

OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

County Board Chair, Al Sleeter, called the meeting to order at 9:00 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 31 members present: Supervisors Barkhaus, Bartels, Behrend, Beyer, Bitters, Christianson, Cole, Dhuey, Gooding, Heise, Holman, Kaczrowski, Kobylarczyk, Kroll, Lavarda, Matravers, Meier, Ondik, Parmentier, Pillsbury, Ragen, Scanlan, Schindel, Schneider, Schreiber, Sleeter, Willems, Winkler, Wittkopf, Wolf, Van Zeeland.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Invocation was given by Supervisor Bitters.

4. Statement of Oconto County Mission and Vision

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

5. Presentation of Awards and Recognition – None.

6. Presentation of Communications and Petition

There was one communication.

- An email dated 08/16/2025 addressed to the Oconto County Board and Supervisors, from Lori Witthun, Town of Morgan Chairperson regarding Fox Solar; treated as information to the board and referred to the Land & Water Resource Committee.

7. Consent Agenda

7.1. Removal of Items from Consent Agenda

Supervisor Barkhaus requested Item 7.2.10, Revision to A2025-06-07 Zoning Change - Town of Stiles, be removed from the consent agenda and placed after Item 13.

7.2. Approval of Consent Agenda

- 7.2.1. **A2025-08-01** Zoning Change – Town of Bagley (Benser & Hendricks) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.2. **A2025-08-02** Zoning Change – Town of Brazeau (Dufleck) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.3. **A2025-08-03** Zoning Change – Town of Brazeau (Rakowski) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.4. **A2025-08-04** Zoning Change – Town of Breed (Rich) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.5. **A2025-08-05** Zoning Change – Town of Chase (Szczepanski) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.6. **A2025-08-06** Zoning Change – Town of Lena (Hodge) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.7. **A2025-08-07** Zoning Change – Town of Little Suamico (Foster Real Estate LLC) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.8. **A2025-08-08** Zoning Change – Town of Little Suamico (Kirby) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.9. **A2025-08-09** Zoning Change – Town of Riverview (Thelen Land LLC) – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.10. ~~**Revision to A2025-06-07 Zoning Change – Town of Stiles (Oconto County) – L&W Resources Com.**~~
- 7.2.11. **O2025-08-01** Text Amendments to Chapter 26 Shoreland Protection Ordinance of the Oconto County Code of Ordinance – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.12. **R2025-08-01** Delegating the Authority to Enter into Settlement Agreements with Opioid Defendants to the Designated Oconto County Officer or Officers – Administration Com.
- 7.2.13. **R2025-08-03** Approval of the Oconto County Land and Water Resources Management Plan – L&W Resources Com.
- 7.2.14. **R2025-08-04** Approval of Access Control Doors at Tower Sites – Property and Technology Com. & Public Safety Com.

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

8. Regular Agenda

8.1. Change in Sequence

Motion by Schindel/Lavarda to move Item #15 R2025-08-07 Approval of 2026 Mar-Oco Landfill Administration and Operational Budgets to follow Item #9. The motion was voted on and carried.

8.2. Removal of Items – None.

8.3. Approval of Regular Agenda

Motion by Lavarda/Christianson to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was voted on and carried.

9. Approval of Previous Meeting Proceedings

Motion by Winkler/Cole to approve the proceedings from the 07/24/2025 meeting. The motion was voted on and carried.

15. R2025-08-07 Approval of 2026 Mar-Oco Landfill Administration and Operational Budgets – Mar-Oco Landfill Com.

Motion by Lavarda/Barkhaus to adopt R2025-08-07 Approval of 2026 Mar-Oco Landfill Administration and Operational Budgets. Following an explanation by Paul Kloes, MAROCO Landfill Administrator, and discussion, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

10. Committee and Departmental Reports (No Action to be taken)

10.1. Report – Highway Facilities Update

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

10.2. Report – Health & Human Services

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

10.3. Report – Human Resources

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

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

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

10.5 Report – McGrath Wage Study Results Presentation

Malayna Halvorson Maes, Senior Consultant with the McGrath Human Resources Group, presented the Compensation and Classification Study. Discussion followed.

11. Closed Session 1: The Board will convene in to closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(c) to consider performance evaluation data of a public employee over which the Board exercises responsibility.

The board did not enter closed session.

12. Open Session 1: The Board will return to open session, pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(2) to conduct further legal business, if any

The board did not enter closed session.

13. R2025-08-05 Adoption of the 2025 McGrath Classification and Compensation Study and Approve the 2026 General Employees Wage Schedule – Administration Com.

Motion by Matravers/Van Zeeland to adopt R2025-08-05 Adoption of the 2025 McGrath Classification and Compensation Study and Approve the 2026 General Employees Wage Schedule. Following an explanation by Shelly Schultz, Human Resource Director, and Richard Heath, County Administrator, the motion to adopt carried by an electronic vote of 28 ayes, 3 nays (Gooding, Lavarda, Schneider).

7.2.10. Revision to A2025-06-07 Zoning Change – Town of Stiles (Oconto County) – LWR Resources Com.

Motion by Lavarda/Dhuey to adopt Revision to A2025-06-07 Zoning Change – Town of Stiles (Oconto County). Following an explanation by Pat Virtues, Zoning Administrator, and discussion, motion by Barkhaus/Gooding to send back to committee for reconsideration of the Amendatory Ordinance. Following discussion, the motion to send back to committee failed by an electronic vote 13 ayes (Ragen, Gooding, Kroll, Behrend, Barkhaus, Cole, Lavarda, Schindel, Wolf, Ondik, Winkler, Sleeter, Christianson), 18 nays. The motion to adopt Revision to A2025-06-07 carried by an electronic vote 29 ayes, 2 nays (Kroll, Winkler).

14. R2025-08-06 Approval of Acquisition of Forest Land – L&W Resources Com

Motion by Kobylarczyk/Schneider to adopt R2025-08-06 Approval of Acquisition of Forest Land. Following an explanation by Richard Heath, County Administrator, and Christopher Firgens, Forest, Park & Recreation Administrator, and discussion, the motion to adopt carried by an electronic vote of 30 ayes, 1 nay (Winkler).

Chair Sleeter called for a recess at 11:11 a.m.

Board reconvened at 11:21 a.m. with Supervisor Dhuey out of attendance for the remainder of the meeting.

16. Closed Session 2: The Board will convene in to closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(c) to consider performance evaluation data of a public employee over which the Board exercises responsibility.

Motion by Lavarda/Scanlan to go into closed session at 11:24 a.m. with the following in attendance: 30 county board members; Richard Heath, County Administrator; Beth Ellingson, Corporation Counsel; Shelly Schultz, Human Resources Director; Betty Bickel, Finance Director; Kim Pytleski, County Clerk; and Kathy Goldschmidt, Deputy County Clerk. The motion was voted on and carried by an electronic vote 29 ayes, 1 nay (Beyer), 1 absent (Dhuey). Chair Sleeter instructed Supervisors Pillsbury/Parmentier to monitor the doors.

Supervisor Lavarda out of attendance at 11:56 p.m. for the remainder of the meeting.

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

Motion by Winkler/Barkhaus to enter into open session at 12:01 p.m. The motion was voted on and carried.

Motion by Scanlan/Meier to appoint the Deputy County Treasurer to the position of County Treasurer to fill the unexpired term. Following discussion, the motion was voted on and carried by an electronic vote 21 ayes, 8 nays (Gooding, Kroll, Behrend, Barkhaus, Holman, Wolf, Winkler, Sleeter), 2 absent (Dhuey, Lavarda).

18. R2025-08-02 Filling by Appointment the Office of the Treasurer for the Residue of the Unexpired Term – Executive Com – No action was taken on R2025-08-02.

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

- Kim Pytleski, County Clerk, announced the County Board Supervisor Industry Tour on October 3, 2025, and requested a show of hands for attendance to arrange transportation.
- Oconto County Fair Opening Ceremony is tonight, Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in Gillett, WI.
- Pytleski announced she will not be at the September 18, 2025, board meeting.

- Supervisor Barkhaus and Behrend were recognized for comments.
- Sheriff Skarban announced the K9 golf outing will be held September 13, 2025, and asked the representatives from the Towns of Breed, Bagley, Mountain, Riverview and Townsend to see him following adjournment.

20. Adjournment

Chair Sleeter declared the meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

The next meeting of the Oconto County Board of Supervisors will be on 09/18/2025.

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

Kim Pytleski, Oconto County Clerk

kp/Date Posted: August 29, 2025