

**Minutes of the June 10th 2020 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, Ron Buckholtz, Jesse Boettcher, Tweed Shuman, Tom Winiarczyk, Sarah MacDonald

County Personnel Present:

Jay Kozlowski, Greg Peterson, Jessica Kujala, Tom Hoff, Tim Seidl, Dan Pleoger, Rebecca Roeker

Also Present:

Don Mrotek, James Kujala

Call to Order- Bruce Paulsen Calls meeting to order.

Approval of May 13th Meeting Minutes- Motion by Buckholtz 2nd by Boettcher to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Chairman Burce Paulsen moved agenda item 11C up on the agenda

USDA report- Sarah MacDonald introduced her self as the County Executive Director of the USDA farm Services Agency for Barron, Rusk and Sawyer Counties, and gives an update to the Committee. She tells the Committee that the local FSA office is still open by appointment only, due to current situations. She then explains several programs that are being offered including Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) which provides direct support based on losses for agriculture producers where prices and market supply chains have been significantly impacted by Covid-19. She also discusses the WHIP+ program (Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program) this program helps producers who suffered losses due to excess moisture, floods, tornadoes, wildfires and snowstorms. MacDonald also discussed other programs as well as deadlines for crop reporting, for additional information on any programs that the FSA offers please visit their web site www.farmers.gov/cfap (Information Only)

Land Records and County Surveyor Department

Windfall Cemetery Resolution- Carol Williamson speaks about the resolution. She tells the Committee she was contacted by Jesse Suzan who has been contracted out by the Windfall Cemetery Board to plat a third addition to the windfall Cemetery. A town meeting was held last night regarding the addition to the Cemetery. Motion by Buckholtz, 2nd by Boettcher to approve resolution and send to County Board pending the approval of the addition by the town at their meeting. Motion Carried

Forestry Department

Update on Birkie "OO" land lease/MOU - Forestry Administrator Greg Peterson tells the Committee there isn't much new information at this time, the agreement is in the hands of the Birkie and County legal counsel at this time. Rebecca Roeker Sawyer County legal counsel speaks to the Committee explaining where they are at in the process. She explains they are not seeing any issues at this time, they are just working on finalizing some language, and that they are very close to having everything finished. (Information Only)

Update on 5yr plan and Outdoor Rec plan- Peterson reviews the process that is being worked through. He tells the Committee that he had a conference call with the County Forest Association and learned that many Counties are forgoing the Large public hearings due to Covid-19. Peterson explains that he would like to present the Committee with chapters allowing time for review and comments, and then post these chapters online for public comments. (Information Only)

15 yr plan Chapter 100- Peterson presents chapter 100 to the Committee and asks them to review it and have comments and suggestions ready for the next meeting.

County Report- Peterson gives a review of current activities in the forestry department. And also informs the Committee of a Hardwood sawmill that will be closing, Peterson tells the committee this will have an impact on our markets.

Recreational Trails

Motorized- Don Mrotek of the Snowmobile and ATV Alliance gives a brief report on the ATV trails, he tells the Committee that the trails have had a lot of traffic. They have also been getting a lot of calls regarding illegal ATV riding off of the trails.

Non-motorized- None

DNR report- James Kujala DNR forester gives a brief statement saying as of June 6th all of the state is meeting all of there yearly county forestry assistance goals.

Zoning/Conservation Department

Sawyer County Waste Ordinance- Zoning Administrator Jay Kozlowski presents the Committee with version 3 of the Waste Storage Ordinance, which has undergone full legal review, and has been sent out to the towns. He tells the Committee that 10 townships voted for the ordinance and 4 voted against. Motion by Buckholtz, 2nd by Boettcher to approve the Waste Storage Ordinance, and send it on to County Board. Motion Carried.

County Report- Kozlowski gives a brief report (Information Only)

LCO Report- Tweed Shuman gives a report on LCO land and water activities, specifically on the new hemp project that is taking place. He tells the Committee that 800-1000 hemp seedlings are being planted. They will be used to produce CBD oil. (Information Only)

Adjourned – meeting adjourned