

**Minutes of the October 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 meeting of the Sawyer County  
Land, Water and Forestry Resources  
Committee Sawyer County Board of Supervisors  
Assembly Room; Sawyer County Courthouse**



**Committee Members Present:**

Bruce Paulsen, Brian Bisonette, Elain Nyberg, Jim Bassett, Marc Helwig, Dale Beissel

**County Personnel Present:**

Jay Kozlowski, Greg Peterson, Jessica Kujala, Carol Williamson, Dianne Ince, Tom Hoff, Paula Chisser, Dan Pleoger, Mike Keefe, Tim Seidl

**Also Present:**

Terrell Boettcher, Jan Holmes, Dan Herscher, Bill Bussey, Bruce Keyzer, Kris Keyzer, Linda Zillmer, Don Mrotek, Seth Zesiger, Bob Willging, Ernest Martenson, Judy Niccum, Kris Treland-Newman, David Todus, Barbara Sealey, Frank Pratt, Ben Popp, John Dontsc A

**Call to Order-** Bruce Paulsen calls meeting to order 8:30 am.

**Approval of September 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes-** Motion by Bassett, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helwig to approve September minutes. Motion carried

**Events-** none

**Sawyer County Treasurers Department-**

**Application for preference to Previous owner-** Town of Bass Lake 002-840-28-5208 Gouge Parcel- Sawyer County Treasurer Dianne Ince tells the Committee that the application and money have not been received yet, so no action it needed at this time.

**Application for preference to previous owner-** Town of Weirgor 030-737-01-2302 Chiarello Parcel- Ince tells the committee she has received all necessary paperwork and payment and recommends approval. Motion by Helwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bassett to approve previous owner application to repurchase. Motion carried.

**Request for refund of 25% Deposit-** (\$2.850.00) for otc land sale approved by LWFR & County Board in August 2019. David L DeNasha Application for Town of Hayward 010-841-23-5323 Purchased Price of #11,400.00. Funds needed for family emergency- Ince explains the situation to the Committee, Motion by Bassett, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helwig to approve refund and send to County Board for approval. Motion Carried.

**Register of Deeds-**

**2020 Budget-** Register of Deeds Paula Chisser gave a short review of her 2020 budget. Discussion only.

**Land Records-**

**2020 Budget-** County Surveyor Dan Pleoger gives a short review of his 2020 budget, Discussion only.

**Sawyer County Forestry Department**

**Event Fee Update-** Sawyer County Forestry Administrator Greg Peterson starts the conversation about the Event Fee Schedule that was passed at last month's County Board meeting. Ben Popp of the Birkie speaks, expressing that he was very disappointed with the out come of the County Board meeting. He explains that the user groups and the Forestry Department worked together to create what they thought would be a fair compromise but this option was never even looked at during County Board. He expresses that he would like to see the County Board reconsider what was passed. Several Committee members also speak up saying they believe that the fee schedule was passed to quickly, and they are hopeful there will be further discussion to reconsider what was passed. (Information only)

**Timing of New Event Fee-** Paulsen speaks about the timing of the new event fee, and how it would affect 2020 events that have already been published and are open for registration. Motion by Helwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bassett to delay the new event fee until 2021 for events that have already been published and are open for registration. Motion Carried

**"OO" Ground Lease-** County Administrator Tom Hoff speaks about the MOU between the County and the Birkie regarding the building at "OO". He states that the current MOU is very limited and that the County is working on a new ground lease that will allow more activities to take place at the OO grounds and possible rezoning. He states that this is only in the beginning stages and there will be more information to come.

**2020 Budget-** nothing new to discuss.

## **Recreational Trails**

Motorized- Don Mrotek of the Snowmobile and ATV Alliance gives a brief report on motorized trails. He reviews the UTV event that was held at LCO last month, and tells the Committee that preparations for Snowmobile season are starting to take place. He also mentions that storm damage has greatly impacted trails this year and there is a lot of extra work being done to fix trails.

Non-motorized- Ben Popp of the ABSF gives a brief report on bike and ski trails. He also notes that the Wisconsin Governor's Council of Tourism will be held at the "OO" conference center on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October.

**County Forestry Report-** Peterson gives a report on last month's activities. *(Information Only)*

## **Zoning/Conservation Department**

### **Wildlife Damage-**

**Wildlife Damage Budget 2020-** Seth Zesiger of the USDA speaks to the Committee, presenting them with the proposed budget for the 2020 Wildlife damage program. He explains that this is just pass through money now that APHIS has taken over the program. Motion by Nyberg, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helwig to approve the 2020 budget. Motion Carried.

**Sawyer County 90% Crop Harvest-** Seth again addresses the Committee regarding the Wildlife Damage abatement and Claims Program. He presents the Committee with the 90% crop harvest news resale which will push the County's deadline for crop damage claims back to December 31<sup>st</sup>. He explains that due to the late spring and harsh weather this year that many farmers have yet to harvest many of their crops, and by pushing this date back they will allow farmers greater opportunity to harvest before submitting a damage request. Motion by Beissel 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bassett to approve December 31<sup>st</sup> as final date to submit a crop damage claim. Motion Carried.

**2019 Crop Price Proposal-** Zesiger addresses the 2019 Crop prices. He presents the Committee with crop price proposal along with supporting documents. Motion by Nyberg 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helwig to approve proposed crop prices. Motion Carried.

**Waste Storage Ordinance (Draft Only)-** Zoning Administrator Jay Kozlowski reviews a draft of the Waste Storage Ordinance with the Committee. He and Tim Seidl of the Conservation Department explains the Ordinance and seek the green light to continue the process. The Ordinance would come back to Committee in November as an action item to send out to the towns for review. Committee expresses they would like to move forward with creating ordinance and would like it to come back in November. No action taken  
(Information only)

**2020 Land & Water Budget County Report-** Nothing new to discuss

**County Report-** Kozlowski gives report on the department's activities from last month.

**NRCS/ USDA report-** NONE

**LCO-** Bisonette gives a short review of LCO activities.

## **Urging Congress to support HR 763- (Discussion only)**

The Committee reviews the Carbon Dividend act that was presented last month. Committee members discuss their concerns and questions on the bill. Bill Bussey, Dan Herscher and Ernest Martinson all of the Citizens Climate lobby speak on behalf of the bill and urge for support. The Committee members seem to have mixed feelings regarding the bill, Helwig suggest the topic be brought back to the agenda next month as an action item. *(Information Only)*

**Adjourned –** Bruce Paulsen declares meeting adjourned