

**SPECIAL ORDERS SESSION  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

**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 ZOOM.

**A. ROLL CALL**

The following Supervisors were present: 32 – Dowling, Nichols, Borchart, Eisen, Horan, Defferding, Wise, Nussbaum, Stafford, Gabert, Binder, Swan, Robinson, Floam, Ponzer, Ernst, Hinz, Zellmer, Schellenger, Buck, Powers, Hanson, Cox, Gustafson (via ZOOM), Youngquist, Farrey, Harrison, Zastera, Egan, Beem, Nelson and Miller. Excused: 4 – Ellenberger, Albrecht, Gordon and Belville.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. INVOCATION**

Invocation by Supervisor Karen Powers

**D. ADOPT AGENDA**

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

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Lisa Sennholz, Executive Director for the Damascus Roads Project, came today to speak to the County Board to try and secure some Spirit Funds for their non-profit organization. Ms. Sennholz briefly discussed the population they serve, what their organization provides and a status update of where they are in the process of acquiring a larger office space so that they can continue to offer the services that they offer to the community.

**F. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS & BOARDS**

Supervisor Farrey stated that the County Executive has been having his budget meetings with the department heads and staff. The Chairman of those Committees whose departments fall under their committee of jurisdiction have been invited to attend in the past. This was not the case this year. Supervisor Farrey encouraged Chairman of those committees to invite those department heads to their next committee meeting to discuss their budgets so the committee members will be aware of what their budgets look like.

Supervisor Kay Horan informed the Board that there was a Neenah-Menasha Intertribal Powwow taking place on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at Shattuck Park in Neenah.

Supervisor Ponzer spoke regarding the drawers at their seats. He has spoken to Judge Basiliere and she was going to speak to the Sheriff's Department. Supervisor Ponzer doesn't know what will become of that. He asked the board if there is any committee that can help get the keys for the drawers. This would give the Supervisors more room at their desks.

Supervisor Binder stated that he toured the Christine Ann Center and it was very informational. He encouraged anyone who hasn't done so to make time to do that.

**G. COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

County Board Chairman Egan reported on the following topics:

- Supervisors Albrecht, Ellenberger, Gordon, and Belville are excused from tonight's meeting.
- Chairman Egan expressed his condolences to family and friends of Paul and Pam DeLap who were involved in a fatal accident. He requested everyone keep them and the person responsible for this accident in their hearts and prayers.
- Chairman Egan stated Executive Doemel was not here due to a health issue and had asked to be excused from tonight's meeting. Chairman Egan expressed condolences to the DeLap family on Executive Doemel's behalf.
- Chairman Egan provided an update on Supervisor Albrecht's health condition.

**H. PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Presentation of Final Report of All Submitted Project Submissions Requesting Spirit Funds – Beth Oswald, President, and CEO Oshkosh United Way**

Beth Oswald, an ARPA Commission member, presented a brief overview of the project assessment process that was used for requests for Winnebago County from the Spirit Funds. The goal of the assessment project was to

capture projects that met the following criteria requirements: Legacy, One-Time Funds, Geographic Assortment of Funds, and Enhancing Funding Opportunities. There was a total of 78 project requests received and Ms. Oswald informed the County Board of these requests. She identified the next steps for the ARPA Commission that included prioritizing categories, working with County Executive Identified Government Projects, determining funding limits by category and creating draft resolutions for funding requests. The commission is still on target for fall appropriation decisions.

Ms. Oswald then took questions from the board. A copy of this presentation is available in the County Clerk's Office.

**2. Presentation and Proposal of the Ad-Hoc Task Force on Per Diem Structure – Jim Wise, Chairman of the Task Force on Per Diems and Betsy Ellenberger, Vice-Chair of the Task Force on Per Diems**

Supervisor Wise presented the findings and recommendations that was gathered by the Ad Hoc Task Force on the Per Diem Structure. A final report on the findings and recommendations was provided to all the supervisors in the agenda packet.

The Task Force met on several different occasions and were able to gather information in a short period of time. Supervisor Wise discussed the objectives going to a monthly salary for the county board supervisors. There was quite a bit of work researching, summarizing and using comparisons to arise at a consensus for consideration. They used a collection of data from other sources such as counties and municipalities. The final report consisted of the objective of the Task Force; budgets of Winnebago County Supervisors; 2013-2023 annual and actual spending; table of compensation paid for Winnebago County Municipal Boards; research from several counties and municipalities; and compensation comparisons of counties that involved pay structures, base salaries, and per diems. Supervisor Wise introduced the compensation package of going to a monthly salary for the County Board Supervisors. He stated there is a commitment that comes with serving people and those board members who put in the work deserve to be compensated appropriately. Any changes in the Winnebago compensations would go into effect beginning with the next term, April 2024-April 2026.

Mr. Wise and Mary Anne Mueller, Corporation Counsel, then took questions from the board. A copy of this presentation is available in the County Clerk's Office.

**3. Presentation and Proposal of the Ad-Hoc Task Force on Structure Review – Jacob Floam, Chairman of the Task Force on Structure Review**

Supervisor Floam presented information that was gathered by the Ad Hoc Committee Structure Review Task Force. A report on the findings and recommendations were provided to all the supervisors in the agenda packet.

Supervisor Floam stated they spoke with other counties and asked for feedback from supervisors and department heads in the form of questionnaires and digested the information they received. The Task Force wanted to present a solution that flows logically. They came up with 9 standing committees and major boards. The recommendations would include: Public Works, Judiciary and Public Safety, Finance and Administration, Natural Resources, Health and Human Services, Land Conservation, Aviation, Planning and Zoning, Solid Waste Management Board and Legislative.

Supervisor Floam concluded that the Task Force feels the proposed committee and board structure adequately reflects a right-sized solution for Winnebago County.

Mr. Floam then took questions from the board. A copy of this presentation is available in the County Clerk's Office.

Motion by Supervisor Powers, seconded by Supervisor Hinz, to adjourn until the Board's next meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Cassie J. Smith-Gregor  
Winnebago County 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 Special Orders Session meeting held September 5, 2023.

Cassie J. Smith-Gregor  
Winnebago County Deputy Clerk