

Draft

Minutes of the meeting of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors  
Tuesday, April 21, 2020; 6:30 p.m.;  
Large Court Room, Sawyer County Courthouse

Chair Tweed Shuman called the April meeting of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors to order. Roll call was as follows (x indicates present)

district - supervisor - T = Town, V = Village, C = City, W = Ward

- X 01 - Dale Schleeter – T Lenroot W 1, T Hayward W 7, C Hayward W 5 and 6
- X 02 – Jess Boettcher – T Lenroot W 2, T Round Lake W 1
- X 03 - Tweed Shuman – T Hayward W 1 and 2
- X 04 – Troy Morgan – T Hayward W 3 and 4
- X 05 – James H. Schlender Jr. – T Hayward W 5 and 6
- X 06 – Marc D. Helwig – C Hayward W 1 and 2
- X 07 - Thomas W. Duffy – C Hayward W 3 and 4
- X 08 - Bruce Paulsen – T Bass Lake W 1 and 2
- X 09 – Susie Taylor – T Bass Lake W 3 and 4
- X 10 – Chuck Van Etten – T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W 1
- X 11 – Dale Olson – T Edgewater W 2, T Bass Lake W 5, T Hayward W 8, T Meteor, T Couderay, V Couderay
- X 12 – Dawn Petit – T Spider Lake, T Round Lake W 2, T Winter W 1
- X 13 - Ron Kinsley – T Hunter, T Radisson W 1, T Ojibwa W 1, V Radisson
- X 14 – Ron Buckholtz – T Radisson W 2, T Ojibwa W 2, T Weirgor, V Exeland, T Meadowbrook
- X 15 – Helen Dennis – T Winter W 2, T Draper, V Winter

Public Access to meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMACjwEk87O2hOU3tNi38RQ/live>

If you wish to view the meeting and are unable to access YouTube, contact Sawyer County Clerk Carol Williamson prior to the meeting at 715-634-4866

Call to Order

County Board Oath of Office administered by Judge John Yackel

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law

Meeting Agenda

Election of County Board Chair and Vice Chair

Minutes from Previous Meetings: March 19, 2020

Adoption of Sawyer County Board of Supervisors Policy and Procedure Manual

Administrative Committee Recommended Revisions – Discussion and possible action

Standing Committee Structure – Discussion & possible action

Any other Policy Revisions – Discussion & possible action

County Board Member Orientation

Approve Bank Signature Card change if New County Board Chair

Finance Committee Chair Report

Administration Committee Report

Special meeting April 30, 2020 to confirm appointments and other agenda items

COVID 19 updates

County Administrator's Report

Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings, other matters for discussion

Only

**CLOSED SESSION** – pursuant to Section 19.85 (c) Wisconsin Statutes, to consider the renewal of the Sawyer County Administrator Contract. The Board may reconvene into open session and may announce or take action on matters discussed in the closed session.

Chair Shuman called meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Judge John Yackel administered the oath of office to all 15 County Board members.

Chair Shuman requested the COVID update be moved on the agenda to between items 9 and 10. Motion by Helwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Petit, to approve the agenda with moving the COVID update.

Chair Shuman opened nominations for County Board Chair. Duffy nominated Shuman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Morgan. Buckholtz nominated Schlender. Nominations were closed. Supervisor Schlender addressed the board. Supervisor Shuman addressed the board. Secret ballots were submitted. Shuman received 10 votes; Schlender received 5 votes. Shuman is County Board Chair.

Shuman opened nominations for County Board Vice Chair. Morgan nominated Schleeter. Helwig nominated Schlender. Nominations were closed. Schleeter addressed the board. Schlender addressed the board. Secret ballots were submitted. Schleeter received 8 votes. Schlender received 7 votes. Schleeter is the County Board vice Chair.

Motion by Duffy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Buckholtz, to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2020 meeting. Motion carried

Public Health Officer Julia Lyons provided a remote review and update of COVID 19 in Sawyer County.

The Board was provided the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors Policy and Procedure Manual with proposed changes from the Administration Committee. Motion by Kinsley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Morgan, to approve the amended policy with the understanding that the Board compensation continues at the current level until the annual meeting in 2021. Motion carried

The Board discussed dividing the Economic Development and UW Extension Committee departments and organizations and assign to other committees or hear reports at the County Board meeting. Motion by Kinsley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helwig, to keep the Standing Committee Structure as it is. Roll Call vote was as follows: The roll call vote was as follows: Schleeter – no; Boettcher – abstain; Shuman – yes; Morgan – no; Schlender – abstain; Helwig – yes; Duffy – yes; Paulsen – no; Taylor – yes. Van Etten – no; Olson – yes; Petit – no; Kinsley – yes; Buckholtz – no; Dennis – no. The motion failed with 6 voting yes and 7 voting no.

Recessed for five minutes at 7:45 pm. Reconvened at 7:50 pm

Chair Shuman will bring two scenarios for committee assignments to the County Board meeting on April 30, 2020. One scenario with current committee structure and one scenario with no Economic Development and UW Extension Committee.

Wisconsin Counties Association will offer new member orientation in June. All board members are welcome to participate.

Finance Committee Chair Bruce Paulsen reported to the Board. The Finance Committee held a virtual meeting on April 16. The Committee discussed effects of COVID on county revenue and expenses, and a second courtroom and/or a second circuit judge.

County Administrator Tom Hoff reviewed the timeline regarding a second circuit judge for Sawyer County. The Board will be provided additional information at the April 30 Board meeting.

The County received answers to some of the questions from the January Finance Committee. Finance Committee discussed a possible fourth option for a second courtroom. Architects will analyze utilizing the existing courthouse space, do a review, and offer a fourth plan for \$8500.

Sales tax projected to come in \$300,000 to \$400,000 under budget due to COVID 19. Revenue from Zoning permits and interest on investment also projected to come in under budget. County staff is tracking costs and time due to COVID 19 for possible reimbursements.

Working on a referendum to exceed the levy limits, a resolution to County Board by July 2020 to have a referendum on the November 3, 2020 ballot. If the referendum fails, the board will have to make tough decisions. Revenue options include a Wheel Tax and borrowing for capital assets. In addition, the board will need to cut services in the larger departments: Sheriff's Department, Health and Human Services, and the Highway Department.

The Administration will present a resolution at the April 30, 2020 County Board meeting to spend no more than \$8,500 to develop a fourth option for using the Courthouse space for a second courtroom.

County Administrator Tom Hoff reported to the Board. The Administrators Report will be attached to the April 30, 2020 Board meeting agenda. Currently there is one door, from the parking lot, unlocked to allow employees and public to enter the courthouse for essential business. Drop boxes are at the front entrance and the rear entrance off the parking lot. Minimal staff is working in the courthouse. Most employees are working remotely thanks to the work of the County IT staff, Mike Coleson and Alex Butterfield.

Motion by Kinsley, second by Morgan, to convene in Closed Session pursuant to Section 19.85 (c) Wisconsin Statutes, to consider the renewal of the Sawyer County Administrator Contract. Motion carried unanimous

The Board reconvened in open session to take action on Closed Session. Motion by Petit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helwig, to approve the Sawyer County Administrator Contract. Motion carried

Adjourned 8:42 pm

Audio of the County Board meeting is on the website.

Minutes prepared by Carol Williamson