

MINUTES
Oneida County Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, July 15th, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.
County Board Meeting Room - 2nd Floor Oneida County Courthouse

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Holewinski called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the County Board Meeting Room of the Oneida County Courthouse. There was a brief moment of silence for our troops, law enforcement officers and emergency responders, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Prayer was offered by Supervisor Jensen.

Members Present: Kyle Timmons, Collette Sorgel, Lenore Lopez, Billy Fried, Ted Cushing, Chris Schultz, Robb Jensen, Diana Harris, Linnaea Newman, Bob Almekinder, Steven Schreier, Mitch Ives, Scott Holewinski, Robert Briggs, Russ Fisher, Debbie Condado, Greg Oettinger, Dan Hess, Connor Showalter and Michael Tautges.

Members Present: 20

Absent: Hanus

APPOINTMENT/CONFIRMATION/SWEARING IN OF DISTRICT # 16 SUPERVISOR KYLE TIMMONS:

Motion/Second: Cushing/Tautges to appoint Kyle Timmons to District # 16 in the Town of Woodruff to the Oneida County Board of Supervisors.

Vote on Motion: 18 Aye; 2 Absent, Hanus, Schultz; 1 Vacant, District # 16

Motion: Passes

County Clerk/Administrative Coordinator Tracy Hartman swore in newly appointed District Supervisor # 16 Kyle Timmons. Holewinski noted that Timmons would be appointed to the Land Records Committee.

Schultz entered at 9:36 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR, CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- Please use a microphone when speaking.

ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 17, 2025 MEETING:

Motion/Second: Schreier/ Cushing to accept the Minutes of the June 17, 2025 meeting. All "Aye"; Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT (time limit of three minutes):

- Sign attendance form at the podium. Maggie Cronin, a representative for Tom Tiffany spoke to encourage the board to support a bill to make the Apostle Islands a national park. Cronin explained that this would be in the form of a Resolution passed by the County Board. Bob Clark spoke regarding a zoning issue.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution # 37 – 2025: Offered by the Supervisors of the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Committee to accept a donation from Lynda Lukowski.

Resolution to accept donation from Lynda Lukowski.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute s 59.52(19) requires that the County Board approves all donations to the county; and

WHEREAS, Oneida County Resolution #37-2019 adopted the Oneida County Acceptance of Monetary, Non-Monetary and In-Kind Donation Policy; and

WHEREAS, The ADRC was notified on March 25th, 2025 that a donation totaling \$5,000 will be made to the ADRC of Oneida County by Lynda Lukowski in two distributions; and

WHEREAS, a distribution of \$2,500 will be made in June and December of 2025; and

WHEREAS, The donation requires the specific use of funds provided is for the ADRC Senior Nutrition Program; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that Oneida County accepts the generous donation from Lynda Lukowski; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors that the Oneida County ADRC Committee will approve use of any and all funds provided through this donation for use in the ADRC Senior Nutrition Program.

Offered and passage moved by: Russ Fisher, Ted Cushing, Melanie Fralick, Rita Mahner, Joan Hauer, Linnaea Newman, Sharon Dricken, James Unger

Resolution # 38 – 2025: Offered by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee to Reclassify the Clinical Coordinator Position to Exempt Status.

Resolution to reclassify Clinical Coordinator position to exempt status.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Resolution 53-2024 was approved by the County Board of Supervisors on May 21, 2024 that created position titles and employee placement on the Classification Plans due to the creation of the Oneida County Department of Human Services, and

WHEREAS, the County Board was aware that there could be changes to the staffing as the Human Services Director evaluated positions within the Human Services Department; and

WHEREAS, upon observation and further review, the Clinical Coordinator position in the Human Services Department does meet the standards for Exempt under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) in the Learned Professional Exemption Category under the following requirements: (1) the employees primary duty must be the performance of work requiring advanced knowledge defined as work which is predominantly intellectual in character 2) includes work requiring the consistent exercise of discretion and judgement in the field of science or learning (3) the knowledge is acquired by a prolonged course of specialized instruction; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Director and Human Resources Director do recommend that the Clinical Coordinator position should be considered exempt under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA); and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee does agree with the recommendation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors changes the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) status of the Clinical Coordinator position to exempt, effective the first day of the payroll period after approval; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, all funding for this change is in the 2025 Human Services Department budget.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Executive Committee this 9th day of July, 2025.

Offered and passage moved by: Billy Fried, Steven Schreier, Connor Showalter, Robb Jensen, Russ Fisher, Scott Holewinski

Motion/Second: Jensen/Hess to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: 19 Aye; 1 Absent, Hanus; 1 Abstain, Timmons

Motion: Adopted

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution # 39 – 2025: Offered by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee to Amend the 2025 Budget to Add Funding for Real Property Settlement Payments Related to the Human Services Board Transition.

Resolution to amend the 2025 Budget to add funding for real property settlement payments related to the Human Services Board transition.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Board adopted Resolution #106- 2024 to approve the 2025 Budget; and,

WHEREAS, Oneida County is the real property owner of record of The Human Service Center on Timber Drive (Timber Drive) and The Koinonia Facility on Winnebago Street (Winnebago Street); and,

WHEREAS, the Human Services Board (HSB) was established in 1984 and then dissolved effective December 31, 2024 by Oneida, Forest and Vilas counties; and,

WHEREAS, the HSB assets and liabilities will be settled by and between Oneida, Forest and Vilas counties based on historical tax levy support and other factors; and,

WHEREAS, the HSB occupied, acted as lessor and / or made capital investments to Timber Drive and Winnebago Street; and,

WHEREAS, Oneida, Forest and Vilas counties did not anticipate or enter into any agreement as to the ownership of capital improvements made to Timber Drive and Winnebago Street if the HSC was dissolved; and,

WHEREAS, the three County Board Chairs desire a fair and equitable settlement of the fiscal issue surrounding the value of capital improvements made to Timber Drive and Winnebago Street during the HSB's tenure; and,

WHEREAS, the 2025 Oneida County budget did not contemplate costs of settlement payments related to the HSB transition; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Statutes require a resolution adopted by the County Board under section 65.90 (5)(b) for the transfer of money for any purpose in excess of funds appropriated; and,

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Finance Director is hereby authorized to utilize General Fund unreserved fund balances to issue payment of \$330,000 and \$162,000 to Vilas and Forest counties respectively and for Oneida County to take sole

ownership retroactively to January 1, 2025 of land, land improvements, buildings, building improvements, building contents, furniture, and fixtures; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors approves an amendment to the 2025 Budget and further authorizes a transfer from the General Fund Unrestricted Reserves of \$492,000 as a supplemental appropriation.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Executive Committee this 9th day of July, 2025.

Offered and passage moved by: Billy Fried, Scott Holewinski, Russ Fisher, Diana Harris, Steven Schreier, Robb Jensen, Connor Showalter

Discussion: Smigielski reported that this is the proposed settlement to both Forest and Vilas Counties for the real estate regarding the Human Service Center transition. Fugle explained that there was an offer made to both Forest and Vilas, this is then clear that Oneida County owns the properties.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 39 – 2025: 20 Aye; 1 Absent, Hanus

Resolution # 39 – 2025: Adopted

Resolution # 40 – 2025: Offered by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee to Amend the 2025 Budget to Create the Winnebago Street Property Proprietary (Enterprise) Fund.

Resolution to amend the 2025 Budget to create the Winnebago Street Property proprietary (enterprise) fund.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Board adopted Resolution #106- 2024 to approve the 2025 Budget; and,

WHEREAS, relative to partial settlement of Human Services Board (HSB) assets and liabilities approved via Resolution # ___-2025 that establishes Oneida County as the sole owner of land, land improvements, building, building improvements, building contents, furniture and fixtures The Koinonia Facility on Winnebago Street (Winnebago Street); and,

WHEREAS, Winnebago Street is not used by Oneida County for general governmental purposes but rather is leased to a private party; and,

WHEREAS, the Governmental Standards Accounting Board (GASB) requires that proprietary (enterprise) funds be used to report accounting activities for self-supporting activities financed on a continuing basis primarily through user charges, and to separately report the full cost of running these segregated operations and / or activities; and,

WHEREAS, the 2025 Oneida County budget did not contemplate full transfer of ownership of Winnebago Street; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Statutes require a resolution adopted by the County Board under section 65.90 (5)(b) for the transfer of money for any purpose in excess of funds appropriated; and,

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Finance Director is hereby authorized to establish a separate Winnebago Street Fund and transfer accounting activity associated with the Winnebago Street property to the new fund retroactively to January 1, 2025; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors approves an amendment to the 2025 Budget and further authorizes the establishment of a new Fund via appropriation transfer.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Executive Committee this 9th day of July, 2025.

Offered and passage moved by: Billy Fried, Scott Holewinski, Russ Fisher, Diana Harris, Steven Schreier, Robb Jensen, Connor Showalter

Discussion: Fried explained that this Resolution goes with the previous Resolution. Smigielski reported that this creates a separate fund for the Winnebago property and sets it up as a business enterprise unit. Smigielski explained that this property is rented to a private third party, this would be a set up similar to Solid Waste or the Highway Department.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 40 – 2025: 20 Aye; 1 Absent, Hanus

Resolution # 40 – 2025: Adopted

Resolution # 41 – 2025: Offered by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee Delegating the Authority to Enter into Settlement Agreements with Opioid Defendants to the Designated Oneida County Officer or Officers.

Resolution Delegating the Authority to Enter into Settlement Agreements with Opioid Defendants to the Designated Oneida County Officer or Officers.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors previously authorized the County to enter into an engagement agreement with von Briesen & Roper, s.c., Crueger Dickinson LLC and Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP (the "Law Firms") to pursue litigation against certain manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of opioid pharmaceuticals (the "Opioid Defendants") in an

effort to hold the Opioid Defendants financially responsible for the County's vast expenditure of money and resources to combat the opioid epidemic;

WHEREAS, on behalf of the County, the Law Firms filed a lawsuit against the Opioid Defendants;

WHEREAS, the Law Firms filed similar lawsuits on behalf of 66 other Wisconsin counties and all Wisconsin cases were coordinated with thousands of other lawsuits filed against the same or substantially similar parties as the Opioid Defendants in the Northern District of Ohio, captioned *In re: Opioid Litigation*, MDL 2804 (the "Litigation");

WHEREAS, four (4) additional Wisconsin counties (Milwaukee, Dane, Waukesha, and Walworth) hired separate counsel and joined the Litigation;

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Litigation, the Law Firms have coordinated with counsel from around the country (including counsel for Milwaukee, Dane, Waukesha, and Walworth Counties) to prepare the County's case for trial and engage in extensive settlement discussions with the Opioid Defendants;

WHEREAS, 2021 Wisconsin Act 57 created Section 165.12 of the Wisconsin Statutes relating to the settlement of all or part of the Litigation;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 165.12(2), the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance is required to approve settlement agreement between the County and Opioid Defendants;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 165.12(2), the proceeds from any settlement of all or part of the Litigation are distributed 70% to local governments in Wisconsin that are parties to the Litigation and 30% to the State;

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 165.12(7) bars claims from any Wisconsin local government against the Opioid Defendants filed after June 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, several of the Opioid Defendants previously agreed to settlement terms with the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee ("PEC"), which is comprised of attorneys representative of all litigating local governments around the country, subject to individual approval of the litigating local governments including Oneida County;

WHEREAS, representatives of the Law Firms serve on the PEC and, therefore, are intimately familiar with the terms of the previous settlements and will be familiar with the terms of any settlement with any other Opioid Defendant recommended for approval by the PEC;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that several additional settlements will be proposed by various Opioid Defendants and recommended for approval by the PEC;

WHEREAS, Oneida County's process for approving settlement with an Opioid Defendant is typically a process requiring weeks for committee review and approval as well as approval by the full Oneida County Board;

WHEREAS, given concerns surrounding timing for participation in future settlements combined with the number of anticipated settlements, it would be prudent to provide an opportunity for Oneida County to create a process whereby the authority to enter into settlement agreements is delegated to a responsible County officer or officers provided that any such settlement agreement is recommended by the PEC and the Law Firms; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this Resolution is to delegate to the specified County officer or officers the authority to enter into settlement agreements with any Opioid Defendant from the date of this Resolution forward provided (a) the settlement is recommended for approval by the PEC and the Law Firms; and (b) the Oneida County share of proceeds from any such settlement is consistent with the shares established in Exhibit A to Addendum Two, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution and which is consistent with the allocations established in previous settlements with Opioid Defendants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the County Board of Supervisors hereby makes the following resolutions:

- 1) The County Board hereby delegates authority to the County Board Chair to enter into a settlement agreement, including without limitation the execution of any and all ancillary documents and agreements necessary to effectuate a settlement, with any Opioid Defendant provided (a) the PEC and the Law Firms shall have recommended the settlement; and (b) the Oneida County share of proceeds from any such settlement is consistent with the shares established in Exhibit A to Addendum Two, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution and which is consistent with the allocations established in previous settlements with Opioid Defendants.
- 2) Prior to executing any settlement agreement, or any document related thereto, the **Corporation Counsel** shall provide notice to the Administrative Coordinator and Board Chair of the proposed settlement and the terms related thereto.
- 3) The Board Chair is authorized and directed to take any and all such other and further action necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: all proceeds from any settlement agreement not otherwise directed to the Attorney Fees Account shall be deposited in the County's Opioid Abatement Account. The Opioid Abatement Account shall be administered consistent with the terms of this Resolution, Wis. Stat. § 165.12(4), and the applicable settlement agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: the County hereby authorizes the establishment of an account separate and distinct from any account containing funds allocated or allocable to the County which shall be referred to by the County as the "Attorney Fees Account." An escrow agent shall deposit a sum equal to up to, but in no event exceeding, an amount equal to 20% of the County's proceeds from a settlement agreement into the Attorney Fees Account unless such other amount is established by the applicable settlement agreement. If the payments to the County are not enough to fully fund the Attorney Fees Account as provided herein because such payments are made over time, the Attorney Fees Account shall be funded by placing up to, but in no event exceeding, an amount equal to 20% of the proceeds from a settlement agreement attributable to Local Governments (as that term is defined in the MOU) into the Attorney Fees Account for each payment. Funds in the

Attorney Fees Account shall be utilized to pay the fees, costs, and disbursements owed to the Law Firms pursuant to the engagement agreement between the County and the Law Firms provided, however, the Law Firms shall receive no more than that to which they are entitled under their fee contract when considering the amounts paid the Law Firms from any fee fund established in a settlement agreement and allocable to the County. The Law Firms may make application for payment from the Attorney Fees Account at any time and the County shall cooperate with the Law Firms in executing any documents necessary for the escrow agent to make payments out of the Attorney Fees Account.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that all actions heretofore taken by the Board of Supervisors and other appropriate public officers and agents of the County with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Executive Committee this 9th day of July, 2025.

Offered and passage moved by: Billy Fried, Scott Holewinski, Russ Fisher, Diana Harris, Steven Schreier, Robb Jensen, Connor Showalter

Discussion: Fried explained that this sets up a designated person in the County, so this gets done in a timely manner. Fugle stated this Resolution delegates the authority to the County Board Chair to accept the settlement terms for the Opioid lawsuits. Fugle explained that if an agreement needs to be signed, this allows for the County Board Chair to sign rather than having to get approval for each individual one.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 41 – 2025: 20 Aye; 1 Absent, Hanus

Resolution # 41 – 2025: Adopted

Resolution # 42 – 2025: Offered by the Supervisors of the Executive Committee to Appoint Ms. Jennifer Lueneburg as the Human Resources Director.

Resolution to appoint Human Resources Director.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee did receive a retirement notice from the incumbent Human Resources Director and instructed the Labor Relations Employee Services Department to conduct a recruitment to fill the position; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee recommended the Chair of the Committee be a part of the interview team, who interviewed three qualified candidates for the position of Human Resources director; and

WHEREAS, the interview team unanimously selected a candidate and recommends the hiring of Ms. Jennifer Lueneburg as the Human Resources Director contingent upon County Board approval; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors hereby confirms the appointment of Ms. Jennifer Lueneburg as the Human Resources Director under the following conditions:

1. The effective date of the appointment shall be August 1, 2025, and
2. For compensation purposes, Ms. Jennifer Lueneburg shall be compensated as follows:
 - a. Hire rate at \$95,600.00 with a COLA on the first payroll in 2026
 - b. Effective the first of the payroll period after six months of employment, based on satisfactory performance evaluation, increase to Grade Level S, Step 1
 - c. Effective the first of the payroll period after an additional six months of employment, based on satisfactory performance evaluation, increase to Grade Level S, Step 2

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Executive Committee this 9th day of July, 2025.

Offered and passage moved by: Billy Fried, Scott Holewinski, Russ Fisher, Steven Schreier, Robb Jensen, Connor Showalter

Discussion: Charbarneau stated that this Resolution is to appoint Lueneburg as the Human Resource Director.

Charbarneau explained that Lueneburg has worked for the county for 23 years. Cushing stated that Charbarneau has been a phenomenal employee for Oneida County, has been an employee for 32 years, and will be greatly missed. Fried reported that Charbarneau went through many challenges in that position and went to bat for the employees. Lueneburg thanked the Board.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution # 42 – 2025: 20 Aye; 1 Absent, Hanus

Resolution # 42 – 2025: Adopted

CLOSED SESSION: It is anticipated that a motion will be made, seconded and approved by roll call vote to enter into closed session pursuant to Section § 19.85(1) (g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved (Topics: Case No: 3:25-cv-384 and PIN MI-3240: WD Wis. 25-CV-325, Oneida Case Nos. 24-CX-2 and 25-CV-66 and Fourth of July Overtime.) and **(e)** Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session (Topic: Offer to Purchase RH-9333-1001). It is anticipated that the County Board will return to open session by roll call vote to consider the remainder of the meeting agenda.

Announcement of action taken in closed session, or take action based on closed session (NOTE: If the announcement of action taken in closed session would compromise the need for the closed session, the action taken will not be announced. Any action taken in closed session may be announced when the need for the closed session has passed).

Motion/Second: Cushing/Schreier to go into Closed Session at 9:55 a.m.

Roll Call Vote: 20 Aye; 1 Absent, Hanus

Motion: Adopted

Motion/Second: Jensen/Harris to return to Open Session at 11:52 a.m.

Roll Call Vote: 20 Aye; 1 Absent, Hanus

Motion: Adopted

Announcement: Chairman Holewinski announced that when in closed session there was no action taken.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME August 19th, 2025 @ 9:30 a.m.

Unless a motion is made to change the starting time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Holewinski adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.