

Minutes of the July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Sawyer County  
 Board of Supervisors  
 Large Courtroom; Sawyer County Courthouse/Virtual



**Voting Committee Members**

<b>Present (X)</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Wards</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Schleeter	01	T Lenroot W-1, T Hayward W-7, C Hayward W-5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jesse Boettcher	02	T Lenroot W-2, T Round Lake W-1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tweed Shuman	03	T Hayward W-1 & 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacey Hessel	04	T Hayward W-3 & 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Weaver	05	T Hayward W-5 & 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marc D. Helwig	06	C Hayward W-1 & 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thomas W. Duffy	07	C Hayward W-3 & 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marshal Savitski	08	T Bass Lake W-1 & 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Bisonette - virtual	09	T Bass Lake W-3 & 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Maestri-excused	10	T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W-1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Rusk	11	T Edgewater W-2, T Bass Lake W-5, T Hayward W-8, T Meteor, T Couderay, V Couderay
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Righeimer	12	T Spider Lake, T Round Lake W-2, T Winter W-1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Kinsley	13	T Hunter, T Radisson W-1, T-Ojibwa W-1, V Radisson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Buckholtz	14	T Radisson W-2, T Ojibwa W-2, T Weirgor, V Exeland, T Meadowbrook
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Peters	15	T Winter W-2, T Draper, V Winter

**Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**— Chair Tweed Shuman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Roll call was taken; quorum was met.

**Certification of Compliance** with the open meeting law was met.

**Public Comments** – Chris Klein and Linda Zillmer

**Minutes** – A motion was made by Mr. Duffy; second by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the minutes of the June 16<sup>th</sup> County Board meeting. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Zoning Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Boettcher provided a zoning committee chair report and presented three rezone requests for review. Mr. Kozlowski presented case #22-001 in Spider Lake. Rezone review is attached. The Town of Spider Lake board approved it. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Righeimer to approve this request to approve Resolution #2022-040 in the name of Campbell.

Rezone case #22-002 in the Town of Edgewater was presented and documentation was attached. The Town of Edgewater approved the request by a vote of 2-1. Two separate public hearing processes were held. We have received a protest petition of over 50% of the property owners so it would require a vote of 11 supervisors to approve this request. Public comment was heard from Linda Zillmer and Steve Friendshuh. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Boettcher to approve Resolution for Case #22-002. A roll call vote was taken and failed 10-4, with “aye” votes from Schleeter, Boettcher, Hessel, Weaver, Helwig, Savitski, Bisonette, Rusk, Righeimer and Peters. “Nay” votes from Shuman, Duffy, Kinsley and Buckholtz.

Mr. Kozlowski presented Case #22-008, Terrence Petit. Documentation was attached. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Rusk to approve this request. Motion carried without negative vote.

Case #22-009 was presented for Travis & Kelly Butterfield. Documentation was attached. Mr. Boettcher made a motion to deny the request; second by Ms. Hessel. Motion carried without negative vote.

A proposed ordinance amendment for storage sheds and shipping containers was presented by Mr. Kozlowski; documentation attached. This amendment would allow one shed to be built that followed zoning requirements. The second element addresses shipping containers. After sending out a town questionnaire, results proved that each town would like the authority to make this decision giving them the option to approve or deny the request; this decision would then be forwarded to the County for consideration. A public hearing was held and received a 5-0 vote in favor; legal counsel was consulted. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel to approve the zoning ordinance amendment; second by Mr. Buckholtz. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Public Safety Report** – Mr. Buckholtz introduced the items coming forth on the Public Safety agenda; written documentation attached. He reviewed the Sheriff's Department call numbers and position vacancies. Sheriff Mrotek introduced officers Logan and Ripczinski to demonstrate the new body cam technology in the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Buckholtz advised that the new Animal Control officer was appointed at the July Committee meeting. Since Coroner Froemel is not going to run for the next election, the Committee appointed Mr. Albarado to review the option to move to a Medical Examiner position instead of an elected official.

Clerk of Court, Marge Kelsey, introduced a Resolution to Circuit Court to Write Off Small Debts, Uncollectible Debts and Contract with Debt Collectors that will assist us in cleaning up uncollectable debt 20 years old or older. A motion was made by Mr. Duffy; second by Mr. Helwig to approve the resolution. Motion carried without negative vote.

Ambulance Personnel Compensation Adjustment Consideration -- Mr. Albarado reviewed the current wage scale of our EMS personnel with comparisons to other counties. Our wages are on the low range and we continue to have many vacant positions and no applicants. The proposed adjustments would bring us closer to the competitive market. A \$210,000 fiscal impact is projected allowing an approximate \$3/hr increase. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel to approve the wage increase; second by Mr. Weaver. Motion carried without negative vote.

A PSAP Grant Funding Designation for One Public Safety Answering Point was introduced. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the resolution; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Public Works Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Kinsley advised that maintenance continues to work with our construction manager, the highway department is short-staffed and they are reviewing ATV/UTV ordinances. The airport is finishing the remodel of the terminal building and held the Pancake Breakfast fund-raiser.

Mr. Albarado introduced the revised hangar lease templates that now include aeronautical use wording. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Mr. Rusk to approve both amended templates; documentation attached. Motion carried without negative vote.

Mr. Albarado introduced a new lease for the sale of the Walters lease to Schull Properties. A motion was made by Mr. Kinsley; second by Mr. Buckholtz to approve this request. Motion carried without negative vote.

A new lease to Ronald Vecchie was introduced. A motion was made by Mr. Duffy; second by Mr. Rusk to approve the 20-year ground lease. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Land, Water and Forest Resources** – Mr. Boettcher reported on activities of the LWFR Committee. He reviewed Act 216 which allows the Treasurer to approve future land sales rather than send them through committee. He presented three OTC land sales in the Town of Bass Lake. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the three OTC land sales; #002-136-10-2100, #002-136-09-3500, and #002-109-10-1900; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion carried without negative vote. The Upper Brunet River Dam Project will be discussed at Finance portion of meeting.

**Health and Human Services** – Mr. Schleeter advised that the Board was made aware of a slight uptick in Covid cases on the reservation and in the County. Department head orientation continues at monthly meetings.

**Health & Human Services** -- Mr. Schleeter reported that introduction of departments to new committee members is ongoing. Mr. Albarado presented a resolution for funding out-of-county placements with a goal of presenting to WCA for more statewide support. This resolution is asking the state to look at reformatting the program to seek state level funding for resources for CSP. A motion was made by Mr. Boettcher; second by Buckholtz. Motion carried without negative vote. Copies of the resolution will be sent to the State and WCA.

**Finance Committee Chair Report** – Mr. Kinsley reported that the second half of property taxes are due this month and sales tax receipts are trending slightly lower than last year. Mr. Albarado has been assigned the task of determining our best option to receive the opioid settlement funds.

Resolution to Adjust Meal Mileage Reimbursements -- A motion was made by Mr. Righeimer; second by Ms. Hessel to approve the resolution adjusting the meal mileage reimbursement rates. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Economic Development and UW Extension Committee** – Mr. Duffy reviewed the activities of the Committee. The Committee appointed Mr. Albarado as the point person on broadband activities. The Birkie is approaching 7,000 registrants.

**County Administrator's Report** – A written report was provided. Mr. Albarado advised that he is reviewing committee roles and responsibilities in the Board Plans & Policies with committee members. The courthouse renovation is fairly close to being on track; the Veterans building was demolished this week. The budget process is underway and our new Finance Director, Mike Markgren, was introduced. He reported that the Oasis building continues to be renovated and signage is being developed.

**Correspondence, Reports from Conferences and Meetings, Other Matters for Discussion –**

**Meeting Date/Time** – The next meeting of the County Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, August 18, at 6:30 pm in the Large Courtroom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm  
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk