

Minutes of the September 16th meeting of the Sawyer County
 Board of Supervisors
 Large Courtroom; Sawyer County Courthouse/Virtual



Voting Committee Members

Present (X)	District	Wards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Schleeter	01	T Lenroot W-1, T Hayward W-7, C Hayward W-5 & 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jesse Boettcher-Virtual	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-1 & 3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James H. Schlender, Jr.	05	T Hayward W-5 & 6
<input 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"/> Bruce Paulsen	08	T Bass Lake W-1 & 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Bisonette-Virtual	09	T Bass Lake W-3 & 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Van Etten	10	T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W-1
<input type="checkbox"/> Dale Olson	11	T Edgewater W-2, T Bass Lake W-5, T Hayward W-8, T Meteor, T Couderay, V Couderay
<input type="checkbox"/> Dawn Petit-Virtual	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 taken; quorum was met.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met.

Public Comments – Roberto Espenia

Minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2021, meeting; second by Mr. Buckholtz. Motion carried without negative vote.

Redistricting Public Hearing – At 6:34 a motion was made by Mr. Schleeter; second by Mr. Kinsley to go into Public Hearing for the purpose of redistricting. Motion carried without negative vote. Ms. Fitch reviewed the process used thus far the redistricting process. The Administration Committee had tentatively approved Map 3, Exhibit C during their September meeting. A meeting with municipal clerks and a few members of the public was held the following Tuesday at which point two minor boundary revisions were requested and accepted. Thus Map 3 Version 2, Exhibit D is being recommended for adoption at this meeting. Brian DeVries presented the map over ZOOM. The deviation is approximately 7% which is still within the 10% maximum in our map requirements. The perfect population per ward is now 1,205 and under Map 3 Version 2, no districts are splitting into additional wards. A letter from public member Linda Zillmer was read into record. A motion to come out of Public Hearing was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Schleeter. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Schlender; second by Mr. Kinsley to approve the resolution to adopt Map 3 Version 2, Exhibit D and move it forward to the municipalities. Motion carried without negative vote.

Covid-19 Update – Julia Cullom presented a Covid update. Sawyer County is currently at the red risk level. Variant categories were described and the Delta variant remains the primary strain at this time. Other reports reviewed included the CDC transmission rate, hospitalization trends, age distribution in case counts, and statewide data for vaccinated cases and unvaccinated rates.

Zoning Committee Chair Report – Mr. Buckholtz reported that there were no rezone requests this month but one is on the agenda for the September 17th meeting.

Public Safety Report – Mr. Schlender reported on the struggle to hire law enforcement positions which is causing our jail to house inmates at other facilities due to staff shortages. The Criminal Justice Committee met on September 9th and discussed the process for working on the TAD grant application. As JusticePoint is not receiving qualified referrals at this time for the diversion program, it was recommended by Niki Leicht to change direction in the application process and apply for a process planning grant instead. Melissa Fisher advised that there are currently 85 individuals on pre-trial supervision and they are trying to get that figure to 75. They have filed over 100 over-capacity memos to date indicating that they do not have the capacity to supervise. Three Huber individuals are on electronic monitoring, no one on diversion or alcohol monitoring supervision.

District Court Administrator Channing advised that the statute that is written for approving a drug court requires an active diversion program. Our current plan does not qualify Sawyer County to be approved for a TAD grant at this time. The program will consider the possibility of moving both full-time JusticePoint staff members to pre-trial diversion which would qualify for the planning and diversion grant application.

Public Works Committee Chair Report – Mr. Kinsley reported that the next courtroom remodel meeting is scheduled for September 22nd. In the meantime, they have been reviewing design plans.

Two expired airport leases were presented for review. A motion was made by Mr. Peters; second by Mr. Schleeter to approve a resolution for a new 20-year lease with a 10-year extension option for Sawyer Aviation. Motion passed without negative vote. A motion was made by Duffy; second by Mr. Buckholtz to approve a resolution for a new 20-year leases with a 10-year extension option for Dave McCorquodale. Motion passed without negative vote.

Land, Water and Forest Resources -- Mr. Paulsen presented an over-the-counter land sale request #002-157-05-1500 in the Town of Bass Lake. A motion was made by Mr. Duffy, Second by Mr. Buckholtz to approve this sale request. Motion carried without negative vote. A second over-the-counter land sale request #176-106-04-0200 in the Village of Radisson was presented. A motion was made by Mr. Duffy; second by Mr. Kinsley to approve this sale request. Motion carried without negative vote.

Mr. Greg Peterson presented the Great Lakes Timber Professionals “Log a Load for Kids” timber program. Approval of this program would mean a revenue loss of approximately \$2,000 in timber sales as the nation-wide program brings in groups of youth to learn about good timber management practices. The revenue proceeds go toward donations to the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. A motion was made by Ms. Hessel; second by Mr. Boettcher to approve this request. Motion carried without negative vote.

Health and Human Services – Mr. Schleeter advised that budgets were reviewed at the September meeting. He stated that a number of people were present at the meeting to show support for the Winter meal site and requested additional services be returned to the area.

Finance Committee Chair Report – Mr. Paulsen advised that committee time was spent on reviewing budgets. A potential buyer for a CBDG loan was presented indicating that the purchase price requested would be less than the outstanding balance. The Finance Committee authorized Sheldon Johnson of NWRPC to negotiate with the potential buyer to bring back an offer to be considered by the County Board.

Economic Development and UW Extension Committee – Mr. Schlender advised that the committee initiated some budget discussions at the September meeting and reported that the 2021 Sawyer County Fair was a success.

Virtual Meeting Policy - Ms. Rebecca Roeker of VonBriesen explained the proposed revisions of the virtual meeting attendance policy. The policy was streamlined to address both Board and Committee meeting attendance and applied the same standards to both. A resolution with the new proposed verbiage was presented. A motion was made by Mr. Kinsley; second by Mr. Buckholtz to send the policy back to the Administration Committee for further review. Motion carried without negative vote. Mr. Boettcher made a motion to suspend the virtual meeting requirement through the end of 2021; second by Ms. Hessel. Motion carried without negative vote.

Administrator's Report – A written report was provided. Mr. Hoff advised that in regards to our ARPA broadband requests earlier this year, there were 242 broadband grants submitted and they are now being prioritized. Approval will be in October. In reference to the Opioid Settlement, the County may receive word this week on the State's plans for participation in the program. October 19th is the date for the CAP meeting in Madison where members of our board can meet with State legislators and volunteers to attend are encouraged.

Mr. Hoff provided a written budget review in which he presented the remaining timeline and key preliminary budget figures. An increase of \$79,252 in the levy limit is projected in 2022 based on this budget which is about a 6.24% increase of \$773,437 total. A chart of historical tax rate adjustments from 2012 through projected 2022 was presented.

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, October 21, at 6:30 pm in the Large Courtroom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk