

**Minutes of the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sawyer County  
Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee  
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors  
Board Room; Sawyer County**



**Voting Committee Members Present:**

- Chair: Tom Duffy
- VC -- John Righeimer
- Stacey Hessel
- Brian Bisonette - virtual
- Chris Rusk

**Others Present:**

Lynn Fitch  
Molly Lank-Jones  
Lori Baltrusis

Sherry Beckman  
Linda Zillmer

**Call to Order** – Chair Duffy 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 – Linda Zillmer**

**Minutes from previous meeting** – A motion was made by Ms. Hessel to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2023, meeting; second by Mr. Rusk. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Sawyer County Agricultural Fair Association Report -**

Ms. Hessel advised that the fairgrounds are getting prepared for the Fair.

**University of Wisconsin-Extension Department Report -**

Ms. Baltrusis provided a written report prior to the meeting. This week is 4-H Camp.

**Hayward Lakes Visitors & Convention Bureau -**

A written report was provided. Ms. Beckman reviewed the highlights indicating that total business sales in Sawyer County were up 7.6% from last year, according to a report released by WISDOT in June. Sawyer County visitors spent \$103.3 million in 2022, an increase of 7.7 % over the \$95.9 million spent in 2021. In Sawyer County, the \$95.9 million in direct visitor spending last year supported 941 jobs and \$31 million in labor income. Visitor spending also generated \$9.8 million in state and local taxes. Without this revenue each household resident would pay an additional \$620/year to maintain the current level of governmental services. A breakout in room tax collected was included. Discover Wisconsin is in town filming for a program with an air date of October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Northwest Regional Planning Commission Report -**

**Economic Development Corporation Report -**

They are still looking for a director and their next meeting is in August.

**Library Updates -**

Hayward Weiss Library shared information on a photo contest being held June 5-August 31. Ms. Lank-Jones advised that they acquired a PBS grant and provided a program on map reading. They have been conducting a program on Fridays with the Cable Natural History Museum.

**Motorized Trail and Non-Motorized Trail Report -**

Ms. LaReau provided a written report. Trail 30, south of the LCO Casino has been rerouted due to the construction going on in that field. Mr. Duffy advised that the Birkie already has over 9,000 registered for Birkie week. LWC will be held in a couple weeks.

**Broadband Update -**

A broadband survey is underway. Some broadband services still seem to be providing weak connectivity.

**Historical Society -**

**Meeting Date/Time** – The next meeting of the Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee will be Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 am in the Board Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

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