

Minutes of the October 28th meeting of the Sawyer County
 2022 Budget Public Hearing
 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	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 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"/> Bruce Paulsen	08	T Bass Lake W-1 & 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Brian Bisonette	09	T Bass Lake W-3 & 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Van Etten	10	T Sand Lake, T Edgewater W-1
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 –

Minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Helwig to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2021, meeting; second by Mr. Buckholtz. Motion carried without negative vote.

2022 Budget Discussion -- Written reports were presented. Mr. Hoff shared the presentation that had gone to the October 21st County Board meeting. The total County budget is approximately \$43M. The proposed Tax levy is \$13M with \$11,176,182 being the operating base. Various charts were presented and are included in the agenda packet. He noted that all funding to outside organizations have to be statutorily allowed to be funded. Included in the proposed budget is a 2.75% employee pay grid increase, a health insurance increase of 5.5% instead of the anticipated 15%, and the funding of some capital items by debt which will be repaid over a 2-year period. A list of potential other revenue sources was provided. A complete report is attached to the agenda.

Public Hearing – At 6:49 pm a motion was made by Mr. Olson; second by Mr. Buckholtz to enter Public Hearing. Motion carried without negative vote. Public comments were heard by: Donna Knuckey, Jeni Wergeland, Ann Korn, Ann Larson, Molly Lank-Jones, Sherry Machones, Sherry Beckman, Karen Duffy, Janet Rowney, Matt Ostrander, Jessica Wagner-Schultz, Linda Zillmer, Lorena DeJoode, and Cheryl Treland.

At 7:42 pm a motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Duffy to move out of Public Hearing. Motion carried without negative vote.

2022 Budget Discussion – Mr. Paulsen made a motion that if a supervisor motioned to increase any item outside the tax levy that it must be accompanied by a source for the savings or cut from a fund source. A roll call vote was taken and failed 6 – 8 with “ayes” from Schleeter, Boettcher, Duffy, Paulsen, Kinsley and Buckholtz; “nay” votes include Shuman, Hessel, Schlender, Helwig, Van Etten, Olson, Petit and Peters.

A motion was made by Mr. Boettcher to increase the HLVCB funding from \$10,000 to \$50,000; second by Mr. Helwig. A motion was made by Mr. Olson to amend Mr. Boettcher’s motion to \$35,000 in funding and that the increase come from the SC/LCO EDC funding; second by Mr. Helwig. A roll call vote was taken and failed 1 – 13. “aye” vote from Mr. Olson; “nay” votes include Schleeter, Boettcher, Shuman, Hessel, Schlender, Helwig, Duffy, Paulsen, Van Etten, Petit, Kinsley, Buckholtz, and Peters. “nay” vote from Olson. Mr. Boettcher’s original motion to increase the HCLVB funding from \$10,000 to \$50,000 was revisited and acted upon. A roll call vote was taken and passed 8-6 with “aye” votes from Boettcher, Shuman, Hessel, Helwig, Schlender, Van Etten, Olson and Buckholtz; “nay” votes from Schleeter, Duffy, Paulsen, Petit, Kinsley and Peters. Ms. Petit made a motion to deduct \$40,000 of funding from Namekagon Transit and split the \$40,000 as \$20,000 to HLVCB and \$20,000 to the LCO Library; second by Mr. Peters. A roll call vote was taken and failed 1 – 13 with “aye” vote from Petit; and “nay” votes from Schleeter, Boettcher, Shuman, Hessel, Schlender, Helwig, Duffy, Paulsen, Van Etten, Olson, Kinsley, Buckholtz and Peters.

A motion was made by Ms. Hessel to bring the \$40,000 deficit amount back to the committee level for discussion and action; second by Mr. Shuman. Motion carried without negative vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk