



**COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 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: 35 – Dowling, Laux, Ulbricht, Holt, Reinke, Hancock-Cooke, Wise, Nussbaum, Stafford, Paterson, Gabert, Binder, Swan, Gilbertson, Mueller, Halbur (arrived at 6:04 pm), Ponzer, Belville, Macho, Hinz, Zellmer, Pluchinsky, Buck, Powers, Hanson, Cox, Gustafson, Bureau, Farrey, Harrison, Frassetto, Egan, O'Brien, Nelson (via Teams) and Miller; Excused: 1 – Lutz.

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 agenda item no. L. 7. Ordinance 183-092025: Amend Winnebago County General Code Chapter 7.02 "Speed Limit Regulations" to include proposed modifications is being pulled off the consent calendar.

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

F. Public Comments

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, Fox Crossing*
- *Jordan Hansen, Oshkosh*
- *Steve Goodman, Neenah*
- *Cameron Crandall, Oshkosh*
- *Joan Paterson, Oshkosh*
- *Bill Pollnow, Neenah*
- *Chris Olthoff, Oshkosh*
- *Cameron Clark, Neenah (via TEAMS)*
- *Jennifer Koser, Winneconne (via TEAMS)*
- *Diane Koser, Winneconne (via TEAMS)*

Bob Schmeichel, Neenah, voiced his thoughts and support 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 Petitions for Zoning Amendments were referred to the Planning and Zoning Committee.

- *Petition for Zoning Amendment 001: Danny L. Buser, Town of Winchester, Rezone from R-1 (Rural Residential District) to A-2 (General Agriculture District) for tax parcel no. 028-0449-07.*
- *Petition for Zoning Amendment 002: Thomas W. & Deborah A. Rosenfeldt Living Trust,*

Town of Neenah, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture District) to R-1 (Rural Residential District) for tax parcel no. 010-0310-01-02(P).

- *Petition for Zoning Amendment 003: Town of Clayton, Town of Clayton, Rezone from A-2 (General Agriculture District) to R-4 (Multifamily Residential District) for tax parcel no. 006- 0328-02-02.*

H. Reports from Committees, Commissions and Boards

Supervisor Hinz informed the public and board members that the Facilities & Property Management Committee would be having a meeting on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at 3:30 pm. Mr. Hinz informed everyone that the Master Plan Implementation would be discussed and assured everyone they are looking at many different ideas to find the smartest way to move forward. They will also be discussing the future addition to General Code Chapter 8 Public Works, where work is done by County Departments versus contracting out. Mr. Hinz encouraged anyone that may be interested to please attend the meeting or if unable, watch the recording.

Supervisor Holt expressed her appreciation for the Budget Workshops. This was an improvement from last year and wanted to say "Thank You" to the individuals and/or group who organized, ran and presented at these two meetings.

I. County Executive's Report and Appointments

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

- 1. Fox Cities Campus*
- 2. Employee Appreciation Events*
- 3. Budget*
- 4. COSSUP Grant*
- 5. Resolution 179-082025: Authorizing the Submission of an Ordinance Establishing a Winnebago County Sales & Use Tax*

Executive Hintz then took questions from the board.

J. County Board Chair's Report and Appointments

Chairman Egan reported that Supervisor Lutz and Supervisor Nelson were excused from tonight's meeting and welcomed back Supervisor Bureau.

Chairman Egan reminded the Supervisors to bring their FY 2026 Proposed Budget Detail and FY 2026 Proposed Budget Presentation books that were distributed to them for their committee meetings. This information can be useful for when they hear the departments do their budget presentations.

K. Honoring Retiring County Employees

1. RESOLUTION 184-092025: Commendation for Terri Schroeder

WHEREAS, Terri Schroeder has been employed with the Winnebago County Human Services Department, for the past twenty-seven years, and during that time has been a most conscientious and devoted County employee; and WHEREAS, Terri Schroeder 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 Terri Schroeder 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 Terri Schroeder.

Submitted by:

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Holt, to adopt.

Julie Barthels, Winnebago County Clerk, recognized Terri Schroeder for her employment with Winnebago County.

Vote on Resolution: 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 August 19, 2025, Adjourned Session of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors

2. Report 001 and Zoning Amendatory Ordinance 09/001/25: 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).

3. Report 002 and Zoning Amendatory Ordinance 09/002/25: 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.

4. Report 003 and Zoning Amendatory Ordinance 09/003/25: Brian & Kristine Stedl, Town of Neenah, Rezone from B-2 (Community Business District) to B-2 (Community Business District) and R-1 (Rural Residential District) for tax parcel no. 010-0312 (P).

5. RESOLUTION 180-092025: Notice of Claim for Brian Jovan Johnson

WHEREAS, your Personnel and Finance Committee has had the claim of Brian Jovan Johnson referred to it for review; and

WHEREAS, your Committee has investigated the claim and recommends it be disallowed by Winnebago County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that the claim of Brian Jovan Johnson, filed with the County Clerk on August 7, 2025, is hereby disallowed since there is no basis for liability on the part of Winnebago County.

Submitted by:

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

6. RESOLUTION 181-092025: Notice of Claim for Sarah Wallace

WHEREAS, your Personnel and Finance Committee has had the claim of Sarah Wallace referred to it for review; and

WHEREAS, your Committee has investigated the claim and recommends it be disallowed by Winnebago County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that the claim of Sarah Wallace, filed with the County Clerk on July 18, 2025, is hereby disallowed since there is no basis for liability on the part of Winnebago County.

Submitted by:

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

7. ORDINANCE 182-092025: Amend Chapter 19.32 to Further Define the Sunnyview Exposition Center's Purpose

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Parks Department is currently working with a private developer to replace the Sunnyview Exposition Center sign along State Highway 76; and

WHEREAS, through the off-premise permitting process, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has asked for clarification regarding the use of the Sunnyview Exposition Center; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has asked for confirmation of the purpose of the Sunnyview Exposition Center property within the Winnebago County Code in relationship to State Statute 84.30; and WHEREAS, the Parks Department is proposing additional language within Chapter 19.32 - Parks District to state the intended use of the Sunnyview Exposition Center property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby adopts the proposed modifications within Chapter

19.32 that are attached relating to Park District standards at the Sunnyview Exposition Center and directs the Winnebago County Corporation Counsel to incorporate the modifications into the Chapter 19 of the Winnebago County General Code.

Submitted by:

Parks Commission

8. ORDINANCE 183-092025: Amend Winnebago County General Code Chapter 7.02 "Speed Limit Regulations" to include proposed modifications

Submitted by:
HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

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

Motion by Supervisor Paterson, seconded by Supervisor Stafford to adopt the consent calendar excluding:

8. Ordinance 183-092025: Amend Winnebago County General Code Chapter 7.02 "Speed Limit Regulations" to include proposed modifications

VOTE ON CONSENT CALENDAR: CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

8. Ordinance 183-092025: Amend Winnebago County General Code Chapter 7.02 "Speed Limit Regulations" to include proposed modifications

WHEREAS, the Highway Committee has reviewed and recommends approval of the following amendments to the Winnebago County General Code Chapter 7.02: Speed Limit Regulations as attached; and

WHEREAS, the amendments define and reduce the speed limit in the City of Oshkosh on County Trunk Highway "E" (Witzel Ave.) to 30 miles per hour from its intersection with N. Westhaven Drive ~~easterly~~ **westerly** for a distance of 0.41 miles to the intersection with N. Oakwood Road; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

(5) COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAY "E"

(a) City of Oshkosh/Town of Algoma

1. 30 miles per hour from its intersection with N. Westhaven Drive (in the City of Oshkosh) ~~easterly~~ **westerly** for a distance of 0.41 miles to its intersection with N. Oakwood Road.

2. 35 miles per hour from N. Oakwood Road **westerly** for the distance of 0.40 miles to its intersection with Overland Trail.

3. 45 miles per hour from its intersection with Overland Trail **westerly** for a distance of 0.45 miles to the intersection with Horseshoe Road.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Winnebago that said amendments to the General Code of Winnebago County shall become effective on the date following the date of publication.

Submitted by:
HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Nussbaum, seconded by Supervisor Farrey to adopt.

Supervisor Pluchinsky noticed a mistake on the resolution.

Motion made by Supervisor Nussbaum, seconded by Supervisor Farrey to make an amendment. On lines 14 and 22, strike "easterly" and replace with "westerly".

Vote on amendment. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Vote on ordinance as amended. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

M. Business Items, Resolutions, and Ordinances

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

WHEREAS, of the 72 counties in Wisconsin, only Waukesha and Winnebago Counties do not have an established Sales & Use Tax; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute, counties in the state may establish a 0.5% County Sales & Use tax in addition to the current state sales tax of 5%; and

WHEREAS, Winnebago County currently has a growing structural deficit, with a deficit of \$5,223,941 for the 2024 County Budget and a deficit of \$8,587,512 for the current 2025 County Budget (P.60 2025-26 Winnebago County Annual Budget), an increase of \$3,363,565; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of the UW Fox Cities Campus also carries an additional annual cost of operations totaling \$1.6 million. Additionally, Winnebago County allocated \$2.5 million in wages and benefits for employees (P.64 2025-26 Winnebago County Annual Budget); and WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. 77.76(3) allows counties to participate in sharing the revenue of the 0.5% Sales and Use Tax with cities, villages, and towns within their boundaries; and WHEREAS, all municipalities in Winnebago County, both incorporated and unincorporated have concerns regarding their revenue being unable to keep up with the cost of services to residents; and

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors is of the opinion that it is just and fair to participate in revenue sharing with cities, villages, and towns within Winnebago County at a rate of 30% of annual revenue received from the County's Sales and Use Tax on a per-capita basis; and

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors is requesting the offices of Corporation Counsel, Administration and Finance to craft an ordinance allowing for the establishment of a County Sales & Use Tax for consideration at the November Personnel & Finance Committee meeting and November Winnebago County Board of Supervisors Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance shall include the following provisions:

1. 30% of the revenue received by the County from the Sales and Use Tax shall be allocated annually to the villages, towns, and cities of Winnebago County on a per-capita basis, based on the most recent census information. If a municipality chooses not to participate in revenue sharing with the county, Winnebago County shall retain the forfeited allocation.

2. The ordinance shall be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue in adherence with State Statute such that implementation may begin on April 1, 2026; and WHEREAS, a County Sales & Use Tax in Winnebago County would afford the County a greater degree of financial leverage and flexibility to enhance the quality and quantity of services offered to citizens including cities, villages, and towns; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance may be amended, in part, or in its entirety while on the floor of the County board of Supervisors by majority vote.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that the offices of Corporation Counsel, Administration, and Finance shall draft and submit an ordinance for consideration by the Board in November of 2025 for the authorization and establishment of a County Sales & Use Tax adhering to the provisions as decreed in this resolution.

Submitted by:

VICE-CHAIRMAN CHUCK FARREY, District 30

Motion by Vice Chairman Farrey to adopt.

This motion died for a lack of a second.

N. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Farrey, seconded by Supervisor Gustafson, to adjourn until the October 21, 2025, Adjourned Session of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 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 September 16, 2025.

Cassie J. Smith-Gregor

Winnebago County Chief Deputy Clerk

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

<https://winnebago.cowi.portal.civicclerk.com>