

Draft

Minutes of the meeting of the Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee
Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
January 8, 2018; 8:30 a.m.; Assembly Room; Sawyer County Courthouse

Members present: Brian Bisonette, James Schlender, Bruce Paulsen

Others present: Lori Baltrusis, Don Semler, Carol Williamson, Tom Hoff, Ariga Grigoryan, John Saunders, Ron Kubarek, Joan Cervenka, Gerda Saunders, Sherry Beckman, Frank Zufall, Linda Zilmer

Motion by Paulsen, 2nd by Bisonette, to approve the agenda. Motion carried

Motion by Bisonette, 2nd by Paulsen, to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2017 Committee meeting. Motion carried

Don Semler updated the Committee on broadband progress. CenturyLink, Norvado, and Charter currently service Sawyer County. At this time, no other broadband providers will compete for services.

Fair Board Director Ron Kubarek reported on the Fair. The 2017 fair went well. Fair board is working on details for 2018 fair including the carnival and entertainment. A Sawyer County Fair Social is a fundraiser scheduled at the Hayward Vet's Center on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 5-8 PM.

UW Extension Director Lori Baltrusis provided the Draft 2018 Work Plan to the Committee. This is a working document designed to communicate the services available through Extension and contact information.

John Saunders introduced Joan Cervenka from the Hayward Planning Commission. The Hayward Planning Commission is working on an application to the TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program). The TAP funding would reimburse the Town of Hayward up to 80% of the cost to construct a trail from Walmart to Chippewa Trail. Completing this trail gap connects the trail from the City of Hayward to LCO. Part of the application requires support from the community. Motion by Bisonette, 2nd by Paulsen, to recommend a letter of support from the full County Board. Motion carried

Hayward Lakes Visitors & Convention Bureau Executive Director Sherry Beckman updated the Committee on the room tax proposal to the Sawyer County municipalities. The committee discussed how municipalities benefit from the room tax. Beckman handed out the FREE Namekagon River Map produced through the Namekagon River Project.

Don Semler updated the Committee on the Economic Development Corporation and provided his December Executive Director's Report. The Corporation's number one priority is to support existing businesses. A labor summit planned for the high schools, LCI College, and local employers.

Effective February 1 Sawyer County housing will manage 34 housing units for Indianhead.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared by Carol Williamson