

**Minutes of the March 8th meeting of the Sawyer County
Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- Chair: **James Schlender**
- Tom Duffy
- Jesse Boettcher – Virtual
- Stacey Hessel
- Brian Bisonette

Others Present:

Tom Hoff
Mike Coleson
Lynn Fitch
Lori Baltrusis – Virtual
Mike Gardner -- Virtual
Sherry Beckman – Virtual
Linda Zilmer - Virtual

Call to Order – Chair James Schlender 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

Public Comments

Minutes from previous meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2021, meeting; second by Ms. Hessel. Motion carried without negative vote.

Sawyer County Agricultural Fair Association Report – Ms. Hessel reported that the fair social event will be held at the Sawyer County fairgrounds this spring; date has not yet been set.

University of Wisconsin-Extension Department Report – Ms. Baltrusis introduced herself and reported that the Area 2 Annual report will be available within the next two weeks. They are anticipating a 3% increase in the 2022 budget at this time.

Hayward Lakes Visitors & Convention Bureau Report – A written report was provided. Ms. Beckman reported that the live FB event continues to be successful and will be offered on a monthly basis. The May fishing opener is on as scheduled but by invite-only for in-person attendees. A local fish fry will be held for the community during the opener. Discover Wisconsin Power Sports episode will air on April 17th on Fox Sports North and KDAL Duluth.

Economic Development Report – A written report was provided. The Sawyer County/Lac Courte Oreilles Economic Development Corporation will be launching a fundraising campaign soon. Mr. Gardner reported that the anticipated American Rescue Plan may provide additional financial resources for the business community in the next few months. He will be reaching out to the Broadband representatives to see if additional resources will be allocated to Sawyer County projects. Members of this Committee want Broadband to be a focus of the EDC efforts.

Motorized and Non-Motorized Trail Report – Mr. Mrotek, Trail Coordinator for the local snowmobile alliance, reported an excellent snowmobile season for Sawyer County this year and he anticipates an equally strong ATV/UTV trail season to begin opening up this spring for our county trails.

Historical Society – A motion was made by Mr. Duffy; second by Ms. Hessel to table this topic until next meeting. Motion carried without negative vote.

Future Agenda Topics – Mr. Schlender proposed that the Committee draft a mission statement that can be distributed for review and sent on to full County Board for approval.

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee will be Monday, April 12, at 8:30 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

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