

**Minutes of the August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sawyer County  
Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee  
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors  
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



**Voting Committee Members (X) Present:**

- Chair: **Bruce Paulson**
- Ron Buckholtz – Vice Chair
- Jesse Boettcher
- Brian Bisonette
- Marc Helwig -- Virtual
- Kevin Sheptick

**Others Present:**

Lynn Fitch  
Mike Coleson  
Jay Kozlowski  
Greg Peterson  
Don Mrotek  
Linda Zilmer  
Roy Zubrod  
Dan Ploegger

**Call to Order** – Chair Bruce Paulson called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

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

**Meeting Agenda** –

**Public Comments** -- Linda Zillmer

**Minutes from the previous meeting** – A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2021, meeting; second by Mr. Sheptick. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Events** – None

**Sawyer County Treasurer's Department** – An OTC Land Sale in the Town of Bass Lake #002-103-17-3900 was presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Sheptick to approve this sale and forward to the August 19<sup>th</sup> County Board meeting. Motion carried without negative vote.

**NORTAC Update** – Representative Boettcher reported on the purpose of the 10-county trail advisory group's July meeting. Mr. Mrotek stated that NORTAC has developed a 10-county trail map to direct riders from county to county for both snowmobile and ATV/UTV; the project was funded by ITBEC.

**Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report** – Mr. Ploegger provided an update. The department remains short-handed on the survey crew, they are busy installing address signs and have had 182 applicants for new addresses this year alone.

**Sawyer County Forestry Department Report** – A written forestry report was provided. Mr. Peterson advised that there remains an interest in forestry sales despite the market having some struggles. Sale revenue to date is \$1.35M which is on target for projections.

**Carbon Credit Market Project** – A written report was provided. Mr. Peterson had a meeting with Bluesource and advised they are in the process of establishing our free assessment for services. Once recon data is provided back to them we can expect a 3-week turnaround for decision. Upon approval, the County can expect to receive funds in 18 months.

DNR Forestry Report – A written report was provided. Mr. Zubrod reported on the Conners Creek Bridge update which will be closed until fall of 2022. Mr. Boettcher requested an update in September on the Mosquito Brook Dam project.

**Zoning/Conservation Department Report** – Written reports were provided. Mr. Kozlowski advised the department is still operating short-staffed. They are working on continuous dam operations and maintenance. After meeting with members of the Perch Lake Association, they may begin a long-term water-level monitoring project on Perch Lake. Responsibility for this process is still undetermined.

Mr. Kozlowski presented a Decontamination Ordinance Q&A list and a draft Decontamination Ordinance. The Whitefish Lake Property Owners Association brought the request forward to establish a local program to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in the county and surrounding waterbodies. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Sheptick to recommend forwarding the ordinance draft to corporate counsel for review and then set two public hearings (one at Zoning and one at LWFR committee) as next steps. Motion carried without negative vote.

USDA Report – Mr. Sheptick advised that the USDA is now back to full staff. He reviewed two grant program opportunities for county timber harvesters and farmers.

**Other Topics for Discussion Only -**

**Meeting Date/Time** – The next meeting of the Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee will be Wednesday, September 8, at 8:30 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 am  
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk