

**Minutes of the March 11th meeting of the Sawyer County
Administration Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- Chair: **Tweed Shuman**
- Dale Schleeter
- James Schlender
- Ron Kinsley
- Tom Duffy

Others Present:

Tom Hoff
Lynn Fitch
Mike Coleson
Dianne Ince – Virtual
Gary Elliott
Rose Lillyroot
Linda Zillmer - Virtual

Call to Order – Chair Tweed Shuman called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

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

Meeting Agenda

Public Comments

Minutes from the previous meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2021, meeting; second by Mr. Schlender. Motion carried without negative vote.

Veterans Service Department Report – Written reports were provided. Mr. Elliott advised that they hope the spring 2021 conference at Wisconsin Dells will be held in person; both he and Michelle Pederson are registered. The staffing workload is currently sufficient, and they are now purging old files. His department budget is on track and funds for some building repairs have been set aside if found they are needed.

Information Technology Department Report – A written report was provided. Mr. Coleson advised that the new backup system for the courthouse is expected to be deployed next week. The new jail video conference system is in place, the NOVUS zoning permit system should be completed by May and all projects are within 2021 budget projections.

Human Resources Report – A written report was provided. Ms. Lillyroot stated that several new employees started last month and she is recruiting for a few new positions (EMT-B, CCS Service Facilitator, and two CPS Social Workers). The TimeClocksPlus system is in use in the EMS service and the Sheriff's department will be added next. HHS should begin using the system shortly.

County Administrator's Report – A written report was provided. Mr. Hoff reported that the American Rescue Plan Act has passed. Significant funding will be available for states, counties, municipalities and tribes. Administration will look for qualifications required for this type of spending once funds are released. Sawyer County will get an estimated \$3.2M funds for Covid relief under three categorical guidelines: 1) public health emergency Covid negative economic impacts; 2) responding to workers performing essential work; 3) provision of government services in respect to reduction in revenue due to the public health emergency relative to revenues; and 4) to make necessary investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure. The first half of the funds, or \$1.6M, should be received within 60 days and the other half must be spent by December 31, 2024. All expensed items will require federal reporting.

Mr. Hoff stated that Governor Evers gave his budget address, and he outlined his budget strategy which has some proposals that will help counties. An additional .5% sales tax is proposed if approved through county referendums. The Joint Finance Committee has set up in-person public hearings and an April 28th virtual meeting is scheduled to hear public concerns. The Governor is expected to hold six virtual sessions on his own. WCA is also conducting a briefing via ZOOM at 8:15am on March 15.

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Administration Committee will be Thursday, April 15, at 10:00 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 10:46 am
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

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