



**COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 15, 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, Laux, Ulbricht, Holt, Reinke, Hancock-Cooke, Wise, Nussbaum, Paterson, Gabert (left at 8:04 pm), Binder, Swan, Gilbertson, Mueller, Ponzer, Belville (via Teams), Macho, Hinz, Zellmer, Buck, Powers, Hanson, Cox, Gustafson, Bureau, Farrey, Harrison, Frassetto, Egan, O'Brien, Nelson and Miller; Excused: 2 – Lutz and Stafford; Absent: 1 – Halbur; Vacant – 1.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Invocation

The invocation was given by Supervisor 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

Tina Haffeman and Sara Kosmicki both spoke in anticipation of the presentation on the High Frequency Low Severity (HFLS) Program being presented by Deputy District Attorney Christian Gossett. They pointed out a couple of things that they wanted everyone to know and encouraged the board to reach out to members of the Winnebagoland Housing Coalition and staff at agencies that are working with the unhoused community for a more complete picture of the issues facing the community.

G. Communications from the County Clerk

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

Ms. Barthels informed the board that the County Clerk's Office put a copy of the new set of the county board rules that were adopted by the County Board on their desks. She asked the board members if they find any errors, to please let the County Clerk's Office know so they can get them corrected and reprinted.

Julie Barthels, County Clerk, read a "Thank You" card to the board from Bryce Dorn, a 2025 Winnebago County Board of Supervisors Scholarship recipient.

H. Reports from Committees, Commissions and Boards

Supervisor Binder attended the NACo conference and updated the board on information he heard and learned at the conference that included updates on municipal bonds, Medicaid and the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) program. Mr. Binder stated it was not great news, but it is better to know what you're up against so they can plan for some of the cuts that will be coming.

Supervisor Powers informed the board that there will be a dedication of the Hmong monument at the County Park taking place on August 30, 2025, at 9:00 am. She mentioned that the Hmong dedication would be part of the opening ceremony.

I. County Executive's Report and Appointments

Gordon Hintz, County Executive, commented and provided updates on the following topics:

- 1. UW Fox*
- 2. State & Federal Budget Updates*
- 3. County Budget Process*
- 4. NACo Conference Report*
- 5. Update on County Outreach Efforts*

Executive Hintz then took questions from the board.

Gordon Hintz, County Executive, asked for the board's approval of the following appointments:

ARPA Strategy & Outcomes Commission:

Appointments of Sean Fitzgerald, Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Director; Brandon Hennes, City of Omro Administrator; and Don Merkes, former Mayor of the City of Menasha as Citizen Members.

Motion by Supervisor Binder, seconded by Supervisor Ulbricht, to accept. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. (Abstain: 1 – Cox)

Supervisor Dowling expressed disappointment with the previous three citizen members that chose to leave.

Board of Adjustment:

Reappointment of Greg Kargus as a Citizen Member to a 3-year term expiring on June 30, 2028.

Motion by Supervisor Powers, seconded by Supervisor Buck, to accept. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

J. County Board Chair's Report and Appointments

Chairman Egan reported that Supervisors Lutz and Stafford were excused from tonight's meeting.

Chairman Egan, asked for the board's approval of the following appointments:

Winnebago County Board of Supervisors, District 23:

Brenda Pluchinsky, 2430 Sandstone Court, Oshkosh

Brenda Pluchinsky will complete the unexpired term of Koby Schellenger who resigned from the board. Her term will begin immediately and end on April 21, 2026.

Motion by Supervisor Nussbaum, seconded by Supervisor Reinke, to approve. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Brenda Pluchinsky introduced herself and gave a brief introduction to the board. Ms. Pluchinsky then took questions from the board.

Chairman Egan administered the Oath of Office to Brenda Pluchinsky, and she was seated as Winnebago County Board Supervisor District 23.

Park View Health Center Committee:

Supervisor Brenda Pluchinsky, District 23

Motion by Supervisor Powers, seconded by Supervisor Reinke, to approve. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Chairman Egan acknowledged and thanked Rhys Philips, who will be leaving at the end of the month, for everything he has done, helping the Board members, Corporation Counsel, County Clerk's Office and the Executive's Office.

Rhys Philips thanked the board for the opportunity to work with them during the time he worked for Winnebago County.

K. Presentations

1. Presentation of the High Frequency Low Severity (HFLS) Program by Chairman Conley Hanson and Deputy District Attorney Christian Gossett.

Supervisor Hanson introduced Christian Gossett, Deputy District Attorney, to present the High Frequency Low Severity Program.

Christian Gossett, Deputy District Attorney, gave a presentation on the High Frequency Low Severity (HFLS) Program and the "Unhoused" Population.

Attorney Gossett informed the board that to qualify as a habitual offender in Wisconsin, you have to have 1 felony or 3 separate misdemeanor convictions within 5 years and be 17 years old or older.

Mr. Gossett presented three high frequency offender examples. A high-frequency offender would have the following criminal events: 9 referrals in 3 years; 12 referrals in 4 years; 15 referrals in 5 years; and 25 years old or older. They have two distinct problems to solve: Unhoused – Pro-Social, and Unhoused – Anti-Social.

Attorney Gossett provided percentages of recidivism and the financial impact that it has on Winnebago County. Mr. Gossett mentioned that their goal is to help those who need assistance and are willing to utilize that assistance to improve their situation.

Christian Gossett, Deputy District Attorney, and Dr. Richie from UW-Oshkosh, then took questions from the board.

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 June 17, 2025, Adjourned Session of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors

2. Resolution 157-072025: Discuss & Approve an Airport Operator's Agreement & Lease between Winnebago County and Basler Turbo Conversions, LLC dba Basler Flight Service

WHEREAS, Winnebago County has a land lease agreement with HangarVentures LLC for the PaccAir hangar located at 1257 W. 20th Ave, which began in 2004 when the hangar and all improvements on the property were constructed; and

WHEREAS, Basler Flight Service is in the process of acquiring the PaccAir hangar and desires to incorporate this additional land area into their main lease agreement with the County; and

WHEREAS, Basler Flight Service desires to incorporate this additional land area into their main lease agreement with the County. This revised lease brings all Winnebago County land leased by Basler Flight Service up to current rates and adds 10 years to the overall term of the lease; and

WHEREAS, this revised lease brings all Winnebago County land leased by Basler Flight Service up to current rates and adds 10 years to the overall term of the lease; and

WHEREAS, this agreement is set to run for an initial term of 16 years, beginning on July 1, 2025, followed by one option term of 10 years. The existing Basler lease is set to expire in 2041. Therefore, the new lease grants them an additional 10 years of term should they elect to exercise their option; and

WHEREAS, the total annual rent from the 2021 lease was \$105,628.84 for the base year, whereas the total annual rent in the new lease is now \$138,932.54. The rent will increase each 3-year period by the corresponding increase in CPI over that same period.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby approves the Airport Operator's Agreement and Lease between Winnebago County and Basler Turbo Conversions, LLC, d/b/a Basler Flight Service.

Submitted by:

AVIATION COMMITTEE

FACILITIES & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

3. Resolution 158-072025: \$350,000 Wisconsin Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Programs for COSSUP Wisconsin Deflection Initiative Grant

Submitted by:
PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Supervisor Wise requested that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

4. Resolution 159-072025: Authorize Application and Acceptance of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning Grant for \$280,000 to Hire a Consultant or East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to Create the Plan and use in-kind match to meet the \$70,000 match requirement

Submitted by:
PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supervisor Farrey requested that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

5. Resolution 160-072025: Commendation Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Solid Waste Management Board

Submitted by:
PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supervisor Nelson requested that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

6. Resolution 161-072025: Authorize a five-year Grant Contract between Winnebago County and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) for county awards for staff and support and landowner cost-sharing through an annual allocation.

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has authority to award soil and water resource management grants to counties for staff and support and landowner cost-sharing through an annual allocation as authorized under ch. 92, Wis. Stats., and ATCP ch. 50, Wis. Admin. Code; and
WHEREAS, the DATCP is authorized under ch. 92, Wis. Stats., and ATCP ch. 50, Wis. Admin. Code, to provide annual grant funds to all counties consistent with DATCP- approved Land and Water Resource

Management ("LWRM") plans; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County has established a Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) which operates conservation programs within the county, supporting such efforts with federal, state, and local resources; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County has a Land Conservation Committee (LCC) designated to carry out the functions in ch. 92, Wis. Stats., and ATCP 50.10, Wis. Admin. Code; and

WHEREAS, an addendum to the terms and conditions of this Contract shall be issued annually during the Performance Period with program terms and conditions, and new funding award amounts; and

WHEREAS, this Contract is mutually exclusive and is distinguished from all previous Contracts between the Winnebago County and the DATCP and contains the entire understanding between the parties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby authorizes Winnebago County to enter into a five- year Grant Contract with DATCP for county awards for staff and support and landowner cost-sharing through an annual allocation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Revenue and Expenses associated with this program continue to be included within the appropriate accounts in the Land and Water Conservation Department Annual Budget

Submitted by:
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

7. **Resolution 162-072025: Authorize Winnebago County Emergency Management to enter into an easement with the City of Oshkosh for an existing outdoor warning siren at 929 Winnebago Ave, Oshkosh.**

Submitted by:
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Supervisor Wise requested that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

8. **Resolution 163-072025: Request the County Executive to include \$120,000 in the 2026 County Budget from the National Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund to continue the Sheriff's Office Program Contracting with Solutions Recovery, Inc.**

Submitted by:
SUPERVISOR CONLEY HANSON, DISTRICT 26
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Supervisor Wise requested that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

9. **Resolution 164-072025: Resolution Confirming and Ratifying the Authority of Counsel for Winnebago County to Add Additional Defendants to Opioid Litigation, Including in MDL 2804**

Submitted by:
SUPERVISOR CONLEY HANSON
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Supervisor Farrey requested that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

10. **Resolution 165-072025: Resolution Delegating the Authority to Enter Into Settlement Agreements with Opioid Defendants to the Winnebago County Executive**

Submitted by:
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Supervisor Farrey requested that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

11. **Resolution 166-072025: Adoption of the proposed Public Participation Plan Resolution for the 2026 Comprehensive Future Land Use Plan**

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors adopted a countywide comprehensive plan on March 21, 2006 pursuant to the procedures and requirements set forth in Section 66.1001, Wis. Stats.; and
WHEREAS, Subsection 66.1001(2)(i) requires that an adopted comprehensive plan must be updated no less than once every 10 years; and
WHEREAS the 10-year update of the County's comprehensive plan must be approved on or before December 31st, 2026 so as to comply with the aforementioned update requirement; and
WHEREAS, the procedures under Section 66.1001(4), Wis. Stats. must be followed in the adoption of a comprehensive plan or subsequent amendments thereto; and
WHEREAS, a provision in Section 66.1001(4) Wis. Stats. requires the adoption of written procedures ("public participation plan") that are designed to foster public participation, including open discussion, communication programs, information services, and public meetings for which advance notice has been provided, in every stage of the preparation of a comprehensive plan; and
WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Planning & Zoning Committee has recommended the adoption of a public participation plan that specifically relates to the preparation, review, and adoption of the 10-year update of the County's comprehensive plan; and
WHEREAS, such a plan is entitled "Public Participation Plan for the 10-Year Update of the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Winnebago County, Wisconsin" and is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors, in accordance with Section 66.1001(4), Wis. Stats., that it hereby adopts the public participation plan entitled "Public Participation Plan for the 10-Year Update of the Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Winnebago County, Wisconsin" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Submitted by:
PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Frassetto, seconded by Supervisor Reinke to adopt the consent calendar excluding:

3. Resolution 158-072025: \$350,000 Wisconsin Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Programs for COSSUP Wisconsin Deflection Initiative Grant
4. Resolution 159-072025: Authorize Application and Acceptance of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning Grant for \$280,000 to Hire a Consultant or East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to Create the Plan and use in-kind match to meet the \$70,000 match requirement
5. Resolution 160-072025: Commendation Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Solid Waste Management Board
7. Resolution 162-072025: Authorize Winnebago County Emergency Management to enter into an easement with the City of Oshkosh for an existing outdoor warning siren at 929 Winnebago Ave, Oshkosh.
8. Resolution 163-072025: Request the County Executive to include \$120,000 in the 2026 County Budget from the National Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund to continue the Sheriff's Office Program Contracting with Solutions Recovery, Inc.
9. Resolution 164-072025: Resolution Confirming and Ratifying the Authority of Counsel for Winnebago County to Add Additional Defendants to Opioid Litigation, Including in MDL 2804
10. Resolution 165-072025: Resolution Delegating the Authority to Enter Into Settlement Agreements with Opioid Defendants to the Winnebago County Executive

VOTE ON CONSENT CALENDAR: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

3. Resolution 158-072025: \$350,000 Wisconsin Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Programs for COSSUP Wisconsin Deflection Initiative Grant

WHEREAS, Winnebago County has established a recovery and treatment program STAR within the Sheriff's Office, offering services to the inmate population, to include wrap-around resources post-release in the community; and

WHEREAS, a portion of this grant will allow for an expansion in post-release services by creating and funding a Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Coordinated After-Care Support Specialist Project Employee to enhance services provided to individuals recently released to include arrangement of follow-up appointments and treatment, and assistance with transportation, employment, housing and other case management services; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the After-Care Support Specialist and Deflection Program will close the gaps in services that have occurred and increase the rates of people maintaining sobriety post-incarceration; and

WHEREAS, a portion of this grant will also allow for continued high-level services with Solutions Recovery Inc. with the STAR Program during inmate incarceration and for release planning; and

WHEREAS, the continued funding of the STAR Program and expansion into a Deflection Program will directly impact individuals within the Winnebago County Jail struggling with addiction and will provide them with release planning and additional support post-release; and WHEREAS, the grant is designed for use over two years, and must be used before August 31, 2027.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby authorizes the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office to accept a grant of \$350,000 from the State of Wisconsin Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Programs for COSSUP Wisconsin Deflection Initiative to implement a Deflection Program in Winnebago County.

Submitted by:
PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Wise, seconded by Supervisor Powers to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

4. Resolution 159-072025: Authorize Application and Acceptance of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning Grant for \$280,000 to Hire a Consultant or East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to Create the Plan and use in-kind match to meet the \$70,000 match requirement

WHEREAS, Winnebago County is interested in reducing roadway fatalities in the county in alignment with Strategic Plan priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program, administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), was established under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support local and regional efforts to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. The program aims to advance the National Roadway Safety Strategy by funding the development and implementation of Comprehensive Safety Action Plans that promote safer transportation systems for all users, including pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, and transit riders (USDOT, 2024a); and

WHEREAS, the SS4A program provides a critical opportunity for counties like ours to proactively assess transportation safety needs and develop a strategic framework for future implementation grants. By applying for this planning grant, we seek to demonstrate leadership in roadway safety, promote equity across our transportation system, and position our communities to pursue implementation funding that will improve public infrastructure and save lives; and

WHEREAS, this grant opportunity is particularly well-suited for jurisdictions that do not currently have a Safety Action Plan in place. Through the Planning and Demonstration Grant category, applicants may seek funding to develop a complete Safety Action Plan from the ground up. Eligible uses of funds include the hiring of professional consultants or firms to conduct crash data analysis, assess equity and public safety gaps, engage community stakeholders, and prepare the written plan itself (USDOT, 2024b); and

WHEREAS; funds are available for the creation of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan to identify and prioritize safety issues for all roadway users through the U.S. Department of Transportation Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 20.939, in order to participate in this project, it is necessary that the County Board authorize applying for and accepting of the grant funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby authorizes the application and acceptance of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning Grant for \$280,000 to hire a consultant or East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to create the plan and use in-kind match to meet the \$70,000 match requirement.

Submitted by:

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Nussbaum to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. (Nayes: 1 – Farrey)

5. RESOLUTION 160-072025: Commendation Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Solid Waste Management Board

WHEREAS, on July 15, 1975 the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors established the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Board to operate the solid waste management system; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2025 the Winnebago County Solid Waste Management Board will be celebrating its 50 years of service to the county; and

WHEREAS, the SWMB has been essential for supporting regional, intergovernmental cooperative agreements to consolidate single stream recycling, landfill airspace, and municipal support for Solid Waste programs; and

WHEREAS, the Board has also developed policy, budget, and operational strategy for key solid waste projects across the county, including landfills, facilities, parks, and programs; and
WHEREAS, on their 50th anniversary, the Winnebago County Board wishes to celebrate the achievements of the Solid Waste Management Board since its inception, as well as celebrate the pivotal figures that have made the Solid Waste Management Board so valuable to the county community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors, that sincere appreciation and commendation is extended to the Solid Waste Management Board

members, current and past, for the tremendous job they do, have done, and will hopefully continue to do.

Submitted by:

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

Supervisor Nelson read a letter from Kathy Hutter, Solid Waste Department Director, regarding the landfill. Mr. Nelson asked everyone to come and celebrate at the Solid Waste Department on Thursday, July 24, 2025, and have some cake and ice cream.

7. Resolution 162-072025: Authorize Winnebago County Emergency Management to enter into an easement with the City of Oshkosh for an existing outdoor warning siren at 929 Winnebago Ave, Oshkosh.

WHEREAS, Winnebago County Emergency Management is seeking to enter into an easement with the City of Oshkosh for an existing outdoor warning siren at 929 Winnebago Avenue, Oshkosh, WI; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County owns the outdoor warning siren at the aforementioned address. The site has been purchased by the City of Oshkosh, and it plans to redevelop the site; and

WHEREAS, entering into easements was not a common practice when Winnebago County installed outdoor warning sirens. Accordingly, there is no easement on file; and

WHEREAS, an easement will ensure the siren remains in-place while the redevelopment process occurs and potential future ownership occurs; and WHEREAS, Winnebago County Emergency Management has entered into similar agreements in the past, including an agreement with the Oshkosh Area School District in 2021; and

WHEREAS, without an established easement, a future owner could require removal of the siren from the site, reducing coverage for Winnebago County; and

WHEREAS, removal or transfer of the siren would require the use of county funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby authorizes the Winnebago County Emergency Management department to enter into an easement with the City of Oshkosh for an existing outdoor warning siren at 929 Oshkosh Avenue, Oshkosh WI.

Submitted by:

JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY

Motion by Supervisor Wise, seconded by Supervisor Nussbaum to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

8. Resolution 163-072025: Request the County Executive to include \$120,000 in the 2026 County Budget from the National Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund to continue the Sheriff's Office Program Contracting with Solutions Recovery, Inc.

WHEREAS, Winnebago County has seen an increase in substance use disorders adversely affecting lives; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County's Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program has been a success; and

WHEREAS, the Sobriety Treatment Assisted Recovery (STAR) program was created to enhance the MAT program; and

WHEREAS, the comprehensive Sobriety Treatment Assisted Recovery (STAR) program has been a success and the program is gaining traction and recognition among other programs State and Nationwide; and

WHEREAS, as of May 31, 2025 the STAR program has assisted over 1,366 inmates with over 4,386 contacts and over 1,946 follow up contacts; and WHEREAS, as of May 31, 2025 the STAR program has administered over 134 Vivitrol, which counteracts the effects of Opioids; and

WHEREAS, as of May 31, 2025 there have been over 123 direct releases/transport; and

WHEREAS, the Opioid Settlement funds awarded to Winnebago County were the result of successful lawsuit settlements because of Opioid created addictions by Manufacturers and/or

Pharmaceutical Companies, Pharmacies; and
WHEREAS, allocation of Opioid Settlement Funds to the STAR program and its continuation is the most appropriate use to combat addictions; and WHEREAS, the program will also assist individuals receiving medical treatment to obtain continued care and more treatment options post incarceration; and
WHEREAS, the program will help participants on a successful path to recovery after their release into the community; and
WHEREAS, grant funding to continue this program is not guaranteed and projected to diminish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby requests the County Executive to include \$120,000 in the 2026 County Budget from the National Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund to continue the Sheriff's Office program contracting with Solutions Recovery, Inc.

Submitted by:

SUPERVISOR CONLEY HANSON, DISTRICT 26
JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Wise, seconded by Supervisor Hanson to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. (Abstain: 1 – Laux)

9. Resolution 164-072025: Resolution Confirming and Ratifying the Authority of Counsel for Winnebago County to Add Additional Defendants to Opioid Litigation, Including in MDL 2804

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors previously authorized Winnebago County to enter into an engagement agreement with von Briesen & Roper, s.c., Crueger Dickinson LLC and Simmons Hanly Conroy LLC (the "Law Firms") to pursue litigation against manufacturers, distributors, and retailers, among others, of opioid pharmaceuticals (the "Opioid Defendants") in an effort to hold the Opioid Defendants responsible for the opioid epidemic in the Winnebago County community; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of Winnebago County, the Law Firms filed a lawsuit against the Opioid Defendants; and

WHEREAS, the Law Firms filed similar lawsuits on behalf of 66 other Wisconsin counties and all Wisconsin cases were coordinated with thousands of other lawsuits filed against the same or substantially similar parties as the Opioid Defendants in the Northern District of Ohio, captioned In re: Opioid Litigation, MDL 2804 (the "Litigation"); and

WHEREAS, four (4) additional Wisconsin counties (Milwaukee, Dane, Waukesha, and Walworth) hired separate counsel and joined the Litigation; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Litigation, the Law Firms have coordinated with counsel from around the country (including counsel for Milwaukee, Dane, Waukesha, and Walworth Counties) to prepare Winnebago County's case for trial and engage in settlement discussions with the Opioid Defendants; and

WHEREAS, to date, through nationwide settlements, the Law Firms have achieved considerable success on behalf of Winnebago County in holding the Opioid Defendants responsible for their role in creating or maintaining the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, through the course of ongoing discovery and investigation concerning the opioid epidemic and parties potentially responsible therefor, it was determined that meritorious opioid-related claims exist against additional parties, including but not limited to the entities listed on Exhibit A hereto, and that they should be added as defendants in the Litigation; and
WHEREAS, the engagement agreement with the Law Firms provides "depending upon the results of initial investigations of the facts and circumstances surrounding the potential claim(s), there may be additional parties sought to be made responsible"; and

WHEREAS, while Winnebago County believes the engagement agreement with the Law Firms provided the Law Firms with adequate authority to add additional parties to be held responsible, Winnebago County understands that recently those parties questioned that authority, and therefore, for the avoidance of doubt, Winnebago County is adopting this Resolution confirming and ratifying the Law Firms' authority to add additional parties, including but not limited to the entities listed on Exhibit A, as defendants in the Litigation; and
WHEREAS, to avoid any confusion surrounding Winnebago County's authorization to the Law Firms to amend the pleadings in the Litigation to include additional parties, including but not limited to the entities listed on Exhibit A as named defendants in MDL 2804, this

Resolution is intended to serve as confirmation and ratification of such authorization; and WHEREAS, Winnebago County, by this Resolution, intends to confirm and ratify the authority of the Law Firms to amend the pleadings in the Litigation to add additional parties, including but not limited to the entities listed on Exhibit A as defendants in MDL 2804, or to commence appropriate federal or state court proceedings against such entities, and further intends to authorize Corporation Counsel to execute and deliver any and all other and further documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby confirms and ratifies the authority of:

1. The Law Firms to file appropriate pleadings in MDL 2804 or appropriate federal or state court proceedings to add additional parties, including but not limited to the entities listed on Exhibit A as defendants.

2. The Corporation Counsel, Board Chair or other authorized official to execute and deliver any and all other and further documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that all actions heretofore taken by the Board of Supervisors and other appropriate public officers and agents of Winnebago County with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved.

Submitted by:

SUPERVISOR CONLEY HANSON

JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Wise, seconded by Supervisor Nussbaum to adopt. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. (Nayes: 1 – Farrey)

10. Resolution 165-072025: Delegating the Authority to Enter Into Settlement Agreements with Opioid Defendants to the Winnebago County Executive

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors previously authorized Winnebago County to enter into an engagement agreement with von Briesen & Roper, s.c., Crueger Dickinson LLC and Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP (the “Law Firms”) to pursue litigation against certain manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of opioid pharmaceuticals (the “Opioid Defendants”) in an effort to hold the Opioid Defendants financially responsible for Winnebago County’s vast expenditure of money and resources to combat the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of Winnebago County, the Law Firms filed a lawsuit against the Opioid Defendants; and

WHEREAS, the Law Firms filed similar lawsuits on behalf of 66 other Wisconsin counties and all Wisconsin cases were coordinated with thousands of other lawsuits filed against the same or substantially similar parties as the Opioid Defendants in the Northern District of Ohio, captioned In re: Opioid Litigation, MDL 2804 (the “Litigation”); and

WHEREAS, four (4) additional Wisconsin counties (Milwaukee, Dane, Waukesha, and Walworth) hired separate counsel and joined the Litigation; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Litigation, the Law Firms have coordinated with counsel from around the country (including counsel for Milwaukee, Dane, Waukesha, and Walworth Counties) to prepare the County’s case for trial and engage in extensive settlement discussions with the Opioid Defendants; and

WHEREAS, 2021 Wisconsin Act 57 created Section 165.12 of the Wisconsin Statutes relating to the settlement of all or part of the Litigation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §165.12(2), the Legislature’s Joint Committee on Finance is required to approve settlement agreement between the County and Opioid Defendants; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §165.12(2), the proceeds from any settlement of all or part of the Litigation are distributed 70% to local governments in Wisconsin that are parties to the Litigation and 30% to the State; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. §165.12(7) bars claims from any Wisconsin local government against the Opioid Defendants filed after June 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, several of the Opioid Defendants previously agreed to settlement terms with the Plaintiffs’ Executive Committee (“PEC”), which is comprised of attorneys representative of all litigating local governments around the country, subject to individual

approval of the litigating local governments including Winnebago County; and WHEREAS, representatives of the Law Firms serve on the PEC and, therefore, are intimately familiar with the terms of the previous settlements and will be familiar with the terms of any settlement with any other Opioid Defendant recommended for approval by the PEC; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that several additional settlements will be proposed by various Opioid Defendants and recommended for approval by the PEC; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County's process for approving settlement with an Opioid Defendant is typically a process requiring weeks for committee review and approval as well as approval by the full Winnebago County Board; and

WHEREAS, given concerns surrounding timing for participation in future settlements combined with the number of anticipated settlements, it would be prudent to provide an opportunity for Winnebago County to create a process whereby the authority to enter into settlement agreements is delegated to a responsible County officer or officers provided that any such settlement agreement is recommended by the PEC and the Law Firms; and WHEREAS, the intent of this Resolution is to delegate to the specified County officer or officers the authority to enter into settlement agreements with any Opioid Defendant from the date of this Resolution forward provided (a) the settlement is recommended for approval by the PEC and the Law Firms; and (b) the Winnebago County share of proceeds from any such settlement is consistent with the shares established in Exhibit A to Addendum Two, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution and which is consistent with the allocations established in previous settlements with Opioid Defendants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby makes the following resolutions:

1. The Winnebago County Board hereby delegates authority to the Winnebago County Executive to enter into a settlement agreement, including without limitation the execution of any and all ancillary documents and agreements necessary to effectuate a settlement, with any Opioid Defendant provided (a) the PEC and the Law Firms shall have recommended the settlement; and (b) the Winnebago County share of proceeds from any such settlement is consistent with the shares established in Exhibit A to Addendum Two, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution and which is consistent with the allocations established in previous settlements with Opioid Defendants.

2. Prior to executing any settlement agreement, or any document related thereto, the Winnebago County Executive shall provide notice to the Winnebago County Board Chair and Corporation Counsel of the proposed settlement and the terms related thereto.

3. The Winnebago County Executive is authorized and directed to take any and all such other and further action necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED all proceeds from any settlement agreement not otherwise directed to the Attorney Fees Account shall be deposited in Winnebago County's Opioid Abatement Account. The Opioid Abatement Account shall be administered consistent with the terms of this Resolution, Wis. Stat. §165.12(4), and the applicable settlement agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Winnebago County hereby authorizes the establishment of an account separate and distinct from any account containing funds allocated or allocable to Winnebago County which shall be referred to by Winnebago County as the "Attorney Fees Account." An escrow agent shall deposit a sum equal to up to, but in no event exceeding, an amount equal to 20% of Winnebago County's proceeds from a settlement agreement into the Attorney Fees Account unless such other amount is established by the applicable settlement agreement. If the payments to Winnebago County are not enough to fully fund the Attorney Fees Account as provided herein because such payments are made over time, the Attorney Fees Account shall be funded by placing up to, but in no event exceeding, an amount equal to 20% of the proceeds from a settlement agreement attributable to Local Governments (as that term is defined in the MOU) into the Attorney Fees Account for each payment. Funds in the Attorney Fees Account shall be utilized to pay the fees, costs, and disbursements owed to the Law Firms pursuant to the engagement agreement between Winnebago County and the Law Firms provided, however, the Law Firms shall receive no more than that to which they are entitled under their fee contract when considering the amounts paid the Law Firms from any fee fund established in a settlement agreement and allocable to Winnebago County. The Law Firms may make application for payment from the Attorney Fees Account at any time and

Winnebago County shall cooperate with the Law Firms in executing any documents necessary for the escrow agent to make payments out of the Attorney Fees Account. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all actions heretofore taken by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors and other appropriate public officers and agents of Winnebago County with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that delegation of powers to the Winnebago County Executive shall be reauthorized annually by the Winnebago County Judiciary and Public Safety Committee and Winnebago County Board of Supervisors.

Submitted by:

JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Wise, seconded by Supervisor Powers to adopt.

Corporation Counsel explained what this resolution entailed.

Motion by Supervisor Gustafson, seconded by Supervisor Farrey, to refer this back to the Judiciary & Public Safety (JPS) Committee.

Motion by Supervisor Ponzer, seconded by Supervisor Gustafson, to call the question.

Vote on call the question: AYES: 25; NAYES: 6 – Holt, Hancock-Cooke, Wise, Nussbaum, Macho and Buck; ABSTAIN: 0; EXCUSED: 3 – Lutz, Stafford and Gabert; ABSENT: 1 – Halbur; TEAMS: 1 – Belville. MOTION PASSED.

Vote on referring this back to the Judiciary & Public Safety (JPS) Committee. AYES: 13 – Dowling, Paterson, Binder, Swan, Mueller, Hanson, Cox, Gustafson, Bureau, Farrey, Egan, O'Brien and Miller; NAYES: 18; ABSTAIN: 0; EXCUSED: 3 – Lutz, Stafford and Gabert; ABSENT: 1 – Halbur; TEAMS: 1 – Belville. MOTION FAILED.

Back to the original resolution.

Motion by Supervisor Powers, seconded by Supervisor Farrey, to make an amendment and have the Personnel & Finance Committee meet with the County Executive and that group plus, the County Executive be the one designated to accept any funds that come in.

Supervisor Powers withdrew her motion.

Motion by Supervisor Hinz, seconded by Supervisor Bureau to make an amendment. Add the following verbiage at the very end of the resolution, "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that delegation of powers to the Winnebago County Executive shall be reauthorized annually by the Winnebago County Judiciary and Public Safety Committee and Winnebago County Board of Supervisors."

Vote on amendment. AYES: 25; NAYES: 6 – Dowling, Ulbricht, Holt, Paterson, Gustafson and Harrison; ABSTAIN: 0; EXCUSED: 3 – Lutz, Stafford and Gabert; ABSENT: 1 – Halbur; TEAMS: 1 – Belville. MOTION PASSED.

Motion by Supervisor Holt, seconded by Supervisor Gilbertson, to call the question.

Vote on call the question. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Vote on resolution as amended. AYES: 27; NAYES: 4 – Dowling, Paterson, Swan and Gustafson; ABSTAIN: 0; EXCUSED: 3 – Lutz, Stafford and Gabert; ABSENT: 1 – Halbur; TEAMS: 1 – Belville. MOTION PASSED.

M. Business Items, Resolutions, and Ordinances

N. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Reinke, to adjourn until the August 19, 2025, Adjourned Session of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 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 July 15, 2025.

*Cassie J. Smith-Gregor
Winnebago County Chief Deputy Clerk*

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