

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

County Board Chair, Al Sleeter, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. the County Board Room #3041, located at the Oconto County Courthouse, 301 Washington St., Oconto, WI by stating “This is an open meeting of the Oconto County Board of Supervisors. Notice of this meeting was given to the public at least 24 hours prior to the meeting by forwarding the complete agenda to the newspapers and to all news media who have requested the same, as well as by posting. Copies of the complete agenda were available for inspection at the office of the County Clerk.” County Clerk, Kim Pytleski, recorded the attendance, with 29 members present: Supervisors Barkhaus, Bartels, Behrend, Beyer, Bitters, Christianson, Cole, Dhuey, Heise, Holman, Kaczrowski, Kobylarczyk, Kroll, Lavarda, Matravers, Meier, Ondik, Parmentier, Pillsbury, Ragen, Scanlan, Schindel, Schneider, Schreiber, Sleeter, Willems, Winkler, Wittkopf, Wolf; 1 absent (Gooding); 1 vacancy (District 29).

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. **Invocation** was given by Supervisor Wittkopf.

4. Statement of Oconto County Mission and Vision

Richard Heath, County Administrator, recited the Oconto County Mission and Vision statement.

5. Presentation of Awards and Recognition

In honor of Veteran’s Day, Ron Christensen, County Veteran Service Officer, recognized the veterans that are employed by Oconto County including County Board of Supervisors Beyer, Bitters, Behrend, Christianson, Cole, Matravers, Pillsbury, Ragen, Wolf, and County Administrator Heath, and thanked them for their service. A round of applause followed.

6. Presentation of Communications and Petition

There was one communication presented:

- 2025 Bridge Aid Payments: Petition for Town of Oconto, Frog Pond Road, for a total cost of \$11,685.17 and payment \$5,842.58 in accordance with WI State Stat. §81.38.
- Supervisor Behrend recognized for comment regarding closed session processes.
- Supervisor Barkhaus yielded the floor to Lori Witthuhn, Town of Morgan Chair, for comment.

7. Consent Agenda

7.1. Removal of Items from Consent Agenda – None.

7.2. Approval of Consent Agenda

7.2.1. **A2025-11-01** Zoning Change – Town of Abrams (Oconto County Forest & Parks) – L&W Resources Com.

7.2.2. **A2025-11-02** Zoning Change – Town of Brazeau (Genz) -L&W Resources Com.

7.2.3. **A2025-11-03** Zoning Change – Town of Chase (Estate of Marjorie Busch) – L&W Resources Com.

7.2.4. **A2025-11-04** Zoning Change – Town of Morgan (Dombrowski) – L&W Resources Com.

7.2.5. **A2025-11-05** Zoning Change – Town of Stiles (Moynihan) – L&W Resources Com.

7.2.6. **R2025-11-01** Approval of Revised Bay Workforce Development Area Agreement – Administration Com.

7.2.7. **R2025-11-02** Approve County Board of Canvassers Compensation – Administration Com.

7.2.8. **R2025-11-03** Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Committed Municipalities for the Oconto County Recycling Program – L&W Resources Com.

7.2.9. **Re-Appointment** – Airport Commission (Le Tourneau) – Co. Admin.

7.2.10. **Re-Appointment** – Nicolet Federated Library (Denis) – Co Admin.

7.2.11. **Re-Appointment** – Northwood’s Community Development Block Grant Housing Consortium Committee (Detrick) – Co. Admin.

7.2.12. **Re-Appointment** – Veteran Service Commission (Hansen) – Co. Admin

Motion by Scanlan/Cole to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion to approve carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

8. Regular Agenda

8.1. Change in Sequence – None.

8.2. Removal of Items – None.

8.3. Approval of Regular Agenda

Motion by Winkler/Behrend to approve agenda. The motion was voted on and carried.

9. Approval of Previous Meeting Proceedings

Motion by Heise/Holman to approve the proceedings from the 10/30/2025 meeting. The motion was voted on and carried.

10. Committee and Departmental Reports

10.1. Report – Northeast Wisconsin Technical College – Dr. Kristen Raney

Dr. Kristen Raney, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College President, presented the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College report. Discussion followed.

10.2. Report – Health & Human Services

Scott Shackelford, Health & Human Services Director, presented the Health & Human Services report. Discussion followed.

10.3. Report – Highway Facilities Update

Richard Heath, County Administrator, presented the Highway Facilities Update report. Discussion followed.

10.4. Report – Human Resources

Shelly Schultz, Human Resource Director, presented the Human Resources report.

10.5. Report – TEDCOR (Tourism & Economic Development Corporation of the Oconto Region)

Jayme Sellen, TEDCOR Director, presented the Tourism & Economic Development Corporation of the Oconto Region report.

11. Presentation by Attolles Law regarding Fox Solar Project - County Goals and Restrictions

Rebecca Roeker, Attorney, Attolles Law, presented the county goals and restrictions regarding the Fox Solar Project. Discussion followed.

At 10:59 a.m. Supervisor Dhuey out of attendance for the remainder of the meeting.

At 11:27 a.m. Supervisor Meier out of attendance for the remainder of the meeting.

At 11:31 a.m. Supervisor Lavarda out of attendance for the remainder of the meeting.

Chair Sleeter called a for a recess at 11:31 a.m. Board reconvened at 11:41 a.m.

12. CLOSED SESSION: The Board will convene into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(e) to confer with counsel and discuss terms of a development agreement in which the County is a party.

Motion by Scanlan/Willems to go into closed session with at 11:49 a.m. with the following in attendance: 26 County Board members; Rebecca Roeker, Attorney, Attolles Law; Richard Heath, County Administrator; Beth Ellingson, Corporation Counsel; Kim Pytleski, County Clerk; Kathy Goldschmidt, Chief Deputy; Ken Dolata, County Conservationist; Jamie Broehm; County Planner; Pat Virtues, Planning & Zoning Director; Todd Marohl, Highway Superintendent. The motion was voted on and carried by an electronic vote 24 ayes, 2 nays (Barkhaus, Beyer), 4 Absent, 1 Vacancy.

Chair Sleeter instructed Supervisors Parmentier and Pillsbury to monitor the doors.

Pytleski left closed session at 11:50 a.m. and returned at 12:26 p.m.

At 12:22 p.m. Supervisor Matravers left closed session and out of attendance for the remainder of the meeting.

Goldschmidt left closed session at 12:26 p.m.

13. OPEN SESSION: The Board will return to open session, pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(2) to conduct further legal business, if any.

Motion by Heise/Schreiber to enter into open session at 12:53 p.m. The motion was voted on and carried.

Motion by Scanlan/Behrend to have the Board direct Attorney Rebecca Roeker and Attolles Law to pursue and negotiate a JDA in cooperation with county leadership and proceed as discussed in closed session. The motion was voted on and carried by an electronic vote 24 ayes, 1 nay (Barkhaus), 5 Absent, 1 Vacancy.

14. R2025-11-04 Adoption of Contract for UW-Extension Services – L&W Resources Com. & Administration Com.

Motion by Kaczrowski/Wolf to adopt R2025-11-04 Adoption of Contract for UW-Extension Services. Following an explanation by Richard Heath, County Administrator, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote. Administrator Heath thanked UWEX Area Director, Mandi Dornfeld, for her service to Oconto County.

15. R2025-11-05 Approval of Reclass the Assistant Forest Administrator Position – L&WR & Administration Com.

Motion by Beyer/Cole to adopt R2025-11-05 Approval of Reclass the Assistant Forest Administrator Position. Following an explanation by Chris Firgens, Forest, Park & Recreation Administrator, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

16. R2025-11-06 Approval of Reclass the Assistant Parks and Recreation Administrator Position – L&W Resources Com. & Administration Com

Motion by Winkler/Heise to adopt R2025-11-06 Approval of Reclass the Assistant Parks and Recreation Administrator Position. Following an explanation by Chris Firgens, Forest, Park & Recreation Administrator, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

17. R2025-11-07 Approve Bid for Boiler Replacement for Buildings A & C – Property and Technology Com.

Motion by Pillsbury/Kobylarczyk to adopt R2025-11-07 Approve Bid for Boiler Replacement for Buildings A & C. Following an explanation by Scott Krueger, Maintenance Engineer, and discussion, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

18. R2025-11-08 Approval of Court Security Lieutenant Position for Sheriff's Office – Public Safety & Admin. Com

Motion by Kroll/Schneider to adopt R2025-11-08 Approval of Court Security Lieutenant Position for Sheriff's Office. Following an explanation by Todd Skarban, Sheriff, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

19. Announcements/General Information (No Action to be taken)

- Thank you to Jamie Broehm and David Poffinbarger for compiling the upcoming year's calendar.
- The 2026 Discover Wisconsin Calendar was distributed to Supervisors.
- The OC Squad's Annual Bake Sale is being held today in the LEC until 1:00 p.m.
- Sheriff Skarban thanked the Board for support of public safety and stated the Bear Cat was outside for viewing.

- Administrator Heath thanked Vicki Gooding for her leadership on the Library Services Board and informed the board that an appointment to Gooding's seat will be made for 2026. Interested parties should contact Heath. Appointments will also need to be made to the BEAD Taskforce and Opioid Committee.
- Circulation of Nomination papers for the April 7, 2026 may begin December 1, 2025. Supervisors running for reelection are asked to complete the required paperwork by December 26, 2025. Chair Sleeter asked Supervisors not seeking another term to contact him before filing the Declaration of Non-Candidacy.
- Wishing everyone a safe hunt and Happy Thanksgiving!

20. Adjournment

Chair Sleeter declared the meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

The next meeting of the Oconto County Board of Supervisors will be on 12/18/2025.

Proceedings of County Board meeting may be viewed in its entirety at www.ocontocountywi.gov

Kim Pytleski, Oconto County Clerk

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