

Minutes of the September 7<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: **Jesse Boettcher**
- Vice Chair – Marc Helwig
- Ed Peters
- Brian Bisonette – virtual @ 8:58am
- Jason Weaver
- Kevin Sheptick

**Others Present:**

- |                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Lynn Fitch              | Andy Albarado |
| Alex Butterfield        | Dan Ploeger   |
| Jay Kozlowski - Virtual | Jim Kujala    |
| Cathy LaReau            | Linda Zillmer |
| Janeen Abric            |               |

**Call to Order** – Chair Jesse Boettcher 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** –

**Minutes from the previous meeting** – A motion was made by Mr. Helwig to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2022, second by Mr. Sheptick. Motion carried without negative vote.

**Events** –

**Sawyer County Treasurer's Department** – OTC Land Sale – Ms. Abric presented a list of 2021 Sawyer County properties that need to be approved for the minimum bid amounts. Once approved, this list will go on the Wisconsin online Auction. A motion was made by Mr. Helwig to approve the 2021 Sawyer County Land Sale list; second by Mr. Boettcher. Motion carried without negative vote.

Ms. Abric presented an application to purchase property for Tax ID 26299 which is 33% under the minimum bid amount listed. After reviewing options, it was decided that the property will remain on the list and added to the online auction.

**Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report** – Mr. Ploegger advised that the survey crew has been working in the southern end of the county and they are busy with new addressing.

**Sawyer County Forestry Department Report** – Trails Report – Ms. LaReau reported heavy ATV/UTV use on the trails. They have purchased three additional data counters. They are investigating adding some trail-side rest stops/picnic areas which would be paid for by donations and grants. Mr. Bisonette advised that the Tribal Governing Board is still negotiating with connecting townships on trail access within tribal lands.

County Forestry Report – A written report was provided and highlights were reviewed by Mr. Peterson. Timber sale value on contracts-uncut is \$4,915,175.09 with three sales having closed out in August.

DNR Forestry Report – A written report was provided. Jim Kujala reviewed highlights. A study on survival rate of elk calves is underway.

A motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Mr. Weaver to enter closed session at 9:05 pursuant to Wis. Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public lands, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session; roll call vote was taken and passed with "Aye" votes by Boettcher, Weaver, Helwig, Bisonette and Sheptick. A motion at 9:07 am to enter Open Session by Mr. Weaver; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion carried without negative vote. Open session at 9:08 am. No action was taken on the trail right-of-way.

At 9:09 am a motion was made by Mr. Helwig; second by Mr. Weaver pursuant to Wis. Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public lands, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session; roll call vote was taken and passed with "Aye" votes by Boettcher, Weaver, Helwig, Bisonette and Sheptick. At 9:27 a motion was made by Mr. Helwig to enter Open Session; second by Mr. Weaver. Motion carried without negative vote. No action taken in closed session.

**Zoning/Conservation Department Report** – A written report was provided. Mr. Kozlowski reported on highlights, including mill foil abatement actions and Upper Brunet River dam drawdown progress. A recent discussion took place regarding the Callahan Lake dam in which the DNR has identified repair needs. Identifying ownership of this dam is next in the process.

USDA Report – Mr. Sheptick provided dates for specific USDA activities.

LCO Report – Mr. Bisonette reported that they have been buying wild rice and teaching school youth at LCO how to do the wild rice process.

**Other Topics for Discussion Only -**

**Meeting Date/Time** – The next meeting of the Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee will be Wednesday, October 12, at 8:30 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk