

**Minutes of the March 11th 2020 meeting of the Sawyer County
Land, Water and Forestry Resources
Committee Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County Courthouse**



Committee Members Present:

Elain Nyberg, Jim Bassett, Brian Bisonette, Dale Beissel, Bruce Paulsen, Dale Beissel

County Personnel Present:

Jay Kozlowski, Greg Peterson, Jessica Kujala, Carol Williamson, Tom Hoff, Tim Seidl, Dan Pleoger

Also Present:

Don Mrotek, Jan Homes, Linda Zillmer, Terrel Boettcher, Charles Suzan, Dennis Suzan, Scott Pasanen, Ed Peters,
Mike Robers, Roy Zubrod

Call to Order- Bruce Paulsen calls meeting to order 8:30 am.

Approval of February 12th Meeting Minutes- motion by Bassett 2nd by Bisonette to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Land Records and County Surveyor Department

Dan Pleoger Land Records Director gives a brief report on the 2019 Survey work report.

Forestry

Resolution for Outdoor Recreation Aids- Forestry Administrator Greg Peterson explains to the Committee, this is an annual resolution that allows the department to apply for grant money. Motion by Nyberg, 2nd by Bassett, Motion carried to approve resolution and send to County Board for approval.

Birkie Ground Lease and MOU- Bruce Paulsen recommends that we postpone this topic until May. Motion by Bassett, 2nd by Nyberg to postpone item until the May agenda. Motion Carried.

County Forestry Report- Peterson gives a report on last month's activities. *(Information Only)*

Recreational Trails

Motorized- Don Mrotek of the Snowmobile and ATV Alliance gives a brief report on the snowmobile season.

Non-motorized- None

15 Year Plan and Outdoor Recreation Plan update- Peterson gives a brief overview of the work plan schedule *(Information Only)*

Zoning/Conservation Department

WI Land & Water Conference update- Zoning Administrator Jay Kozlowski gives the Committee an overview of the conference and discusses several possible projects that the County may be able to participate in, and get funding for. Kozlowski also reviews the 2019 Wildlife Damage Summary with the Committee. Dale Beissel speaks about this summary and gives the Committee the Farmers point of view of the program. They also discuss Senate Bill 723 that would lift the Wildlife damage reimbursement cap to farmers which would be a great help for farmers in the area. Several Farmers speak regarding the Wildlife Damage program and express their support of Bill 723. They also urged everyone to reach out to our senate in support of the bill. *(Information Only)*

Update on dams in Sawyer County- *(See spread sheet)* Kozlowski gives and update on the 10 County owned dams and one shared dam. *(Information Only)*

Moratorium for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) – Kozlowski discusses with the Committee what a moratorium would do, and he asks if they think the County should have a public hearing on whether we should have a moratorium or not. He explains that a Moratorium would basically freeze any new CAFO operations or any large expansions of existing farms until the County decides if they want to adopt an

ordinance or just go by the States regulations regarding CAFO's. This means during the time of the Moratorium, no CAFO operations could come into the County and existing Farms could not largely expand or increase their operations. Several Farmers speak explaining they do not feel that CAFO's are a threat to Sawyer County, and that a Moratorium would negatively affect existing farms. They also feel that farmers are already so heavily regulated that adding a County Ordinance would only make things more difficult for farmers to successfully operate. The Committee also expresses concerns for the general public as they may be in favor of an ordinance. Motion by Bassett, 2nd by Nyberg to hold a public hearing in April to discuss the option of a Moratorium. Motion Carried.

Wast Storage Ordinance- Kozlowski explains to the Committee that legal council has made some changes to this ordinance, he would like to send this ordinance back to the towns for their approval of the new draft, and then hold a public hearing on may 13th. Motion by Nyberg, 2nd by Bisonette, motion carried.

County Report- Kozlowski gives a brief report information only

Adjourned – Brian Bisonette declares meeting adjourned