

**Minutes of the October 19, 2023 meeting of the Sawyer County
2024 Budget Public Hearing & Board of Supervisors Meeting
Sawyer County Courthouse/Virtual**



Voting Committee Members

Present (X)	District	Wards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Schleeter	01	T Lenroot W-1, T Hayward W-7, C Hayward W-5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kay Wilson	02	T Lenroot W-2, T Round Lake W-1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tweed Shuman	03	T Hayward W-1 & 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacey Hessel	04	T Hayward W-3 & 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Weaver	05	T Hayward W-5 & 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marc D. Helwig @ 6:19 pm	06	C Hayward W-1 & 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thomas W. Duffy	07	C Hayward W-3 & 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marshal Savitski	08	T Bass Lake W-1 & 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Brian Bisonette	09	T Bass Lake W-3 & 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Maestri @ 6:55 pm	10	T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W-1
<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Rusk - Excused	11	T Edgewater W-2, T Bass Lake W-5, T Hayward W-8, T Meteor, T Couderay, V Couderay
<input type="checkbox"/> John Righeimer - Excused	12	T Spider Lake, T Round Lake W-2, T Winter W-1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Kinsley	13	T Hunter, T Radisson W-1, T-Ojibwa W-1, V Radisson
<input type="checkbox"/> Ron Buckholtz - Exc	14	T Radisson W-2, T Ojibwa W-2, T Weirgor, V Exeland, T Meadowbrook
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Peters	15	T Winter W-2, T Draper, V Winter

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance— Chair Tweed Shuman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Roll call was taken; quorum was met.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met.

Public Comments –

2024 Budget Discussion -

Written documents were shared (Budget Hearing Notice, 2024 Budget Presentation, SC Courthouse Fees, Capital Summary for 2024, 2024 FTE Employee Count and the 2024 Pay Grid). Mr. Markgren reviewed the 2024 proposed documents that were attached. Highlights of the 2024 proposal, including staff step wage increases and a 5% insurance increase, were outlined. A new budget item of \$25,000 was added to develop a staff wellness program in hopes of ultimately reducing insurance costs. The 2024 proposed Levy is \$14,386,859 (2.75%); the levy limit calculation was shared. Budget adjustments are itemized in the presentation. The special purpose levy is increasing ~\$14,000. The ambulance budget levy was reviewed in detail as well as the outside agency funding list. A list of 2024 capital purchases through debt issue was reviewed. The remaining debt schedule and tax rate history were itemized.

Courthouse fees were reviewed; very few changes were requested. A separate 2024 Capital Summary was provided in the packet. Changes in the 2024 FTE Employee Count were explained.

Public Hearing on 2024 Budget -

A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Duffy to go into Public Hearing on the 2024 budget. Motion carried without negative vote. Speakers for public hearing – Pete Baribeau, Tom Jewell, Ernest Martinson, Dana Olson, Lori Martin, Dean Burish, Donna Knuckey, Linda Zillmer

A motion was made by Mr. Savitski; second by Ms. Hessel to leave Public Hearing. Motion carried without negative vote.

Public Comment – Linda Zillmer

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: September 21, 2023

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Duffy Second by: Mr. Kinsley

Motion carried without negative vote.

Zoning Committee -

Chair Report – Ms. Hessel provided a report of the last zoning committee meeting. Mr. Kozlowski presented the following two rezone requests in detail.

Zone District Map Amendment RZN #23-007 Patricia Paul Trust - Request to rezone 9.09 acres from Agricultural-One to Residential/Recreational-One – recommended for approval at committee. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Savitski to approve this request. A roll call vote was taken and passed without negative vote.

Zone District Map Amendment RZN #23-008 Jeffery Dejewski - Request to rezone approximately 1.23 acres of Residential-One to Commercial One. Motion by Mr. Helwig; second by Ms. Hessel to approve this request. A roll call vote was taken and passed without negative vote.

Public Safety Committee -

Chair Report – Mr. Buckholtz presented the highlights of the October 11th Public Safety Meeting. Mr. Albarado provided a review of the last meeting. We had a sponsored deputy graduate from the police academy and is now on patrol with our department. The 2024 dog licensing is underway, EMS has a training session coming up for local disaster recovery training, and the EMR class is running at Hayward High School. The 2024 TAD grant application is being submitted.

Public Works Committee -

Chair Report – Mr. Kinsley advised that the maintenance department are starting to gear up for winter activities. The Airport Master Plan committee continues its work. Mr. John Pinnow was introduced.

Courthouse Remodeling Project – The remodel is done with some punch items remaining.

Five new County road ATV/UTV Route requests and respective Resolution ATV/UTV Ordinance Amendment were presented. All routes were approved at the Public Works Meeting of October 11th. A motion was made by Mr. Weaver; second by Mr. Peters to approve the Resolution as presented and update the ATV/UTV ordinance with reflected changes. A roll call vote was taken and passed 10:1 with a nay vote from Ms. Wilson.

Hanzlik New Airport Lease Request – A Resolution approving a new lease for the Martin J. Hanzlik lease coming due 4/18/24 was presented. The new lease would reflect a prorated rent payment that would correspond with the 2024 renewal date. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Ms. Hessel to approve this request as presented. A roll call vote was taken and passed 11:0.

Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee --

Chair Report – Mr. Peters reviewed activities of the October meeting. Daniels Law, a law intended to protect federal judges and their families had been explained by Mr. Albarado. The clubs are readying trails for the winter season; some large groups of ATV/UTVs have come to our county in the recent months. Timber sales and inspections are on

target. Inventory plots for the carbon credit project are nearly completed. As of October 5th, baiting and feeding of deer is not allowed due to a CDW finding in Washburn County. Crop rates were approved for the year.

5-year Plan of Administration Renewal (2024-2028) – The Cooperative Service Agreement between Sawyer County and Wisconsin DNR was presented for renewal. A motion was made by Mr. Schleeter; second by Mr. Peters to approve this renewal. A voice vote was taken and passed without negative vote.

Health & Human Services Board --

Chair Report – Mr. Schleeter advised that HHS has a few vacant positions. Mr. Weaver stepped out at 7:45 pm and returned 7:48 pm. Activity is underway in the Tourist Rooming House committee meetings. Youth Justice is working through truancy cases and meeting with the judges. Our HHS department received a letter of commendation from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services for a job well done in acquiring their status II level Health Department.

The annual Resolution Authorizing Sawyer County DOT Grant Application was presented. This resolution authorizes the Wisconsin DOT to make grants to the counties of Wisconsin for the purposes of providing specialized transportation services to elderly and disabled. A motion was made by Mr. Maestri; second by Mr. Schleeter to approve this renewal. A voice vote was taken and carried without negative vote.

Finance Committee --

Chair Report – Mr. Kinsley reported that Mr. Baribeau made his presentation regarding the Edgewater EMS request to Committee. The 2024 proposed budget was reviewed and interest on investments continues to increase.

Economic Development & UW Extension Committee -

Chair Report – Mr. Duffy provided a review of the meeting which included a report from Sawyer County Housing Authority who provided an update on the housing project that was completed and partially funded from ARPA dollars. Activities at the libraries were outlined. The full Birkie race roster is now filled. Mr. Peters advised that 63 ATVs/UTVs came to the county and spent approximately \$30,000 in economic boost to our local economy.

County Administrator's Report -

A written report was provided and reviewed by Mr. Albarado. Employee benefit changes are being proposed to provide a more well-rounded group of services.

Other Topics for Discussion Only -

Adjournment – 8:12 pm

Next Meeting: November 14, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Board Room

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk