



**COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025**

A. Call to Order

Chairman Thomas Egan called the meeting of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors to order at 6:00 P.M. from the Winnebago County Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin and virtually by TEAMS.

B. Roll Call

The following Supervisors were present: 28 – Dowling, Laux, Ulbricht, Holt, Reinke, Hancock-Cooke, Nussbaum, Stafford, Paterson, Binder, Gilbertson, Mueller, Halbur, Ponzer, Belville, Macho, Hinz, Zellmer, Schellenger, Powers, Hanson, Cox, Farrey, Harrison, Frassetto, Egan, O'Brien and Miller; Excused: 8 – Lutz, Wise, Gabert, Swan, Buck, Gustafson, Bureau and Nelson.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Invocation

Invocation by Supervisor Karen Powers

E. Adopt Agenda

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Nussbaum, to adopt the agenda for tonight's meeting. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

F. Public Comments

Ann Dolan, Oshkosh, mentioned that Waupaca County has the same vending machines as Winnebago County. Ms. Dolan stated that Waupaca County has covid tests and tick removing kits in their vending machines where Winnebago County does not. She expressed to the board that maybe this is something they should think about for Winnebago County.

G. Communications from the County Clerk

Julie Barthels, Winnebago County Clerk, presented the following communications:

The following Petition for Zoning Amendment was referred to the Planning and Zoning Committee.

- Petition for Zoning Amendment 001: Erma Potratz c/o Ralph Potratz, Town of Nekimi, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture District) / B-3 (General Business District) to A-2 (General Agriculture District) for tax parcel no. 012-0591.*

The following Resolution from an Other County was referred to the Legislative Committee.

- Jackson County – Resolution No. 57-12-2024: Support for Elk Damaged Properties*

H. Reports from Committees, Commissions and Boards

Supervisor Nussbaum informed the board that the Highway Committee would not be meeting on Monday, January 27, 2025, but will now be meeting on Monday, February 3, 2025, at 4:30 pm at the Highway Department Conference Room.

Supervisor Laux informed the board that the Land Conservation Committee will meet on Monday, February 3, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the James P. Coughlin Center. There will be a presentation on Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Round Gobies by Chris Acy, Winnebago Waterways Program about the round goby and why it is bad. The round goby affects almost every district.

Supervisor Hanson stated the next Ad-Hoc Task Force on County Board Rules meeting will take place on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. at the David W. Albrecht Administration Building in the Susan T. Ertmer Conference Room 120. Mr. Hanson informed the board that everything that has been discussed so far has been put in resolution form. Supervisor Hanson encouraged supervisors to attend the meeting or take the opportunity and look at these draft resolutions in order to save time when these items will be presented to the Judiciary & Public Safety (JPS) Committee and then ultimately to the County Board. The Task Force dissolves in June 2025, and Supervisor Hanson is hoping to present their findings to the JPS Committee on April 7, 2025.

Supervisor Hancock-Cooke mentioned she is a member of the Board of Health and there was a presentation given by a group called the Community Living Room at their last meeting. Ms. Hancock-Cooke wanted to bring this to the attention to the board because it's a group doing interesting work in the community. The Community Living Room is a non-clinical person-centered environment for people seeking social connection and emotional support. The primary objective of the Community Living Room is to use the concept of connection as a framework for prevention in a no-cost community-based supportive space and it is for anyone who's feeling lonely, isolated, feeling grief or strong emotions and needs someone to talk to and connect with. The community health assessment talks about the epidemic of loneliness, which is a public health issue for everyone and they're trying to make sure that we're maintaining the health of our citizens as best as we can.

Vice-Chairman Farrey informed the board that there is a Legislative Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, January 27, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. taking place at the James P. Coughlin Center.

Supervisor Holt asked the board about possibly having a discussion around homelessness and discussing some of the ideas that have been brought to their attention.

I. County Executive's Report and Appointments

1. Preview of Financial Reporting to Committees

Jamie Rouch, Director of Administration, spoke on the steps to move forward with the Strategic Plan. It is important so the whole county can see how the county is running. Ms. Rouch wants to see everyone come together to make this work. This year scoring will take place. She strongly encouraged having all supervisors attend these meetings. Ms. Rouch stated financial reports will be posted on the County Website every month. She noted that financial summaries for all the funds will include the actual amount compared to budgeted amounts, previous years' comparables and by fund, you will be able to see the balance to date. The fund summaries should be easier for everyone to read and understand.

2. Update on Long-Term Planning

Jon Doemel, County Executive, introduced his Long-Term Planning program. Mr. Doemel started with the first day on the job and what it entailed. He added additional staff to his office to aid with his goals for the County. He addressed job vacancies, transparency and tracking. This was done by recording meetings, starting to use agenda item reports, starting draft resolutions at the department head level and using Civic Plus throughout the County. Mr. Doemel addressed how things are being evaluated with Priority Based Budgeting and adding a Management Analyst and Financial Analyst position. A facility condition assessment has been completed. Asset inventory and recodification are being studied. The next step will be roles and responsibilities of the County Executive office. The next step is Planning, to finalize the Strategic Plan. Executive Doemel is proud of the job that his employees have done adjusting to the new systems.

3. Comments on Items on Agenda

Executive Doemel commented and asked for support on the following resolution:

Resolution 081-012025: Authorization for the Development of a Hmong Veterans Memorial at Winnebago County Community Park.

Mee Yang, Board President, briefly spoke and provided information of the Hmong Service Center Inc. which is a non-profit organization in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, that aids in helping Hmong people find homes in Winnebago County.

4. **County Executive's Appointments**

Executive Doemel asked for the board's approval of the following appointments:

- **Industrial Development Board:** Mr. Andrew Dane, representing the City of Menasha, and Mr. Sean Fitzgerald, representing the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce
- **Affirmative Action Commission:** Supervisor Stephanie Holt

Motion by Supervisor Ulbricht, seconded by Supervisor Stafford to accept. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

J. **County Board Chair's Report and Appointments**

Chairman Egan thanked everyone for coming this evening with the extreme cold weather conditions.

Chairman Egan reported that the following Supervisors are excused from tonight's meeting: Supervisors Lutz, Wise, Gabert, Swan, Buck, Gustafson, Bureau and Nelson.

Chairman Egan informed the board that there is information on their desks regarding the 2025 Scholarship Applications.

K. **Honoring Retiring County Employees**

Julie Barthels, Winnebago County Clerk, recognized Joan Lowe, Ron Timm, Brad Benedict, and Gerald "Jerry" Konrad for their employment with Winnebago County.

1. **RESOLUTION 077-012025: Commendation for Joan Lowe**

WHEREAS, Joan Lowe has been employed with the Winnebago County Human Resources Department, for the past thirty-six years, and during that time has been a most conscientious and devoted County employee; and

WHEREAS, Joan took on many different roles for the county in her career, starting in 1988 as an Account Clerk for the United Board, in 1994 she transferred to the Finance Department, in 2001 she joined the Human Resources Department, and in 2023 Joan was promoted to Payroll and Benefits Specialist; and

WHEREAS, Joan was an incredibly dedicated employee and a fantastic resource for employees of the county as they navigated benefit programs; and

WHEREAS, Joan's expertise and knowledge within the Human Resources Department will be missed; and

WHEREAS, Joan Lowe has now retired from those duties, and it is appropriate for the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors to acknowledge her years of service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors, that sincere appreciation and commendation is extended to Joan Lowe for the fine services she has rendered to Winnebago County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to Joan Lowe.

Submitted by:

Personnel & Finance Committee

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Holt to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

2. **RESOLUTION 078-012025: Commendation for Ron Timm**

WHEREAS, Ronald Timm has been employed with the Winnebago County Sheriff Department, for the past thirty years, and during that time has been a most conscientious and devoted County employee; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Timm started with the Sheriff's office as a Corrections Deputy in February of 1994, and transferred to the Patrol division in March of 1996; and

WHEREAS, during his time with the County Ronald Timm was assigned to the MEG Unit in March of 2011 and was promoted to Detective in April of 2013; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Timm lent his expertise to many different groups and causes during his

time in the Sheriff's office including the Tactical Team and the Honor Guard as well as special assignments as a Field Training Officer, Arson investigator, Child Safety Seat Technician, Vehicle Contacts Instructor and primary Boat Operator; and
WHEREAS, as of December 18, 2024 Detective Sergeant Ronald Timm has now retired from those duties, and it is appropriate for the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors to acknowledge his years of service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors, that sincere appreciation and commendation is extended to Ronald Timm for the fine services he has rendered to Winnebago County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to Ronald Timm.

Submitted by:
Personnel & Finance Committee

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Hanson to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

3. RESOLUTION 079-012025: Commendation for Brad Benedict

WHEREAS, Bradley Benedict has been employed with the Winnebago County Highway Department, for the past thirty-eight years, and during that time has been a most conscientious and devoted County employee; and

WHEREAS, Brad Benedict joined the Highway Department on March 6, 1986, where his hard work and dedication to the county eventually led him to become a foreman with the Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, Brad was always available to assist emergency calls and never missed an opportunity to plow snow early in the morning, clearing the roads for residents in the county; and

WHEREAS, Brad's leadership and willingness to help others was always on display and he will be greatly missed in the Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, Bradley Benedict has now retired from those duties, and it is appropriate for the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors to acknowledge his years of service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors, that sincere appreciation and commendation is extended to Bradley Benedict for the fine services he has rendered to Winnebago County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to Bradley Benedict.

Submitted by:
Personnel & Finance Committee

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Paterson to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

4. RESOLUTION 080-012025: Commendation for Gerald "Jerry" Konrad

WHEREAS, Gerald Konrad served as a Citizen Member of the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Board for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, as a Citizen Member of the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Board his wisdom and knowledge has been extremely beneficial to furthering our vision to provide continued cost-efficient solid waste management and recycling services; and

WHEREAS, as a Citizen Member of the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Board, his desire to fully understand waste management issues and to provide thoughtful insight has been extremely beneficial to us in enabling communications to resolve differences.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that sincere appreciation and commendation is extended to Gerald Konrad for the fine services he has rendered to Winnebago County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Winnebago County Clerk will send a copy of this commendation to Gerald Konrad.

Submitted by:
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Holt to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

L. Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar Items are those items which are voted on by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors in a single roll call vote. Committees recommend approval of all items. Any Winnebago County Board of Supervisor may request an Item be removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion. Questions relating to items on the Consent Calendar do not require the item be removed from the Consent Calendar.

1. **Approval of Proceedings for December 17, 2024, Adjourned Session of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors**
2. **Report 001 and Zoning Amendatory Ordinance 01/001/25 - Michael & Lisa Scott; Town of Oshkosh; Rezone from A-2 (General Agricultural District) to R-2 (Suburban Low Density Residential District) for tax parcel no. 018-0440.**
3. **Report 002 and Zoning Amendatory Ordinance 01/002/25 - Tom & Lisa Comiskey; Town of Wolf River; Rezone from R-8 (Manufactured/Mobile Home Community District) to R-1 (Rural Residential District) for tax parcel no. 032-0609-04.**
4. **Zoning Amendatory Ordinance: 01/T001/25 - Premier Real Estate Management LLC, Town of Clayton, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture) to R-4 (Multifamily Residential) for tax parcel no. 006-0329.**
5. **Zoning Amendatory Ordinance: 01/T002/25 - Town of Clayton, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture) to R-4 (Multifamily Residential) for tax parcel nos. 006-0328-02-01 and 006-0328- 02-02.**

6. RESOLUTION 081-012025: Authorization for the Development of a Hmong Veterans Memorial at Winnebago County Community Park

WHEREAS, Winnebago County Community Park has long hosted Hmong Heritage Weekend to honor the Veterans who fought in the Secret War and recognize their service to the country and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Secret War happened in Laos during the Vietnam War where thousands of Hmong soldiers fought secretly under CIA direction to help protect, recover airmen, and guard the American bases in Laos; and

WHEREAS, the first wave of Hmong civilians to come to the United States was in 1976. The first Hmong refugee that came to Wisconsin settled in Wausau in 1976. Today there are about 40,000 Hmong in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County has received an offer to install a memorial honoring Hmong Veterans in Community Park; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Committee has reviewed the request and recommends acceptance and the development of such a memorial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby authorizes the development of a Hmong Veterans Memorial at Winnebago County Community Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administration executes an agreement with the donor organization to ensure the long-term maintenance of the memorial.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parks & Recreation Committee review the final rendering of the memorial before installation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the county board thanks the organizers of the Hmong Heritage Weekend and Labor Day Festival for their generous donation of the memorial and installation costs.

Submitted by:

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

7. RESOLUTION 082-012025: Approval of Underground Natural Gas Easement between Winnebago County & Wisconsin Public Service Corporation at the location of tax parcel 914-1351-00-00

WHEREAS, pursuant to Rules of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors, the Aviation Committee "shall review policy issues relating to Wittman Regional Airport and other aviation matters of concern to Winnebago County."; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Rules of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors, the Facilities and Property Management Committee "shall review policy issues related to Winnebago County buildings, grounds, office equipment, furniture and fixtures in all county-owned or leased facilities."; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.52(6), the County Board of Supervisors approves development of county property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby approves the Electric Underground Easement Agreement between Winnebago County & Wisconsin Public Service Corporation at the location of tax parcel 91413510000.

Submitted by:

AVIATION COMMITTEE

FACILITIES & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Powers to adopt the consent calendar. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

M. Business Items, Resolutions, and Ordinances

There were no items addressed in this section.

N. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor O'Brien, to adjourn until the Board's next meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Submitted by:

Cassie J. Smith-Gregor

Winnebago County Deputy Clerk

State of Wisconsin) County of Winnebago) ss

I, Cassie J. Smith-Gregor do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors for their Business Meeting held January 21, 2025.

Cassie J. Smith-Gregor

Winnebago County Deputy Clerk

The video portion of this meeting is available on the County website:

<https://winnebagocowi.portal.civicclerk.com>