



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**AD-HOC TASK FORCE ON THE WRITTEN RULES OF THE 2024-2026 WINNEBAGO COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025**

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2025, in the Susan T. Ertmer Conference Room at 112 Otter Avenue.

Members Present: Chairman Conley Hanson, Supervisor Tom Swan, Supervisor Rachael Dowling, Supervisor Karen Powers, Supervisor Morris Cox, and Supervisor Ralph Harrison

Absent: Supervisor Billy Halbur

Also Present: County Board Chairman Tom Egan, Corporation Counsel Mary Anne Mueller, Paralegal Tori Kinderman, Paralegal Rhys Phillips, Supervisor Jim Wise, and County Clerk Julie Barthels

B. Public Comments

Supervisor Rachael Dowling commented that under Rule 8.3, she did not feel this meeting was properly noticed that it did not meet the required seven-day notice. Supervisor Dowling also commented that the Chairman had noted that he had received input from 35 County Board Supervisors and, after she submitted an open records request, found out that there were only six supervisors that had contacted him and two members of the public. She felt that their comments were never addressed.

Supervisor Cox spoke regarding Resolution 22.0. A change, rule 22.51, that he had submitted managed to get into resolution form. He would like to have it presented with the rest of the resolutions.

C. Adopt Agenda

Motion by Supervisor Swan, seconded by Supervisor Powers to adopt the agenda. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

D. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of March 13, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Swan, seconded by Supervisor Harrison to approve the minutes of March 13, 2025.

Supervisor Cox noted that because the task force placed a motion to postpone an item until March 27, 2025, and that meeting was canceled, he feels that line should be struck because the March 27th meeting never occurred. A motion was made to delete that line from the minutes. That motion died for lack of a second.

Vote to Approve the Minutes of March 13, 2025:

AYES: Supervisor Swan, Supervisor Powers, Supervisor Harrison and Supervisor Hanson;

NAYES: 1 - Dowling; ABSTAIN: 1 - Cox. (4-1-1)

E. Comments from the Chair

Comments from the Chair - The Task Force that has been assigned to discuss rule changes has been unconscionable. There was no respect for the decision of the chair regarding items placed or not placed on the agenda. The Chairman had discussions with supervisors, one-on-one and in-person or by e-mail regarding rule changes to avoid violating any open meeting laws or a negative or walking quorum. This task force was never created to change a lot of rules; it was only created to clean up anomalies and conflicts within the rules.

F. Business Items

1. Vote to advance resolutions to the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee.
Motion by Supervisor Powers, second by Supervisor Harrison to advance the proposed rule changes on to the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee (JPS).
Supervisor Harrison noted that a lot of discussion has been held regarding the rule changes. It is now up to JPS and the entire County Board.
Supervisor Dowling would like to remove pages 33, 34 and 35 - Sections 13, 14 & 15 because no changes were made to these sections. This motion dies for lack of a second. It was noted that whether there are changes or no changes, the resolutions will all be advanced to JPS.
Vote to forward to the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee: AYES: 5 - Supervisor Hanson, Supervisor Swan, Supervisor Dowling, Supervisor Powers and Supervisor Harrison; NAYES: 1 - Cox. CARRIED.
Chairman Hanson noted that amendments can be made at the JPS meeting and the County Board meeting.
Chairman Egan noted that this has been a hard job for this task force and there were many conflicts. He thanked the Task Force for the job they did.
County Clerk Barthels asked for all amendments to be submitted to the Clerk's office in writing.

G. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Swan to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.
The video portion of this meeting is available on the County website:
<https://winnebagocowi.portal.civicclerk.com>