



**COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 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: 34 – Dowling, Laux, Ulbricht, Lutz, Reinke, Hancock-Cooke, Wise, Nussbaum, Stafford, Paterson, Gabert, Binder, Swan, Gilbertson, Mueller, Halbur, Ponzer, Belville, Macho, Hinz, Zellmer, Pluchinsky, Buck, Powers, Hanson, Cox, Gustafson, Farrey, Harrison, Frassetto, Egan, O'Brien, Nelson and Miller; Excused: 2 – Holt and Bureau.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Invocation

The invocation was given by Supervisor Powers.

E. Adopt Agenda

Prior to adopting the agenda, County Board Chairman Egan informed everyone that Vice-Chairman Farrey, pulled Resolution No. 179-082025: "Authorizing the Submission of an Ordinance Establishing a Winnebago County Sales & Use Tax" from tonight's agenda to allow for public comments with the intent to bring it back at the September 16, 2025, County Board Business meeting.

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Hinz, to adopt the agenda as amended. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

F. Public Comments

Sue Panek and Julia Salomon, both spoke and explained what the Civility Project in Oshkosh is and what they practice in this community. This group explores and shares various principles of civility that this project lives by, which include listening, being inclusive, showing respect and giving constructive criticism. They had provided two handouts to each of the supervisors on their desks before the meeting.

The following people spoke in opposition of Resolution No. 179-082025: "Authorizing the Submission of an Ordinance Establishing a Winnebago County Sales & Use Tax":

- Jay Schroeder, Neenah*
- Brian Defferding, Neenah*
- Steve Krueger, Fox Crossing*
- Steve Goodman, Neenah*
- Dustin Woldt, Menasha*
- Paul Ellefson, Oshkosh*
- Al Fisher, Oshkosh*
- Cameron Crandall, Oshkosh*
- Cameron Clark, Neenah (Via TEAMS)*
- Senator Rachael Cabral-Guevara, representing several Winnebago County residents who have reached out to her voicing their concerns. (Via TEAMS)*

The following people spoke in support of Resolution No. 179-082025: "Authorizing the Submission of an Ordinance Establishing a Winnebago County Sales & Use Tax":

- John Zarbano, Oshkosh*
- Patricia Diener, Oshkosh*
- Don Merkes, Menasha*

Bill Pollnow, Neenah, and Paul Sundquist, Oshkosh, voiced their thoughts and concerns regarding Resolution No. 179-082025: "Authorizing the Submission of an Ordinance Establishing a Winnebago County Sales & Use Tax".

G. Communications from the County Clerk

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

The following claims have been referred to the Personnel & Finance Committee.

- Notice of Claim for Sarah Wallace*
- Notice of Claim for Brian Jovan Johnson*

The following Petitions for Zoning Amendments were referred to the Planning and Zoning Committee.

- Petition for Zoning Amendment 001: Sylvia Fournier, Town of Nekimi, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture District) to R-2 (Suburban Residential District) for tax parcel no. 012-0168(P).*
- Petition for Zoning Amendment 002: Jeffrey J. Coulthard Jr., Town of Neenah, Rezone from I-2 (Heavy Industrial District) to I-1 (Light Industrial District) for tax parcel no. 010-0073-05.*
- Petition for Zoning Amendment 003: Brian & Kristine Stedl, Town of Neenah, Rezone from B-2 (Community Business District) to R-1 (Rural Residential District) for tax parcel no. 010-0312(P).*

H. Reports from Committees, Commissions and Boards

Supervisor Binder informed the board that he attended a zoom meeting from the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA). There was a speaker that talked about the Foodwise nutrition education program ending in December 2025. Mr. Binder spoke with the UW Extension Director. They share two educators with three counties and are hopeful that they can work with the other counties to continue this program and support it in their upcoming budgets.

Supervisor Powers reminded the board one last time that there will be a dedication of the Hmong monument at the County Park taking place on August 30, 2025, at 9:00 am.

Supervisor Doug Nelson informed the board that he had attended the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) Spring Meeting. Mr. Nelson stated that they were assured that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is working diligently on trying to streamline their permitting process. They have formed a committee and are trying to put together the issues and problems and figure out how they can speed up the whole process.

Supervisor Hinz informed the public and board members that the Facilities & Property Management Committee would be having a meeting on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 3:00 pm. They are having an ongoing discussion about work that's being done by the county and are trying to come up with an ordinance to make sure that county services are done by the county, and they don't hire out unless they absolutely have to. Mr. Hinz encouraged people to attend and mentioned that this was only a discussion and that there would be no action taken. They are trying to find out how to go forward and would appreciate any input given.

I. County Executive's Report and Appointments

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

- 1. Medical Examiner Fees*
- 2. County Budget Update*
- 3. Fox Cities Campus Update*

Executive Hintz then took questions from the board.

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

Aging & Disability Resource Center Commission - Reappointment of Supervisor KristL Laux and Citizen Members Jim Lauer, Harold Singstock and Brooke Slick to terms expiring August 31, 2027. Appointment of Rob Paterson for the term beginning September 1, 2025, and expiring August 31, 2027.

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Reinke, to accept. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Neenah Public Library - Appointment of Supervisor Kate Hancock-Cooke to a term expiring April 30, 2027, and the appointment of Ben Frank as a Citizen Member to a term expiring April 30, 2028.

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

Winnebago County Housing Authority - Reappointment of Jessie Coates to a term expiring April 15, 2027.

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Reinke, to accept. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

J. County Board Chair's Report and Appointments

Chairman Egan reported that Supervisors Holt and Bureau were excused from tonight's meeting.

K. Presentations

1. Consent Calendar - Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel

Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel, provided an overview of consent agendas, explaining what a consent agenda is and how the consent agenda works.

Ms. Mueller then took questions from the board.

2. County Sales Tax - Gordon Hintz, County Executive

Gordon Hintz, County Executive, presented information on the County Option Sales Tax that included what the law says and the legal framework involving the County Sales Tax & Property Tax Relief. He discussed the Pros and Cons of having a County Option Sales Tax, how much revenue a county sales tax generates and how much it would cost residents. Executive Hintz explained the potential uses of a County Sales Tax Revenue, which include Property Tax Relief, Balancing the budget without Fund Balance, Debt Service, Capital Project/Master Plan Funding, Municipal Revenue Sharing and Local Project Funding.

County Executive Hintz then took questions from the board.

L. Honoring Retiring County Employees

1. Resolution 167-082025: Commendation for Sandra Schmidt

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

WHEREAS, Sandra Schmidt 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 Sandra Schmidt for the fine services she has rendered to Winnebago County. BE IT RESOLVED that the County Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to Sandra Schmidt.

Submitted by:

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Reinke, to adopt Resolution 167-082025: Commendation for Sandra Schmidt.

2. Resolution 168-082025: Commendation for Jodi Mrstik

WHEREAS, Jodi Mrstik has been employed with the Winnebago County Child Support Department, for the past twenty-six years, and during that time has been a most conscientious and devoted County employee; and

WHEREAS, Jodi Mrstik 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 Jodi Mrstik for the fine services she has rendered to Winnebago County.

BE IT RESOLVED that the County Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to Jodi Mrstik.

Submitted by:

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Hinz, to adopt Resolution 168-082025: Commendation for Jodi Mrstik.

Julie Barthels, Winnebago County Clerk, recognized Sandra Schmidt and Jodi Mrstik for their employment with Winnebago County.

Vote on Resolution 167-082025: Commendation for Sandra Schmidt and Resolution 168- 082025: Commendation for Jodi Mrstik. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

M. 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 July 15, 2025, Adjourned Session of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors**
- 2. Report 001 and Zoning Amendatory Ordinance 08/001/25: John Putzer, Town of Rushford, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture District) to R-1 (Rural Residential District) for tax parcel no. 022-0837.**
- 3. Zoning Amendatory Ordinance: 08/T001/25 - Lyle & Angela Zabel, Town of Winneconne, Rezone from R-1 (Rural Residential District) to C-1 (Commercial Business District) for tax parcel no. 030-0294-02-01.**
- 4. Zoning Amendatory Ordinance: 08/T002/25 - Brian Schreiber, Town of Vinland, Rezone from R-2 (Rural Residential District) to A-2 (General Agriculture District) for tax parcel no. 026-0661-13.**
- 5. Zoning Amendatory Ordinance: 08/T003/25 - Town of Clayton, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture District) to B-2 (Community Business District) for tax parcel no. 006-0340-03-01.**
- 6. Zoning Amendatory Ordinance: 08/T004/25 - John & Barbara Kulogo, Town of Clayton, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture District) to R-1 (Rural Residential District) for tax parcel nos. 006-0420-02, 006-0420-03 and 006-0420-04.**
- 7. Resolution 174-082025: Access Easement Agreement Between Team SNW, LLC and Winnebago County**

WHEREAS, Winnebago County is the owner of the property at 112 Otter Avenue, Oshkosh WI 54901; and
WHEREAS, Team SNW, LLC is the owner of a parcel of property located at 224 State Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901; and
WHEREAS, the property owned by Team SNW, LLC consists primarily of a gravel parking lot that can be used for access to the property at 112 Otter Avenue; and
WHEREAS, the county has requested an access easement over the property on 224 State Street so that the County may use the property for access to the property at 112 Otter Avenue; and
WHEREAS, the easement granted by the agreement shall be permanent and shall run with the land and grant a permanent irrevocable access easement over the property at 224 State Street.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby approves the Access Easement Agreement between Team SNW, LLC and Winnebago County.

Submitted by:

FACILITIES & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

8. Resolution 175-082025: Approval to establish new fees matching the services rendered by the Medical Examiner's Office

WHEREAS, under Wis. Stats. §59.36 the County Board may establish Medical Examiner fees for all services rendered; and

WHEREAS, per Wis. Stats. §59.365 the existing fees for cremation and disinterment permits may only be increased in parallel with changes in the Consumer Price Index; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic the coroner and medical examiner system operations underwent significant changes; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2025, the new morgue was operational in Winnebago County, increasing the transportation and storage services offered by the County; and

WHEREAS, with the establishment of the new fees, Winnebago County has the capability to be reimbursed for services performed by the Medical Examiner's office outside the scope of duties required under statute; and

WHEREAS, the Medical Examiner's office is seeking committee recommendation and County Board approval to establish new fees matching the services rendered by the department; and

WHEREAS, the fees attached to this resolution align with the cost to the county to perform those services and are compliant with Wisconsin State Statute.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby approves the establishment of fees related to the Medical Examiner's office herein attached to this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at every January Business Meeting of the County Board any fees attributed to the Medical Examiner's office will change in accordance with changes in the Consumer Price Index in compliance with Wisconsin State Statute.

Submitted by:

JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

9. Resolution 176-082025: 2025 Budget Amendment of +\$255,000 for Snell Road Landfill Leachate Lift Station Rehabilitation Project

WHEREAS, the county has the obligation to rehabilitate the Snell Road Leachate Lift Station to maintain regulatory compliance with Wisconsin State Statutes and the City of Oshkosh Industrial Waste Water Treatment Permit; and

WHEREAS, there have been no significant repairs or replacements to the Snell Road Leachate Lift Station since installation in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County Staff conducted system assessments in collaboration with Crane Engineering in September 2020, resulting in recommendations for repairs and part replacements; and

WHEREAS, the budget allocations in 2022, 2023, and 2024 were not sufficient to cover the costs of a follow-up Design Basis Memo in November 2023; and

WHEREAS, in the 2025-26 Annual Budget, \$245,000 was allotted to cover the estimated project cost; and

WHEREAS, the County followed all procurement procedures and state statutes in advertising the project to bidders in July 2025, of which the lowest bid received totaled

\$398,850.00 from a reliable contractor who has done business for the County in the past. Engineering costs are expected to be an additional \$75,000.000; and

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Solid Waste Department is requesting a budget amendment that would transfer +\$255,000 from the Solid Waste Fund to cover the costs of construction, engineering and contingency with a total project budget amount totaling \$500,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby approves the 2025 Budget Amendment of transferring \$255,000.00 from the Solid Waste Fund to fund the Snell Roadfill Leachate Lift Station Rehabilitation project.

Submitted by:
Solid Waste Management Board

10. Resolution 177-082025: Request Authority to Apply for and Accept a Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant

WHEREAS, Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department is interested in acquiring a Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant from DATCP for the purpose of providing funding to producer-led groups that focus on nonpoint source pollution abatement activities; and

WHEREAS, the project implementation, for which the grant is being applied, will provide support to groups to deliver cost-share programs, on-farm demonstration and research projects and education and outreach efforts on conservation systems; and

WHEREAS, the grant will support innovative practices that improve water quality to farmers and other community members within their local watersheds; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department is identified as the collaborator and the fiscal agent accepting the grant funds on behalf of the producer-led watershed group; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department shall comply with all state laws and regulations pertaining to implementation of this project and fulfillment of the grant document provisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby gives authority to the Land & Water Conservation Department to apply for and accept a Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant.

Submitted by:
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

11. Resolution 178-082025: Authorization to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Rushford for the Use and Maintenance of Eureka Park.

WHEREAS, in accordance with State Law, the Winnebago County board is charged with adopting policy decisions. Similarly, the County Executive is charged with executing the administration of those policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, the county board authorizes the county administration, including but not limited to, Corporation Counsel and the County Executive, to negotiate definitive agreements based on policy parameters established in this resolution; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, community members in the Town of Rushford and Eureka area decided to bring back Eureka Daze, a community event put on by the local community; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department has collaborated with event organizers previously to allocate space in the green space and boat landing to accommodate the parking needs of event organizers and attendees; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County and the Town of Rushford would like to formalize the use of the park space for community events on a regular basis; and

WHEREAS, a formal intergovernmental agreement provides the responsibilities of the aforementioned parties, ensuring that Eureka Daze can occur each year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby authorizes the Winnebago County administration to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Town of Rushford for the use and maintenance of Eureka Park.

Submitted by:
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Buck to adopt the consent calendar.
VOTE ON CONSENT CALENDAR: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

N. Business Items, Resolutions, and Ordinances

1. RESOLUTION 179-082025: Authorizing the Submission of an Ordinance Establishing a Winnebago County Sales & Use Tax

Vice-Chairman Farrey requested that this item be pulled prior to the adoption of the agenda with the intent to have it on the September 16, 2025, Business meeting.

O. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Hinz, seconded by Supervisor Stafford, to adjourn until the September 2, 2025, Special Orders Session of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 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 August 19, 2025.

Cassie J. Smith-Gregor

Winnebago County Chief Deputy Clerk

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

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