

**Minutes of the October 12, 2023 meeting of the Sawyer County  
Finance Committee  
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors  
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



**Voting Committee Members (X) Present:**

- Chair: **Ron Kinsley**
- Vice Chair, John Righeimer - excused
- Stacey Hessel
- Tom Duffy – excused
- Dale Schleeter

**Others Present:**

Andy Albarado  
Lynn Fitch  
Mike Markgren  
Pete Baribeau  
Linda Zillmer

**Call to Order** –Chair Kinsley called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

**Certification of Compliance** with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call taken and quorum was met.

**Meeting Agenda –**

**Public Comments – Linda Zillmer**

**Minutes from the previous meeting dated: September 13, 2023**

Motion to approve made by: Ms. Hessel                      Second by: Mr. Schleeter  
Motion carried without negative vote.

**Town of Edgewater – Pete Baribeau --**

Mr. Baribeau made a verbal presentation to Committee regarding the history of the Birchwood/Edgewater emergency services district and the reasons behind their request to exit the Sawyer County Ambulance service coverage. In the request they would like to have Sawyer County reimburse them to pay their portion of the Birchwood 4 Corners contracted ambulance service so they could dispatch only out of Washburn County. No action on this time.

**Finance Department Report -**

Sales Tax Distribution – A written report was provided and reviewed by Mr. Markgren. The last two months have been above last year.

Budget Updates – Written reports were provided and reviewed by Mr. Markgren. Several areas of revenue are up and expenses are on target. He reviewed the 2024 budget highlights. All non-union staff include a proposed 2% increase January 1, 1% increase July 1, and 1.25% steps as scheduled. A new employee wellness plan has been added to the budget in the amount of \$25,000. Each slide was reviewed in detail including proposed budget adjustments. The target debt levy is ~\$2.3M. The 2024 Fee Schedule changes were reviewed, as well as the FTE breakout and salary grid. All documentation will be included in the October County Board packet.

Capital Improvement Plan Update – Purchases – The Brunet Dam project was included.

85.21 Grant Annual Renewal – A resolution Authorizing Sawyer County DOT Grant Application was presented to allow allocation of state aids for 2024. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Schleeter to approve the resolution and forward to the October County Board. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Investment Update -**

A written report was provided for the August 2023 activity. Total interest earned YTD is \$790,264. Unspent ARPA, Opioid and LATCF funds were also identified.

**Ambulance Billing Analysis --**

A written report was provided and reviewed by Mr. Markgren. Average calls per month continue to increase as well as average billed and collected per month.

**Financial and Fund Updates --**

Details were provided in the investment update.

**Future Agenda Items – Investment Company Change**

**Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings -**

**Adjournment – 9:48 am**

**Next Meeting:** March 9, 2023      **Time:** 8:30 am      **Location:** Board Room  
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

DRAFT