

Draft

Minutes of the meeting of the Economic Development and UW-Extension Committee  
Sawyer County Board of Supervisors  
April 9, 2018; 8:30 a.m.; Assembly Room; Sawyer County Courthouse

Members present: Brian Bisonette, James Schlender, Tom Duffy, March Helwig, Bruce Paulsen

Others present: Lori Baltrusis, Carol Williamson, Tom Hoff, Don Mrotek, Sherry Beckman, Kevin Schoessow, Lynn Fitch, Sheldon Johnson, Linda Zillmer

Motion by Paulsen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bisonette, to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2018 Committee meeting.  
Motion carried

County Administrator Tom Hoff presented the Broadband Forward! Community Model Ordinance. The model ordinance is from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. Motion by Paulsen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helwig, to approve the Broadband Forward! Community Model Ordinance and forward to County Board. Motion carried

UW Extension Director Lori Baltrusis provided a report and introduced Kevin Schoessow, Agriculture Development Educator. Schoessow reported on services he provides and available training.

Hayward Lakes Visitors & Convention Bureau Executive Director Sherry Beckman informed the committee of various activities promoting Sawyer County tourism. The HLVCB is celebrating their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of promoting the Hayward Lakes Area on May 9 with an open house from 9 am -Noon. Town of Hunter room tax starts May 1, 2018.

North West Regional Planning Executive Director Sheldon Johnson reported to the Committee. A RI&E (Regional Insights on the Economy) session was last week; there are two more sessions in May. Foxconn meeting April 12, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, at the Douglas County Government Center in Superior. Additional meetings are in Eau Claire and Wausau. \$2,000,000 available in July from the regional housing program. Johnson provided the Committee with a report on Opportunity Zones in the Northwest Region.

Supervisor Bruce Paulsen introduced Lynn Fitch, the new president of the Sawyer County/Lac Court Oreilles Economic Development Corporation. The Corporation no longer has a paid Executive Director and is entirely a volunteer board. Fitch informed the Committee on efforts to improve the local workforce. Twenty-one individuals attended the downtown council meeting. The council identified seventeen areas and five committees were established. Hayward Main Street was nominated again in the Americas Main Street Contest. Please vote every day until April 22.

The Committee will work on a Mission Statement after the next several Committee meetings.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared by Carol Williamson