

Minutes of the May 10th meeting of the Sawyer County
Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- Chair: Ed Peters
- Brian Bisonette - Virtual
- Vice Chair: Marc Helwig @ 8:44 am
- Kay Wilson
- Jason Weaver
- Kevin Sheptick

Others Present:

- Lynn Fitch
- Jay Kozlowski
- Cathy LaReau
- Brody Fischer
- Greg Peterson
- Andy Albarado
- Brian DeVries

Call to Order – County Clerk Fitch called the meeting to order at 8:34 am.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call was taken; a quorum was met.

Election of Committee Chair – Ms. Wilson nominated Ed Peters for position of Chair; Mr. Peters nominated Mr. Bisonette for position of Chair; Mr. Bisonette declined the nomination. A unanimous call for the vote for Mr. Peters as Chair was cast and passed without negative vote. Mr. Helwig will remain as Vice Chair of the Committee.

Meeting Agenda –

Public Comments –

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: April 12, 2023

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Sheptick Second by: Mr. Bisonette
Motion carried without negative vote.

Events -

Interim Appointments -

Mr. Albarado reviewed the new division of responsibilities of the department and the staff who are taking those duties. Interim appointments of County Surveyor is Chris Gregory, Land Information Officer/GIS Specialist is Brian DeVries and GIS Tech/Real Property Lister is Kimberly Wendt. This list of appointments will be presented to the County Board for approval.

Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report -

Mr. DeVries advised that the department traffic is increasing for summer activity. Annual letters to towns have been sent out requesting notice of road repairs and the office has been setting up the backlog of signage that has been waiting for spring.

Sawyer County Forestry Department -

Recreational Trails Report – Ms. LaReau advised that all the trails and routes that were recently approved will be opening in the next week. Residual storm damage remains for cleanup.

County Forestry – A written report was provided. Mr. Peterson reviewed the highlights; sale revenue in April was approximately \$182,000 and the department remains on target for budget projections. Recon is also on target. Grant applications were due on April 15th and have been submitted. The spring timber sale bid was held, and they sold 17 of the 22 bids available; a list was provided. Every high bid on the list is with a known contractor that we have used

before. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Mr. Sheptick to approve the sales as presented. Motion carried without negative vote.

DNR Forestry – Brody Fischer, the new Sawyer County liaison, was introduced.

Zoning/Conservation Department -

County Report – A written report was provided. Mr. Kozlowski advised that the tree sale and pickup concluded last weekend, and the Clean Boats/Clean Waters initiative is underway. The Upper Brunett Dam repair is complete; restocking should occur this fall. Permit numbers are even higher than last year at this point in time.

USDA Report – Mr. Sheptick reported on May deadlines and dates. Farmers are in the fields now; crop reporting is due by July 15th.

LCO Report – Mr. Bisonette reported on a busy spring start. There are six camping sites open on the Chippewa Flowage. They have started receiving bear complaints, and they are looking forward to another successful year in the fish restocking program.

Future Agenda Items -

Town of Round Lake Handicap Access Request at the Boat Landing

Other Topics for Discussion Only -

Adjournment – 9:03 am

Next Meeting: June 7, 2023 **Time:** 8:30 am **Location:** Board Room
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk