

AGENDA

Sawyer County Lake Forum

February 18, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Sawyer County Courthouse - Assembly Room

[Virtual Connection \(Teams\)](#)

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Roll/Introductions
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of Minutes: January 21, 2025
5. Election of Board Officers
 - a. President – Martin Hanson elected 10/30/24
 - b. Vice-President – Jean Accola elected 10/30/24
 - c. Secretary – to be elected (volunteers)
 - d. Treasurer – to be elected (without volunteers, consider combining with President; need second signer on checking account-consider Vice-President)
6. Treasure Report
 - a. Bank balance
 - b. Membership invoices sent
7. Website Update
 - a. New Website
 - i. Original domain restored
 1. SawyerCountyLakesForum.org update communications/bookmarks
 - ii. New site under construction
 - iii. Old site will remain with notice directing to new site
 - iv. Collect suggestions for content
 - v. Create new logo?
 - b. Communications
 - i. Record monthly meetings
 - ii. Post recordings to YouTube
8. Legislation Updates
 - a. Federal
 - b. State
 - i. Elevated Wakes
 1. Draft resolution
 - ii. Lake District

1. Sawyer County Board Resolution
 - c. County
 - i. Sawyer County: Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee
 - ii. Sawyer County: Zoning Committee
 - iii. Sawyer County: Calahan-Mud Lake Lake District
 - iv. Sawyer County: Public Reserve Strip
 - v. Sawyer County: Backlot access
 - vi. Sawyer County: Blanket SUP approval
 - vii. Sawyer County: Multi-Dwelling Development
 - d. Town
 - i. Town of Round Lake
 1. Existing ordinances
9. Lake Reports (all)
 - a. Chetac
 - b. Clear Lake
 - c. Conners/Lake of the Pines
 - d. Grindstone
 - e. Lac Courte Oreilles
 - f. Little Sissabagama
 - g. Round
 - h. Spring
 - i. Tiger Cat
 - j. Whitefish
10. Northwest Lakes Conference
 - a. Formalize decision on both and staffing of booth
 - b. Formalize SCLF representative
11. Sawyer County Lakes Forum Annual Meeting
 - a. Formalize organizing committee
 - i. Set date
 - ii. Set agenda
 - iii. Guest speaker(s)
12. Town of Round Lake AIS Educational Event
13. Bylaw Changes Discussion
 - a. Formalize committee members and schedule
14. Future Agenda Items
 - a. Town of Round Lake considering organizing an AIS education event
15. Set Next Meeting Date

a. Monthly, Third Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.

DRAFT

Sawyer County Lakes Forum Members

Lake Association	Email Contact	Members	Dues Paid
Blueberry Lake Property Owners Association	BlueberryCabin@gmail.com		02/15/25
Chippewa Flowage Area Property Owners Association	cfapoa@gmail.com		02/17/25
Clear Lake Property Owners Association	LoriTonLake@gmail.com		02/17/25
Courte Oreilles Lakes Association	Communications@cola-wi.org		02/15/25
Grindstone Association	President@GrindstoneLake.org		02/17/25
Moose Lake Improvement Association	DouglasKuchta@gmail.com		02/15/25
Nelson Lake Association	osseosubway@trivest.net		02/15/25
Osprey Lake Property Owners Association			02/15/25
Round Lake Property Owners Association	DanKollodge@gmail.com		
Spider Chain of Lakes Association	SpiderChainofLakes@gmail.com		02/15/25
Spring Lake Association			02/17/25
Windigo Lake Property Owners Association	egvdicksteininger@gmail.com		02/15/25

As of 02/17/25

Logo Designs



S C L F

SAWYER COUNTY LAKES FORUM



S C L F

SAWYER COUNTY LAKES FORUM

Lincoln County Resolution

STATE OF WISCONSIN)

COUNTY OF LINCOLN)

Resolution 2024-12-72

Support for Effective Regulations That Protect Surface Waters

WHEREAS, Lincoln County is unique for its 729 lakes covering 15,585 acres and numerous large rivers, including the Wisconsin River, within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Land & Water Resource Management Plan states that protecting surface water from degradation and controlling the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are two primary goals; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County recognizes the importance of keeping our surface waters healthy to sustain a vibrant tourism economy, recreational opportunities, and the Northwoods lake life; and

WHEREAS, the lakes and rivers within Lincoln County have been experiencing increased recreational boating pressure from a multitude of user groups, including wake boarding and wake surfing; and

WHEREAS, the enhanced wakes created for these sports have more powerful energy and propwash than other typical boating activities which can cause negative biological and physical impacts to lakes and rivers including: increased shoreline erosion, the suspension of bottom sediment, the transfer of aquatic invasive species through boat ballast tanks, disturbances to fish and wildlife habitat, and decreased water clarity and quality; and

WHEREAS; current research has shown that keeping enhanced wakes to a minimum of 500 feet from shore and to areas of lakes that are a minimum of 20 feet in depth could protect these ecosystems from harmful impacts; and

WHEREAS; recent State legislative efforts failed to address significant protective measures with regard to enhanced wakes or the transfer of AIS from one lake to another through ballast tanks/bladders; and

WHEREAS; the same legislative efforts suggested taking away local control in regards to regulating wake boats.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors encourages the Wisconsin Legislature to engage in meaningful discussions to set standards of at least 500 feet from shore, and to prohibit enhanced/excessive wake creation in waters shallower than 20 feet in

depth to balance the right of everyone to recreate on waters of the State of Wisconsin while protecting our valuable surface waters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors recommend that local governments have the control to set standards different from state minimums.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors recommend that the Wisconsin Legislature address the transfer of aquatic invasive species through ballast tanks and/or bladders for the protection of our surface waters.

Dated: December 17th, 2024

Authored by: Greg Hartwig

Co-Sponsored by: Marty Lemke, William Bialecki, Andrew Zelinski, Donald Dunphy, Randy Detert, Julie DePasse, Dean Lemke

Committee: Land Services

Committee Vote: 8-0

Date Passed: November 14th, 2024

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Sawyer County Draft Recommendations

Local Control – Local municipalities' existing right to enact or maintain local ordinances that are more restrictive than these state minimums shall be preserved

700 Feet From Shore – Wake-enhanced boating activities should occur at least 700' from the shoreline.

30-Foot Depth – Wake-enhanced boating activities must be done in depths of no less than 30 feet.

Prevent Invasive Species in Ballast Tanks – Boats moving from lake to lake must have proof of decontaminated ballast tanks before entering lakes

Livestock Siting Ordinances

From Madison.com

State-regional

POLK COUNTY

Polk County judge dismisses WMC lawsuit against local factory farm ordinances

HENRY REDMAN Wisconsin Examiner

Jan 10, 2025

A Polk County judge on Thursday dismissed a lawsuit from Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce, the state's largest business lobby, challenging an ordinance enacted by the town of Eureka regulating how factory farms, known as concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, operate.

Under the ordinance, CAFOs must establish plans dealing with manure disposal, air pollution, road use and other effects of a large farm's operations, before being allowed to open or expand in the town. Similar ordinances have been passed in eight towns and three counties — including the Pierce County town of Maiden Rock, which [passed its ordinance last month](#).

While many of the state's largest factory farms operate on the eastern side of the state in and around Kewaunee County, communities across western Wisconsin have been fighting the expansion of farming operations in the Driftless Region because of the effect CAFOs can have on smaller farms in the community, water quality and the environment.

“WMC's lawsuit against Eureka is part of a three-prong strategy by this industry with one goal — no regulation,” Lisa Doerr, a Polk County farmer who helped develop Eureka's ordinance, said in a statement. “They use lawsuits to intimidate local officials who pass legal ordinances. At the same time, they have a lawsuit challenging any state authority. Finally, their Madison lobbyists are pushing state legislators to ban all local control.”

WMC has filed a number of lawsuits in recent years challenging state authority to protect water quality. A lawsuit filed by the group in Calumet County [challenged](#) the state Department of Natural Resources' authority to require CAFOs to obtain permits regulating their effect on local water supplies. A circuit court judge ruled against that effort last year, the ruling is pending in the state Court of Appeals.

This week, the state Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in a case from WMC [challenging](#) the DNR's authority to use the state's toxic spills law to force polluters to clean up PFAS contamination.

Multi-Dwelling Development

In Sawyer County

Definitions in current Zoning Ordinance

Per Sawyer County Code of Ordinances -Appendix D-Section 2– Also referred to as Sawyer County Zoning Ordinance

(31) DWELLING UNIT: A building or portion thereof with rooms arranged, designed, used or intended to be used for one family. Guesthouses with kitchen and bathroom facilities; and any accessory structures with a HABITABLE LIVING AREA are considered to be dwelling units. Houseboats and watercraft on land shall not be used as DWELLINGS or DWELLING UNITS. **Only one dwelling unit is allowed per Lot.**

(57) LOT: A parcel of land occupied or capable of being occupied by **one Building or one Dwelling Unit** and the Accessory Buildings or uses customarily incidental to it, including such open spaces as are required by this ordinance.

(71) MULTI-DWELLING DEVELOPMENT: Development, regardless of form of ownership consisting of **three or more DWELLING UNITS**, condominium, **resort**, hotel or motel units or other units/structures intended for residential or long or short -term rental uses, all of which are to be located on the same **LOT.**

(85) RESORT: A resort is a for -profit business holding a Seller's Permit and licensed by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, which provides rental to the public of **DWELLING UNITS** contained in one or more permanent buildings used primarily for recreational use.



Current Zoning Ordinance

Per Sawyer County Code of Ordinances -Appendix D-SECTION 17.0 ZONE DISTRICTS - Also referred to as Sawyer County Zoning Ordinance

GENERAL: The Permitted Uses and Conditional Uses stated for each zone district are intended to be representative in nature - not all inclusive. Uses similar to those listed as Permitted Uses may be permitted by the Zoning Administrator, uses similar to those listed as Conditional Uses may be permitted by the Zoning Committee.

- **17.1 R-1: Residential One District - A) Permitted Uses** - 1) One family and two-family year-round dwellings. **B) Uses Authorized by Conditional Use** - 1) Multi-family (3 or more) dwelling units. **(No Definition for "two-family dwelling" & no definition for "Multifamily")**
- **17.2 RR-1: Residential/Recreational One District - A) Permitted Uses** - 1) One family and two-family dwellings. **B) Uses Authorized by Conditional Use** - 15) **MULTI-DWELLING DEVELOPMENT** (i.e. new condominium, hotel, motel or resort, or other development which is the same general scale and character). (Does not include the conversion of existing properties to a condominium ownership, existing resorts, motels, hotels or any other existing multi dwelling development unless more rental/dwelling units are being proposed by plat or other means that would be in addition to the existing rental/ dwelling units.) **(No definition for Two-Family Dwelling & Multi-Dwelling Development is listed as a Conditional Use Permit approval process within the current Zoning Ordinance)**
- **17.3 RR-2: Residential/Recreational One District - A) Permitted Uses** - 1) One family and two-family dwellings. **B) Uses Authorized by Conditional Use** - 16) **MULTI-DWELLING DEVELOPMENT** (i.e. new condominium, hotel, motel or resort, or other development which is the same general scale and character). (Does not include the conversion of existing properties to a condominium ownership, existing resorts, motels, hotels or any other existing multi dwelling development unless more rental/dwelling units are being proposed by plat or other means that would be in addition to the existing rental/ dwelling units.) **(No definition for Two-Family Dwelling & Multi-Dwelling Development is listed as a Conditional Use Permit approval process within the current Zoning Ordinance)**

Current Shoreland Zoning Ordinance

Per Sawyer County Code of Ordinances -Appendix B - Also referred to as Sawyer County Zoning Shoreland -Wetland Protection Ordinance

- **5.1 PURPOSE (NR115.05(1)(a))** Minimum lot sizes in the shoreland area shall be established to afford protection against danger to health, safety and welfare, and protection against pollution of the adjacent body of water. In calculating the minimum area or width of a lot, the beds of navigable waters shall not be included.
- (1) The construction of new dwellings or replacement dwellings; additions to existing principal structures and the construction of accessory buildings may be permitted provided all other requirements, regulations and setbacks can be met. **Only one (1) principal dwelling/habitable structure is allowed per legal lot.**
- (2) If multiple dwelling units exist on one parcel that were lawfully placed when constructed, and are not designated as a Res or Condominium, those units may only be expanded 50% of the current floor area for each unit.

The Issues

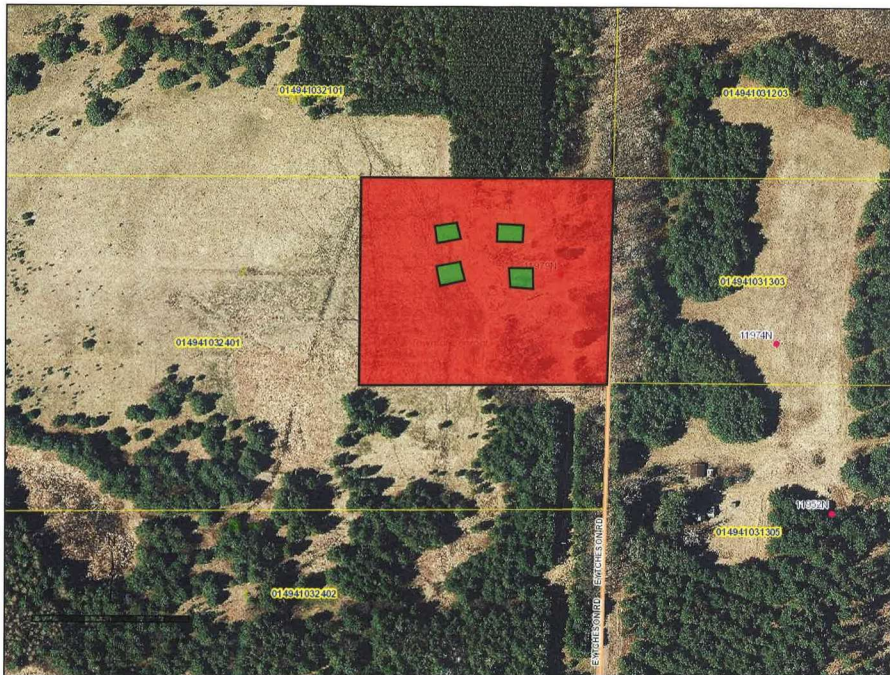
- 1 The Current Zoning Ordinance allows for the creation of Multi - Dwelling Development under a Conditional Use Permit. However, the definition section only allows for **ONE DWELLING UNIT** per **LOT**. **There is a conflict here within the ordinance.**
- 2 There is no definition for Two -Family Dwelling. Two -Family Dwellings are commonly referred to as a duplex or side by side but not defined in ordinance. Also, there are no clearly specified density requirements for this "permitted use". Furthermore, should this "permitted use" be allowed within the Shoreland District?
- 3 Density requirements in general need to be clearly specified in the ordinance. If Sawyer County was to allow for multi -Dwelling Development in certain areas there should be a specified amount of land area needed for each unit. Only the R -1 District currently states that an additional 5,000sq ft is needed for each additional unit.
- 4 Resort definition with aspects of Tourist Rooming Houses. County cannot restrict the rental of 1 dwelling unit per lot. Current definition should change 1 way or another to clarify a new definition.



Issues Continued and Other Considerations

- 5 If definition of **DWELLING UNIT** doesn't change it effectively prohibits any new resorts, hotels, apartment complexes, in that language states "**Only one dwelling unit is allowed per Lot**".
Recommendation to change this language that "Only one dwelling unit is allowed per Lot, unless otherwise approved by Conditional Use Permit"
- 6 By totally outlawing multi-dwelling development or restricting it to other zone districts creates "non -conforming uses" This is not an advised practice within Zoning. Initially Towns did not want to see new MDD within the Shoreland District and that is something that can be proposed. Should duplex also be prohibited within the Shoreland District? Shoreland District is 1000' from a Lake or Pond ; 300' from a River or Stream.
- 7 **Resorts and Short-Term Rentals/Tourist Rooming Houses (STR/TRH).** County has new TRH Licensing Ordinance. This allows for the rental of 1 dwelling unit on a lot. What is to be done with properties that were not as an existing "resort" status? Existing multiple units on 1 lot. Condo scenarios where multiple owners within a condo, on 1 lot or condo plat also want to rent? What process does someone need to go through if they want to operate a "new" resort on shoreland or non-shoreland?





Owner wants to create a 4 unit resort. Non-shoreland resort that would have shared well/septic. With current ordinance this is not allowed because it is still multiple dwellings on one lot. Forced to create 4 separate lots with current ordinance. Each lot has its own unique setbacks associated with them so now the 1st unit and 4th unit will be over 330' away.

Can this property request for a resort?

2 existing dwellings that were lawfully placed at time of construction. Owner wants to rent both as STR/TRH.



BYLAWS
SAWYER COUNTY LAKES FORUM, Inc.

ARTICLE I GENERAL

SECTION 1:
NAME

The name of the Association shall be the Sawyer County Lakes Forum, Inc., herein referred to as the Forum.

SECTION 2:
PURPOSE

The purpose of the Forum is to facilitate education, research and sharing between organizations, individuals, governmental bodies, and the general public of Sawyer County; to maintain and improve Sawyer County's water bodies, environs, and watersheds for now and future generations, including, but not limited to aesthetics,, water quality,, wildlife habitat,, fisheries, and recreation. These purposes will be accomplished while respecting the rights of property owners.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1:
ORGANIZATIONAL

Any Sawyer County Lakes Association or Lake District whose primary purpose is to maintain and improve the quality of Sawyer County lakes and waterways for the benefit of **the** general public.

~~SECTION 2:~~
~~ASSOCIATE~~

~~Any person supporting the Purpose of the Forum who resides in Sawyer County for at least one month each year and owns lake property in Sawyer County and the lake is not represented by an ORGANIZATIONAL member, is eligible to become an Associate Member of the Forum~~

SECTION 2:
ASSOCIATE

Any person or organization who subscribes to the purposes of the Forum is eligible to be a participant in support of Forum proceedings.

ARTICLE III VOTING

SECTION 1:
ORGANIZATIONAL

Any member organization as defined in ARTICLE II SEC. 1, shall be entitled to vote on any question ~~or~~ business before the Forum. In order to cast any vote, an organization must be a member in good standing with dues paid up to date. The casting of a vote by any member organization is limited to the delegate or alternate as designated by the President or Board of Directors of such member organization.

~~SECTION 2:
ASSOCIATE~~

~~Any associate member as defined in ARTICLE II, SEC. 2, shall be entitled to voting privileges. In order to cast any vote, the Associate member must be a member in good standing, that is, with dues paid up to date. The Associate member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters, any question or business before the Forum.~~

~~SECTION 2:
ASSOCIATE~~

The Associate member holds no voting rights.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

SECTION 1:
OFFICERS

~~The Board shall select seven lake management organizational delegates and/or associate members to serve as the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall select a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer from within the Board of Directors. The president shall preside as chairperson of the Board of Directors. Any of the four Directors shall constitute a quorum for considerations by the Board of Directors~~

~~-The Board shall select seven to nine lake management organizational delegates to serve as the Board of Directors . The Board of Directors at their discretion can also appoint up to 2 Associate members to the Board, granting voting rights. The Board of Directors shall select a President,, Vice-President,, Secretary, and Treasurer from within the Board of Directors. The president shall preside as chairperson of the Board of Directors. A simple majority of the current total number of Directors shall constitute a quorum for considerations by the Board of Directors. ..~~

~~PAST PRESIDENT The immediate past president shall continue to serve as a voting member and therefore serve as a director and member of the Board of Directors.~~

SECTION 2: TERM OF OFFICE

Directors shall serve a term of two years and shall be nominated and elected at a Board meeting. Directors can be elected to three (3) consecutive terms.

SECTION 3: VACANCIES

In the event any Director cannot complete a term of office, such office shall be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors. In the event the office of the President is vacated, the Vice-President shall assume that office for the remainder of the term.

SECTION 4: DUTIES

PRESIDENT: The President shall preside at all scheduled and special meetings of the Forum and represent the Forum at all official functions and assume the role of official spokesperson for the Forum.

VICE-PRESIDENT: The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, fulfill the duties of the President. Further, the Vice-President shall fulfill other duties as designated by the President, the Board of Directors, or the general membership.

SECRETARY: The Secretary shall record and maintain minutes of all meetings of the Forum and manage all routine correspondence, records, and membership lists.

TREASURER: The Treasurer shall maintain all financial records pertaining to dues, other income, and all expenditures. The Treasurer shall present a summary report of income and expenditures at all regularly scheduled meetings. The records and accounts of the Forum shall be maintained on a fiscal year basis from January 1 through December 31. All Forum financial records shall be audited yearly by a ~~Audit~~ Finance Committee appointed by the President.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The Board of Directors may, when necessary and expedient, providing a quorum is present, conduct the business of the Forum.

SECTION 5: COMPENSATION

No officer, Director or member shall be compensated for their time and effort. The Board of Directors may authorize Officers, Directors, and committee members to be paid actual and necessary expenses incurred while on Forum business.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

SECTION 1: TYPES OF MEETINGS

Meetings and voting may be held at a time or place designated by the Board of Directors including in-person or electronic methods. The number of attendees will contribute to the necessary quorum.

The Forum shall have the following meetings to conduct the business of the Forum:

ANNUAL MEETING: The election of Board of Directors. and any business the BoD deems necessary.

BOARD MEETING: Such meetings will be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. The agenda of the meeting may include elections, adoption of a budget, committee reports, membership concerns, and educational matters. **Board meetings are open to all members of the SCLF.**

SPECIAL MEETING: A special meeting of the Forum may be called at any time by the President or by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, or by request of at least six (6) of the member organizations. The agenda of a special meeting may include any items properly brought before a Board meeting.

SECTION 2 QUORUM

No formal business may be conducted at special meetings unless representatives from a minimum of seven member associations are present. Without a quorum, meetings may be held at which admission of new members may be announced, a program may be presented, or members may engage in discussion of matters of interest to the Forum.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing committees of the Forum shall consist of the following committees. Each committee shall consist of at least two persons as assigned by the President and approved by the Board of Directors:

~~AUDIT~~ **FINANCE** COMMITTEE: The ~~Audit~~ **Finance** Committee shall audit the Forum financial records in conformance with Article IV, Sec. 4 (Treasurer duties).

NOMINATION COMMITTEE:

The Nomination Committee shall present a slate of Directors. Such a slate shall not preclude nomination from the floor.

SECTION 2: AD HOC COMMITTEES

The President may appoint other committees as deemed necessary to support the efforts of the Forum.

SECTION 3: COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION BY PRESIDENT

The president **shall** be an **ex** officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE VII DUES

SECTION 1:

DUES

Annual dues for any Organizational member as defined in Ar. II, Sec. 1 and for any Associated member as defined in Art. II, Sec. 2 shall be determined by the Board each year and shall be effective in the following fiscal year January 1 thru December 31. Such dues shall be paid at or before the Board meeting in the new fiscal year. A 30-day grace period for payment of dues shall exist prior to removal from membership.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1:

AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may only be amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors provided that a two-thirds majority of the members at such meeting, a quorum being present, approve

the action. **This action, with the intent of the amendment, must be included in the agenda prior to the meeting,**

ARTICLE IX PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 1: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the Forum's final authority on all questions of procedure and parliamentary law not covered by these Bylaws. Non Members and guests may be recognized to speak at Forum meetings at the discretion of the presiding officer who shall also serve as parliamentarian.

ARTICLE X INDEMNIFICATION

SECTION 1: INDEMNIFICATION

As provided by Wisconsin law, the Forum shall indemnify any Director, employee or agent who was, is, or may be involved in a legal proceeding by virtue of his/her good faith action on behalf of the Forum.

ARTICLE XI DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1: DISSOLUTION

The Forum may be dissolved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. After payment of all liabilities, all assets of the Forum shall be distributed to appropriate 501(c)(3) organizations or charities approved by the Board of Directors.

Sawyer County Lakes Forum Bylaws ~~January,~~
~~2024~~ **February 2025**

