

(Draft Proceedings, not approved by Board)
PUBLIC HEARING PROCEEDINGS – OCTOBER 30, 2025
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 29 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, Winkler, Wittkopf, Wolf; 1 absent: Willems; 1 vacancy: Supervisory District 29.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Invocation was given by Supervisor Schreiber.

4. Statement of County Mission and Vision

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

5. Presentation of Communications and Petitions

6. There were two communications:

- Letter dated 10/16/2025 from the Office of Governor Tony Evers to Al Stranz congratulating him on his appointment to the Bay Lake Regional Planning Commission; treated as information to the board.
- Letter dated 10/29/2025 from David Van Zeeland, County Board Supervisor District 29, resigning his position; treated as information to the board.

7. Public Hearing – 2026 Budget

Chair Sleeter called the Public Hearing for the 2026 Budget to order at 9:07 a.m. Richard Heath, County Administrator, and Betty Bickel, Finance Director, presented the 2026 Budget. Following the presentation, and discussion by the board, Chair Sleeter asked if any member of the public wished to speak. No requests to speak were heard.

8. Adjournment of Public Hearing

Chair Sleeter declared the budget meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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PROCEEDINGS – OCTOBER 30, 2025
OCONTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

County Board Chair, Al Sleeter, called the meeting to order at 10:03 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, Gooding, Heise, Holman, Kaczrowski, Kobylarczyk, Kroll, Lavarda, Matravers, Meier, Ondik, Parmentier, Pillsbury, Ragen, Scanlan, Schindel, Schneider, Schreiber, Sleeter, Winkler, Wittkopf, Wolf; 1 absent: Willems; 1 vacancy: Supervisory District 29.

2. Presentation of Awards and Recognition – None.

3. Presentation of Communications and Petition – None.

4. Consent Agenda

4.1. Removal of Items from Consent Agenda

Supervisor Barkhaus requests Item #4.2.16 be removed from the consent agenda and placed before item #11.

Supervisor Ondik requests Item #4.2.14 be removed from the consent agenda and placed before item #11.

4.2. Approval of Consent Agenda

- 4.2.1. **A2025-10-01** Zoning Change – Town of Abrams (Jahnke) – L&W Resources Com.
- 4.2.2. **A2025-10-02** Zoning Change – Town of Brazeau (Bernie Cudnohosky Trust Agreement) – L&WR Com.
- 4.2.3. **A2025-10-03** Zoning Change – Town of Doty (Raether) – L&W Resources Com.
- 4.2.4. **A2025-10-04** Zoning Change – Town of How (Tuschi) – L&W Resources Com.
- 4.2.5. **A2025-10-05** Zoning Change – Town of Lakewood (Bessert) – L&W Resources Com.
- 4.2.6. **A2025-10-06** Zoning Change – Town of Little Suamico (Lade Beach LLC) – L&W Resources Com.
- 4.2.7. **A2025-10-07** Zoning Change – Town of Maple Valley (Jones) – L&W Resources Com.
- 4.2.8. **A2025-10-08** Zoning Change – Town of Oconto (Ross & Tamara Harms Revocable Trust – L&WR Com.
- 4.2.9. **A2025-10-09** Zoning Change – Town of Oconto Falls (Maloney) – L&W Resources Com.

4.2.10. **A2025-10-10** Zoning Change – Towns of Chase (Vanlannen & Stineman); Chase (Lambert); Little River (Grauvogl); Little River (Bourassa); Stiles (Wood) – L&W Resources Com.

4.2.11. **O2025-10-01** Chapter 17 – Traffic Code – Highway Com.

4.2.12. **O2025-10-02** Chapter 2 – Code of Ordinance County Board Rules – Executive Com.

4.2.13. **R2025-10-01** Approval of 2026 Part Time Non-Union Wage Schedule – Administration Com.

4.2.14. ~~R2025-10-02 Resolution Establishing a Line of Succession in the Absence of the Oconto County Health Officer – Health and Human Services Board~~

4.2.15. **R2025-10-03** Approval of Septic Encroachment Easement Agreement – Highway Com.

4.2.16. ~~R2025-10-04 Forestry Revitalization Act – L&W Resources Com~~

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

5. Regular Agenda

5.1. Change in Sequence

Motion by Wolf/Meier to move Item #14 to follow Item #10. The motion was voted on and carried.

5.2. Removal of Items – None.

5.3. Approval of Regular Agenda

Motion by Kaczrowski/Behrend to approve agenda as amended. The motion was voted on and carried.

6. Approval of Previous Meeting Proceedings

Motion by Scanlan/Holman to approve the proceedings from the 09/18/2025 meeting. The motion was voted on and carried.

7. Committee and Departmental Reports

7.1. Report – Health & Human Services

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

7.2. Report – Human Resources

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

7.3. 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.

7.4. Report – Highway Facilities Update

Richard Heath, County Administrator, presented the Highway Facilities Update.

8. R2025-10-05 Approve County Board Compensation for the 2026-2028 Term – Executive Com.

Motion by Gooding/Bitters to adopt R2025-10-05 Approve County Board Compensation for the 2026-2028 Term.

Following an explanation by Richard Heath, County Administrator, the motion to adopt carried by an electronic vote 26 ayes, 3 nays (Lavarda, Schneider, Ondik), 1 absent, 1 vacancy.

9. R2025-10-06 Adopting the Oconto County Budget for the Fiscal Year January 1, 2026 thru December 31, 2026 and Establishing a Tax Levy for said Fiscal Year – Administration Com.

Motion by Winkler/Lavarda to adopt R2025-10-06 Adopting the Oconto County Budget for the Fiscal Year January 1, 2026 thru December 31, 2026 and Establishing a Tax Levy for said Fiscal Year. Following an explanation by Richard Heath, County Administrator, the motion to adopt carried by an electronic vote 27 ayes, 2 nays (Lavarda, Beyer), 1 absent, 1 vacancy.

10. R2025-10-07 Approval of 2026 Capital Improvement Plan – Administration Com.

Motion by Kroll/Matravers to adopt R2025-10-07 Approval of 2026 Capital Improvement Plan. Following an explanation by Richard Heath, County Administrator, and discussion, the motion to adopt carried by an electronic vote 27 ayes, 2 nays (Barkhaus, Beyer), 1 absent, 1 vacancy.

14. R2025-10-11 A Resolution to Enact an Ordinance Requiring Renewable Energy Companies to Obtain County Board Approval for Infrastructure Development and Maintenance – Supervisor Barkhaus

Motion by Lavarda/Behrend to adopt R2025-10-11 A Resolution to Enact an Ordinance Requiring Renewable Energy Companies to Obtain County Board Approval for Infrastructure Development and Maintenance. Discussion followed an explanation by Beth Ellingson, Corporation Counsel, and Supervisor Barkhaus.

Supervisor Lavarda out of attendance for the remainder of the meeting.

Motion by Barkhaus/Behrend to send back the topic of the resolution to Land & Water Resource Committee to be reworked into a legal document. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Dhuey out of attendance for the remainder of the meeting.

The motion to send back to committee carried by an electronic vote 15 ayes, 12 nays (Kobylarczyk, Kroll, Kaczrowski, Cole, Scanlan, Pillsbury, Wittkopf, Matravers, Bitters, Meier, Wolf, Winkler), 3 absent (Dhuey, Lavarda, Willems), 1 vacancy.

4.2.14 R2025-10-02 Resolution Establishing a Line of Succession in the Absence of the Oconto County Health Officer – Health and Human Services Board

Motion by Ondik/Bitters to adopt R2025-10-02 Resolution Establishing a Line of Succession in the Absence of the Oconto County Health Officer. Following an explanation by Scott Shackelford, Health & Human Services Director, and discussion, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

4.2.16 R2025-10-04 Forestry Revitalization Act – L&W Resources Com

Motion by Beyer/Scanlan to adopt R2025-10-04 Forestry Revitalization Act. Following an explanation by Chris Firgens, Forest, Park & Rec Administrator, and discussion, the motion to adopt carried by an electronic vote 25 ayes, 1 nay (Christensen), 3 absent, 1 abstain (Barkhaus), 1 vacancy.

11. R2025-10-08 Approve Attolles Law Firm Engagement Agreement – Administration Com.

Motion by Scanlan/Kaczrowski to adopt R2025-10-08 Approve Attolles Law Firm Engagement Agreement. Following an explanation by Richard Heath, County Administrator, and discussion, the motion to adopt carried by an electronic vote 26 ayes, 1 nay (Behrend), 3 absent, 1 vacancy.

12. R2025-10-09 Approval of Opioid Remediation Funded Initiatives – Administration Com.

Motion by Kroll/Ondik to adopt R2025-10-09 Approval of Opioid Remediation Funded Initiatives. Following an explanation by Richard Heath, County Administrator, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

13. R2025-10-10 Support of State Investment for Income Maintenance Administration – Health and Human Services Board**Supervisor Barkhaus out of attendance.**

Motion by Bitters/Schindel to adopt R2025-10-10 Support of State Investment for Income Maintenance Administration. Following an explanation by Lisa Witak, Economic Support Specialist Manager, and Scott Shackleford, HHS Director, the motion to adopt carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

Supervisor Barkhaus back in attendance.**14. Announcements/General Information (No Action to be taken)**

- Mark your calendars for the 2026 Industry Tour to be held October 1, 2026.
- OC Squad will hold a Bake Sale November 19, 2025.
- The 2026 Committee and Board meeting calendar is available.
- Wishing everyone a happy and safe Halloween and reminder to turn clocks back an hour this weekend.
- Candidate packets will be on Supervisor's desks for the November meeting. Circulation of Nomination papers can be circulated beginning December 1st. Supervisors not running for the 2026-2028 term can pick up a Notification of Noncandidacy to be filed no later than December 26, 2025.

15. Adjournment

Chair Sleeter declared the meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

The next meeting of the Oconto County Board of Supervisors will be on November 20, 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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