during this time.
  - Please sign in and fill out a public comment sheet if you wish to speak on an item.

### 6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. [7.12.23 LWFRC Minutes DRAFT](#)

4 - 5

	<b>7. REGISTER OF DEEDS UPDATE</b>
6	a. <a href="#">ROD Monthly Report</a>
	<b>8. EVENTS (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)</b>
	<b>9. LAND RECORDS AND COUNTY SURVEYOR DEPARTMENT REPORT</b>
7 - 8	a. <a href="#">1) LWFRC August 2023</a> <a href="#">2) Surveyor August 2023</a>
	<b>10. SAWYER COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT</b>
	a. Recreational Trails Report Motorized- Non-motorized-
9 - 12	b. County Forestry Report <a href="#">July 23 forestry report</a>
	c. Closed Session - Trail Right-of-Way Parcel - Eris H Miles Family Trust Parcel - Tax ID 17199 - 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public lands, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session.
	d. Open Session (discussion and possible action RE: closed session)
13	e. DNR Forestry Report <a href="#">DNR August 9th 2023</a>
	<b>11. ZONING/ CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT</b>
14	a. County Report <a href="#">Conservation Department Update August 2023</a>
	b. USDA report
	c. LCO report
	<b>12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</b>
	<b>13. CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS FROM CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS</b>
	<b>14. ADJOURNMENT</b>

## **DISCLAIMER:**

*A quorum of the County Board of Supervisors or of any of its committees may be present at this meeting to listen and observe. Neither the Board nor any of the committees have established attendance at this meeting as an official function of the Board or committee(s) or otherwise made a determination that attendance at the meeting is necessary to carry out the Board or committee's function. The only purpose for other supervisors attending the meeting is to listen to the information presented. Neither the Board nor any committee (other than the committee providing this notice and agenda) will take any official action with respect to this noticed meeting.*

*Copy sent via email to: County Clerk and News Media. Note: Any person wishing to attend whom, because of a disability, requires accommodation should call the Sawyer County Clerk's office (715.634.4866) at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.*

***Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee Mission Statement:*** "Develop, guide and implement policies that protect and ensure the sustainability of our bio-diverse community."

**Minutes of the July 12<sup>th</sup> 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: **Ed Peters**
- Vice Chair – Marc Helwig - virtual
- Kay Wilson
- Brian Bisonette – virtual
- Jason Weaver
- Kevin Sheptick

**Others Present:**

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Lynn Fitch      | Andy Albarado |
| Jay Kozlowski   | Linda Zillmer |
| Cathy LaReau    | Ron Burgen    |
| Randy Sobrowski |               |
| Greg Peterson   |               |
| Brian DeVries   |               |

**Call to Order** – Chair Ed Peters 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 –**

**Public Comments – Linda Zillmer**

**Minutes from the previous meeting dated: June 7, 2023**

Motion to approve made by: Ms. Wilson      Second by: Mr. Weaver  
Motion carried without negative vote.

**Register of Deeds Update -**

A written report was provided outlining all activity in the department for the month of June. The department continues to back index and verify old documents; all of 1930 is complete.

**Events -**

**Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report -**

A Real Property Lister Report was provided, indicating that there were approximately 207 transfers and 5 CSMs to process in June. There are two Boards of Review scheduled for July. The County Surveyor's Report showed that the survey crew worked on corners in Winter, Meteor, Radisson, Spider Lake and Hayward towns in June. A contracted re-monumentation project near Deer Lake in the town of Meteor was completed this month; 7 previously lost corners were re-established and maintenance was performed on 12 corners. The department has been attending a virtual conference this week.

**Sawyer County Forestry Department -**

Recreational Trails Report – Ms. LaReau advised that trails are dry and dusty. Trail maintenance is ongoing. LCO trail 30 has been temporarily re-routed due to construction projects.

County Forestry – A written report was provided. The county forest hours requirement that was due on June 17th showed that they have surpassed the time standards of 2217 with 2269 hours assisting the county. WI DNR and Sawyer County have been working together to help improve access for wildlife projects, timber harvesting, and general public access. Timber sales are on target; oak wilt restrictions will end on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Sawyer County is on target for the County Forest Certification audit.

Trail Rehab Bid – A list of County forest trail rehab proposals was provided. No action is required on this list.

CAMBA MOU – A 2023 draft agreement between CAMBA and the County was presented for review. Ron Burgen from CAMBA provided an overview of the draft which formalizes the relationship and allows the organization to apply for grant funds. This document has been reviewed by our legal counsel. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson; second by Mr. Weaver to accept the MOU with editorial changes as suggested and then forward to full Board. Motion carried without negative vote.

DNR Forestry – A written report was provided. Dry conditions made for higher than normal staffing levels for this time of year. WI DNR and Sawyer County have been working together to help improve access for wildlife projects, timber harvesting, and general public access. Timber marking and sale boundary work has been the focus in the month of June.

**Zoning/Conservation Department -**

County Report – Mr. Kozlowski advised that the department remains busy with projects and permits. The Billy Boy Dam project is being reviewed with Corporate Counsel.

USDA Report – Mr. Sheptick provided a review of pertinent dates for the division. The lack of rain is hampering farm crop growth which is affecting prices on product.

LCO Report – Mr. Bisonette advised that the new health center build required the re-route of Trail 30.

**Future Agenda Items -**

**Other Topics for Discussion Only -**

**Adjournment – 9:09 am**

**Next Meeting:** August 9, 2023      **Time:** 8:30 am      **Location:** Board Room  
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

## ROD Monthly Report

July, 2023

Activity	Number of Copies	Total Revenue including amounts to State
Emailed Copies		373.00
Counter Copies		589.00
Birth	45	740.00
Death	35	726.00
Marriage	20	279.00
Divorce	4	63
Recorded Documents	455	9,429.42
Transfer Fees		50,515.50
Laredo		3,883.50

### **General:**

While recording is still down at 59% of budgeted revenue, transfer fees are currently at 84% of budgeted revenue.



**Sawyer County Land Records**  
10610 Main Street, Suite 54  
Hayward, Wisconsin 54843-0248  
Telephone 715-634-3564 Fax 715-634-3546  
<https://sawyercountygov.org/>

July 31, 2023

Real Property Lister Report

Busy again this month; we had approximately 177 transfers and a record 17 Certified Survey Maps to process in July.

We have 4 as of yet unscheduled Boards of Review left for this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Wendt  
*GIS Technician and Real Property Lister*

715-638-3279

[kimberly.wendt@sawyercountygov.org](mailto:kimberly.wendt@sawyercountygov.org)



**Sawyer County Surveyor's Department**  
10610 Main Street, Suite 54  
Hayward, Wisconsin 54843-0248  
Telephone 715-634-3564 Fax 715-634-3546  
<https://sawyercountygov.org/>

County Surveyor's Report 8/9/23

In July the survey crew worked on replacing corners in Highway 70 in the Towns of Draper and Winter. We made updates to our Corner Monument Record website, and also installed a recent order of new fire number signs throughout the County.

Ten Certified Survey Maps were reviewed in July.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Gregory  
Sawyer County Surveyor



Forestry Report July 2023

Active Sales

Sixteen sales listed as active in month of July

Sale Date	# of Sales	Acres	Bid Value	Received	Est. Remaining
4/6/18	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11/2/18	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5/3/19	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11/01/19	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5/5/20	1	27	\$16,825.00	\$5,552.25	\$11,272.75
11/3/20	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5/7/21	5	309	\$332,417.60	\$130,976.91	\$201,440.69
10/22/21	1	68	\$75,660.00	\$0	\$75,660.00
5/11/22	4	217	\$281,408.00	\$41,047.96	\$240,360.04
11/1/22	1	122	\$155,007.50	\$23,251.05	\$131,756.45
5/10/23	4	183	\$346,857.34	\$70,939.37	\$275,917.97
Totals	16	926	\$1,208,175.44	\$271,767.54	\$936,407.90

Inactive Sales

Sale Date	# of Sales	Acres	Bid Value	Received	Est. Remaining
4/6/18	1	91	\$50,440.00	\$0	\$50,440.00
11/2/18	3	158	\$80,491.75	\$8,175.80	\$72,315.95
5/3/19	2	106	\$46,520.00	\$0	\$46,520.00
11/1/19	1	83	\$83,319.14	\$56,223.74	\$27,095.40
5/5/20	3	247	\$233,488.50	\$270,027.96	\$42,147.04*
11/3/20	4	268	\$275,786.50	\$142,256.28	\$133,530.22
5/7/21	9	843	\$518,066.00	\$0	\$518,066.00
10/22/21	9	725	\$712,924.20	\$67,361.03	\$645,563.17
5/11/22	14	944	\$884,964.22	\$108,490.77	\$776,473.45
11/1/22	12	1006	\$513,616.70	\$9,840.15	\$503,776.55
5/10/23	13	877	\$1,285,176.14	\$93,559.38	\$1,191,616.76
Totals	71	5348	\$4,684,793.15	\$755,935.11	\$4,007,544.54

\* Sales having overruns

\*\* Sales having underruns

No sales closed out in July.

Timber Sale Value (sold contracts-uncut) on file = **\$4,943,952**

<u>Timber Revenue</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Timber Sales	\$108,582.19	\$1,562,825.11
<u>Christmas Trees/Boughs</u>	\$0	\$0
<u>Performance Bond Cashed</u>	\$0	\$16,947.94
<u>Other Revenue</u>		
<u>Camping/Firewood/Access/Hay</u>	\$20	\$140
<u>Park Reservations</u>	\$200	\$560
		<u>Budget</u>
Gross Timber Sale Revenue	\$1,562,825.11	\$1,850,000
10% Payment to Towns	\$ 156,282.51	
Net Timber Sale Revenue	\$1,406,542.60	
Performance Bonds Drawn	\$ 16,947.94	
Total Other Revenue	\$ 700.00	
Timber Sale Revenue Billed Out	\$ 41,287.62	

Timber Sale Inspections	<u># month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
	36	197

Comments: Goal for timber sale inspections is generally one inspection per week while sale is actively being harvested or wood is being hauled.

Tract Establishment	<u># sales month/ YTD</u>	<u>acres month/YTD</u>	<u>Goal</u>
	2/17	201/1282	3600

Comments:

Recon Acres Updated	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Annual Goal</u>
	182	3639	6,000 acres

Comments: Recon is the assessment of geographic, structure and compositional attributes of forest stands. Field information is stored in the Wisconsin Forest Inventory & Reporting System (WisFIRS). Basic resource information is collected, stored and updated systematically and continuously. Database is used to analyze existing resources, evaluate management alternatives and assist in the development and implementation of management plans.

Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) Hours

July

10

FY24 Contract

110

Current Contract:

Pending Contract FY24 Stands

Approximately 600 hours timber sale establishment/admin. \$43,775.10.

Comments: Under the federal Good Neighbor Authority, the USDA Forest Service is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with states to perform forest management activities on national forest lands. WDNR has entered into a GNA agreement with the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF). WDNR is authorized to contract with counties to assist with forest management activities on national forest lands. The focus of the GNA program is to assist in the implementation of the CNNF Forest Plan, which will provide:

- Forest products to the local economy
- Collaboration between federal, state and county forest managers
- Improved health and resiliency of forestlands and watersheds within Wisconsin

Oak Wilt:

Oak wilt restrictions are off. Surveying potential infection sites.

Mountain Bike Trails:

Nothing new to report.

Birkie Trail:

Nothing new to report.

ATV/UTV/Snowmobile Trails:

Tussockia Trail rehab project Hwy 27 to Hwy 40 currently being worked on.

Parks:

Hatchery Park: Nothing new to report.

Nelson Lake Park: Nothing new to report.

Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative Certification Audit  
Participated in County Forest Certification Audit  
FSC/SFI Certification Audit 7/31 through 8/4/23. Sawyer, Washburn, Burnett and  
Barron County being audited this year. Sawyer County portion of audit took place on  
8/1.

Carbon Credit Project:

Preparing additional stand information and GIS data layers.

**Sawyer County Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**DNR Forestry Report for July 2023**

July held a great project for Sawyer County partnering with the DNR to improve the Parks Farm access road. This project was nearly a mile section of road reshaped to an average of 20' wide with five new culverts and a pit run surface. This road improvement not only serves as an improved access to recreators but also will aid in forest management practices and wildlife projects through the DNR. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation helped a ton by funding this project, and special thanks to Josh Spiegel for lining that up for us. Coordination between the private contractor and multiple DNR employees was flawless, which in turn came with great results.

August 1<sup>st</sup> (writing this prior to this date) is Sawyer County Forestry's Dual Certification audit (FSC, SFI). Eight timber sales will be visited and the aim is to see the compliance of the FSC and SFI Standards, two of which being at the end of the recent road project. Lunch to be held at the Birkie building on OO.

\*Further information may be added to this topic after the event takes place\*

**Report Submitted by Brody Fischer, DNR Forester, on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**



## **Zoning & Conservation Department Update July 2023 – August 2023**

Prepared by Jay Kozlowski, Zoning & Conservation Administrator

- Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator is helping Clear Lake update their aquatic plant management plan. Additional trainings for Clean Boats/Clean Waters and Blueberry Lake Tour for AIS identification.
- The Conservation Department also had an opportunity to host the USFS intern. The intern was able to assist the Conservation Department with dam checks and operation of a mechanical plant harvester on Lost Land Lake.
- Annual Gravel Pit inspections are almost complete. These inspections verify compliance with the “plan of operation”, open acreage, reclamation certification, drainage/erosion, and non-permissible materials within the pit. No issues have been identified as of yet.
- Billy Boy Water Level Update: County Attorney is looking into data they we provided to them to determine whether there is a prescriptive use right as it pertains to flood and flowage easements. This is the first step for the DNR to further accept an official water level change request.
- The Zoning Department continues to see above average workflow. The amount of phone calls, e-mails, patrons at the counter, and permits are up approximately 30% each year over the last 3 years. This has led longer response times, other “services” we have offered in the past to be suspended, permit issuance delays, lack of enforcement, and added stress to the Zoning Department. If trends continue for shear building activity additional staffing will be needed for the Zoning Department.