

Minutes of the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sawyer County  
Finance Committee  
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors  
Assembly Room; Sawyer County



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

- Chair: **Bruce Paulsen**
- Ron Kinsley, Vice Chair
- Dawn Petit – Virtual
- Tom Duffy
- Stacey Hessel

**Others Present:**

Tom Hoff  
Lynn Fitch  
Mike Coleson  
Mike Keefe  
Dianne Ince  
Donna Knuckey - Virtual  
Sandy Ocomoto  
Linda Zillmer Virtual

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

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

**Meeting Agenda** –

**Public Comments** – Linda Zillmer

**Minutes of the previous meeting** – A motion was made by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2021, meeting; second by Ms. Petit. Motion carried without negative vote.

**ARPA Funding Update** – Mr. Hoff advised that the ARPA quarterly report was due at the end of August and we reported \$0.00 spent thus far even though a couple of approved projects are still pending approval for grant funding from the State. The WCA recently sent out a survey asking counties what they are using ARPA funds for so we should be able to see what other counties are planning.

**2022 Budget Request Update** – Written reports were provided. Mr. Keefe reviewed a spreadsheet of summary of the levy including debt and special purpose levy amounts. The County is considering using fund balance to cover the \$1.5 shortfall, primarily due to the out-of-county placement costs in the HHS department.

Public Comments made by Molly Lank Jones, Ann Larson and Donna Knuckey.

Mr. Keefe reviewed the EMS levy worksheet advising that ambulance costs increased due to placing an additional ambulance in Ojibwa. The 2022 total EMS levy is anticipated to be \$1,410,291, an increase over the \$1,245,922 in 2021.

Capital improvement purchases were reviewed. An amount of \$1,422,942 was presented, after adjustments; the Brunet Dam repair of \$300,000 notably attributed to the high figure. Mr. Keefe advised that the County is investigating using the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands pool for borrowing this year instead of borrowing locally, as it is less cumbersome and can be completed in about two months. A list of outside entities requesting County funding was presented as well as a fund balance worksheet. Mr. Hoff discussed the reasoning behind reducing the Hayward Lakes Visitor and Convention Bureau funding by \$40,000.

**CDGB Property Request** – Ms. Fitch presented the NWRPC request to consider accepting a less-than-lien amount for a CDGB property in the name of Miner and Vivian Hayward located in Winter. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second

by Mr. Duffy that Sheldon Johnson of NWRPC be allowed to negotiate with the renter in the property who would like to make the purchase. Motion carried without negative vote. Mr. Hoff will research if this should go to the County Board.

**Meeting Date/Time** – The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be Thursday, October 14, at 8:30 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 am

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

DRAFT