



**COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 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: 32 – Dowling (via Teams), Laux, Ulbricht, Lutz, Holt, Reinke, Hancock-Cooke, Wise, Nussbaum, Stafford, Paterson, Gabert, Binder, Swan, Gilbertson, Halbur, Ponzer, Belville (via Teams), Macho, Hinz, Zellmer, Buck, Powers, Hanson, Cox, Bureau, Farrey, Harrison, Egan, O'Brien, Nelson and Miller; Excused: 2 – Schellenger and Frassetto; Absent: 2 – Mueller and Gustafson.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Invocation

The invocation was given by Supervisor Karen Powers.

E. Adopt Agenda

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

F. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

G. Reports from Committees, Commissions and Boards

Supervisor John Hinz reported that the Facilities and Property Management Committee had a special meeting earlier that day. Mr. Hinz mentioned that the committee decided to move forward and approved the Execution of Agreement to Terminate the 1970 Memorandum of Agreement between Winnebago County, Outagamie County and the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System. This will be presented to the County Board at the next County Board Business meeting taking place on June 17, 2025.

Supervisor Tim Paterson announced that the Veterans Day at the Winnebago County Fair will be Friday, August 1, 2025.

Supervisor Karen Powers informed the board that there will be a dedication of the Hmong monument at the County Park taking place on August 30, 2025. She will have more information in the coming months.

Supervisor Doug Nelson informed the board that there is a Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) Conference being held on Friday, May 9, 2025, at the Convention Center in Oshkosh. All 72 counties will be there; 5 delegates from each county. Information will be provided by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding Rules and Regulations. Mr. Nelson stated he believes that wakeboats and the DNR permitting process will be talked about a lot. He mentioned that it is quite an honor to have a conference of that size come to Oshkosh.

Supervisor Ralph Harrison informed the board that the Board of Health would meet on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 7:30 am. Mr. Harrison thanked Chairman Egan for filling in for him at the last meeting. Supervisor Harrison noted that as a member of the Task Force on the County Board Rules, there was a lot of conversation and heavy discussion and asked the board to keep that in mind as they review them. Mr. Harrison commended Supervisor Hanson and felt he did a good job.

Supervisor Tim O'Brien informed the board that Winnebago County will be hosting the 2025 Northeast Region Commissioners and Committee Members Spring Meeting in Oshkosh. This event will take place on Thursday, May 15, 2025.

H. County Board Chair's Report

Chairman Egan reported that Supervisor's Dowling, Schellenger and Frassetto were excused from tonight's meeting.

Chairman Egan provided information to the board regarding the County Board Tour taking place on Monday, May 19, 2025. Mr. Egan mentioned they will be looking at some of the facilities projects and repairs that will be coming up.

I. Presentations

1. Butte des Mort Boat Launch Capital Improvement Presentation - Kyle Vergin, Parks Manager

Kyle Vergin, Parks Manager, gave a presentation on the Butte des Mort Boat Launch 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Project. This landing is located off of Leonard Point Road in the Town of Omro on the southwest shore of Lake Butte des Mort. Mr. Vergin explained what the existing layout of this landing consisted of and discussed the current limitations and proposed improvements. The new concept design was created with ideas and feedback from public input meetings, social media postings, and board member insight and suggestions. They are focusing on four main areas: increasing the parking, dredging, lighting and security, and adding a bathroom structure. Some other amenities that he mentioned included repaving the existing drive and adding shouldering areas for prep areas; and concrete walkways. There are three open-air shelter structures on site and these shelters are in need of repair. With this proposal, they would be eliminating all three shelters and then building one polygon structure; and incorporating biofilters for storm water management.

The proposed budget for this project is \$145,848 for the planning, design and permitting expenses and \$2,108,050 for the construction with a total cost of \$2,253,898. They will be requesting a grant from the DNR for 50% of the project, which is \$1,054,025. The county has already contributed \$145,848 for the planning, design and permitting expenses and then the board will vote on the approval of the remaining amount to be funded. Mr. Vergin explained the projected timeline of the project to the board. The county board adopted the Winnebago County Strategic Plan Alignment in March 2025. This project fits within the pillar, Quality of Life, to benefit the Lake Butte des Morts project.

Mr. Vergin then took questions from the board.

2. STAR Program Update - Sheriff John Matz and Solutions Recovery, Inc.

Amber Rozek, Corrections Lieutenant, briefly spoke about where they are at with the Sobriety Treatment Assisted Recovery (STAR) Program and what they're looking at for a funding gap.

Ms. Rozek provided a little bit of the history of the STAR program, a county collaboration coming together to have a program in the jail focused on recovery. Through collaboration with Solutions Recovery, they have been able to grow into having their own recovery pods in the jail to facilitate a residential treatment program. STAR is a multifaceted Recovery Program that combines peer support, Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and comprehensive wrap-around services, offering participants the best opportunity for success. Ms. Rozek touched on the program phases, growth of the program and funding, and recidivism data.

She mentioned that the total 2025 projected expenses will be \$855,870. This program is currently funded by grants and opioid settlement grants. Some grants are coming to an end by the end of 2025. Ms. Rozek explained the bottom line to continue the program. The shortfall for the STAR program is going to be \$276,712. They are currently working to apply for other grants through Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) Grants and a Vital Strategies Grant to help them with expenses but those are never guaranteed. She provided information regarding what would happen without the funding.

Ms. Rozek then took questions from the board.

J. Presentation on the Written Rules of the 2024-2026 Winnebago County Board of Supervisors

County Board Chairman Egan mentioned that there was a lot of time and hard work put in into this by the Task Force and Judiciary & Public Safety Committee (JPS). Mr. Egan thanked everyone that was involved and worked on this.

Supervisor Halbur said, "To hear this presentation, it would violate the board's established procedures, specifically Rule 7.1 and 7.5, which requires all written resolutions or ordinances by a board to be prepared and presented with a brief background statement, a rationale of why the board should consider action, a financial and resource impact statement of which these resolutions do not have. He respectfully requested to move on to the next topic."

Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel, mentioned that this is only going to be a presentation and there is no voting. Ms. Mueller stated that it is perfectly appropriate to go forward with this.

Supervisor Hanson referenced Rule 26.

Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel, stated that the resolutions that are in the packet are marked draft. They are not marked as resolutions that would be considered for a vote. Since there is a stamp that says draft on them, coupled with Rule 26, it is certainly appropriate to consider this as a presentation.

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Swan, to suspend Rules 7.1 and 7.5 for tonight's meeting.

Supervisor Halbur wanted it on record that it feels like they're superseding rules just to do what they want to do rather than actually following the rules when they're inconvenient for them.

Mary Anne Mueller clarified once again that there is no vote on this tonight. She made one more clarification: Rule 7.1 is suspendable, and Rule 7.5 under Suspension of Rules is not.

Supervisor Farrey modified his motion made; he withdrew Rule 7.5.

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Swan, to suspend Rule 7.1 for tonight's meeting. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. (Nayes: 1 - Halbur)

Supervisor Wise asked Supervisor Hanson to speak as he was the chairman of the Ad-Hoc Task Force on the County Board Rules.

Supervisor Hanson mentioned Section 26 was created in April 2024 during the organizational meeting and that created the Task Force to examine the current county board rules. During that meeting, it was specifically mentioned to omit committee structure in ordinances. That meant Section 23 and 24 were never going to be placed on the Task Force agenda. He thanked all the members of the Ad-Hoc Task Force, Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel, Tori Kinderman, Paralegal, and Rhys Phillips, Paralegal, for their attention to detail drafting these, Julie Barthels, County Clerk, and Cassie Smith-Gregor, Chief Deputy Clerk, for their patience, processing and posting the agendas. The Task Force was created to clean up conflicts and anomalies in the sections of the rules. None of the rules were meant to be completely changed, just cleaned up. A resolution was drafted for each section, put into the packets and only intended for examination. There will be no vote tonight, so no amendments or changes are part of anything this evening.

Supervisor Wise presented the draft resolutions that included recommendations from the Task Force and passed by the JPS Committee. He informed the board that Rules 13, 14 & 15 had no changes. They were included because there could be other rules that might impact these rules. The next County Board meeting is May 20, 2025, so if you have an amendment, please submit them to the County Clerk's Office.

Supervisor Wise stated the JPS Committee members feel confident that they have given the board the best package possible on this.

K. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Buck, seconded by Supervisor Hinz to adjourn until the May 20, 2025, Business Meeting of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors. The meeting was adjourned at

7:42 p.m.

Submitted by:
Cassie J. Smith-Gregor
Winnebago County Chief 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 April 15, 2025.

Cassie J. Smith-Gregor
Winnebago County Chief Deputy Clerk

The video portion of this meeting is available on the County website:
<https://winnebago.wi.portal.civicclerk.com>