

**SPECIAL ORDERS SESSION  
COUNTY BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2003**

Chairman Joseph Maehl called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, Fourth Floor, Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation by Supervisor Rankin.

The following Supervisors were present: Sevenich, Barker, Griesbach, Hotynski, Scoville, Maehl, Koziczowski, Klitzke, Widener, Lauson, Albrecht, Pech, Thompson, Steineke, Madison, Radewan, Sundquist, Wingren, Jacobson, Norton, Robl, Eichman, Kline, Tierney, Kramer, Schaidler, Farrey, Sievert, Diakoff, Brennand, Rankin, Rengstorf and O'Brien. Excused: Hert, Finch, Arne, Egan and Nielsen.

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to adopt the agenda. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, ETC.**

Notice of claim from Alexander Barclay for damage to his vehicle caused by an automated gate at Wittman Regional Airport was referred to the Personnel & Finance Committee.

Notice of claim from Time Warner Cable for damage to a power supply meter base by a county Highway Department mower was referred to the Personnel & Finance Committee.

Notice of informational meetings on the Town of Menasha's comprehensive land use plan was shared with the Board. The meetings are scheduled for May 6, May 14 and June 23.

A letter from Senator Michael Ellis was read. Senator Ellis thanked the Board for sending him their resolution opposing Governor Doyle's proposed funding cut for the Tobacco Control Board. He will keep the Board's opinion in mind when the budget bill comes before the Senate.

An e-mail was received from Rep. Gregg Underheim thanking the Board for sending him a copy of Resolution No. 164-32003, "Oppose Reduction in Budgeted Funds to Wisconsin's Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program The following resolutions were received and forwarded to the Legislative Committee".

- Chippewa County – Resolution No. 18-03, "Resolution Requesting Legislation Action on the Merits of Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law"
- Chippewa County – Resolution No. 19-03, "Resolution to Support Federal Legislation Proposed by Senator Russ Feingold and Senator Grassley of Iowa to Change Medicare Payment Inequities Between States"
- Dunn County – Resolution No. 42 – Supports SB15, which would create a Joint Survey Committee on state mandates to deal with the issue of unfunded and under funded mandates
- Juneau County – Resolution No. 03-17, "Supporting Senate Bill 15 Which Creates a Joint Survey Committee on State Mandates and Required Funding of State Funding"
- LaFayette County – Resolution 2-03, "Supporting Senate Bill 15 Which Creates a Joint Survey Committee on State Mandates and Required Funding of State Mandates"
- Lincoln County – Resolution 10 – 2003, "Supporting Senate Bill 15 (Which Creates a Joint Survey Committee on State Mandates and Required Funding of State Mandates)
- Polk County – "Resolution ---- To Support Federal Legislation Proposed by Senator Russ Feingold and Senator Grassley of Iowa To Change Medicare Payment Inequities Between States"
- Racine County – Resolution No. 2002-291, "Resolution by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee Supporting Federal Legislation to Eliminate Medicare Payment Inequities Between States"
- Racine County – Resolution No. 2002-292, "Resolution by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee Supporting SB15, Mandate Relief Act"
- Racine County – Resolution No. 2002-293, "Resolution by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee Requesting Waiver from the State Mandate Administrative Code, Chapter 20, Regarding Lottery Tax Credit Processing"
- Sauk County – Resolution No. 62-03, "Expressing Support for Senate Bill 15 Creating a Joint Survey Committee on State Mandates and Required Funding of State Mandates"
- Shawano County – Resolution No. 28-03 (as amended), "Opposing Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Efforts to Amend NR115 to Address Nonconforming Structures"
- Washington County – Resolution No. 12, "Requesting Waiver from Certain Statutes Requiring Newspaper Publication for Notices and Minutes"
- Wood County – Resolution #03-4-1, "Request that the State of Wisconsin access available federal Community Integration Program (CIP) Medicaid Waiver Funds and ensure a high quality and stable workforce to care for individuals with developmental disabilities in the community."

- Wood County – Resolution #03-4-1, “To oppose Assembly Bill (AB5), which repeals the Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions”
- Wood County – Resolution #03-4-11, “To support Senate Bill (SB15), which creates a Joint Survey Committee on State Mandates and required funding of state mandates”

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Supervisor Rankin reported that the Omro Herald ran a story about Cole Ruby, a 2001 Winnebago County Scholarship recipient. Cole is a student at UW-Oshkosh and he has maintained an A average at the university.

Supervisor Rankin then reported that on May 3<sup>rd</sup> the James P. Coughlin Nature Center was dedicated. The center is a 35-acre parcel located behind the James P. Coughlin building. Supervisor Rankin stated that it was Supervisor Nancy Barker who arranged and then presided over the ceremony. He commended her for her efforts and the very nice ceremony.

Supervisor Barker explained that arrangements are being made to add trees to the nature center to make up for the trees that died after they were purchased by individuals during the county’s 1998 Sesquicentennial celebration. These new trees will be planted as a grove and the grove will have some sort of marker that will indicate that these trees were purchased by those individuals during the 1998 Sesquicentennial celebration.

Supervisor Griesbach announced that the Emergency Management Department has received a substantial homeland security grant. Money from this grant will go to purchase equipment and provide training. Supervisor Griesbach reported that this is the fifth grant that Emergency Management has received in recent months.

Supervisor Schaidler reminded the Board that there will be another meeting on the comprehensive land use plan on Thursday, May 15 at the James P. Coughlin Center. He stressed the importance of this meeting and encouraged everyone to attend.

Supervisor Widener expressed his concern about the recent rumors that have been going around that Park View Health Center is closing. These rumors cause much concern for the residents and their families, as well as, the employees and potential employees at Park View Health Center. Supervisor Widener explained that the Park View Health Center Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, May 7 to discuss future plans for Park View Health Center. Supervisor Widener read a letter to the Board from the husband of a Park View Health Center resident who supports the facility and is thankful for the wonderful care that his wife receives.

## **COUNTY EXECUTIVE’S REPORT**

County Executive Van De Hey asked for the Board’s approval of her appointment of Mark Quam as the new Human Services Director. She explained that Mr. Quam served as Winnebago County’s Social Services Director from 1987 to 1993 and that Winnebago County is very fortunate to have him come back. Mr. Quam then introduced himself to the Board.

Executive Van De Hey commended Supervisor Widener, the Park View Health Center Committee and Park View staff, as they study the issues facing that facility. She also stated that the editorial opinion that was in a recent issue of the Oshkosh Northwestern and stated that the Park View Health Center Committee was “demonstrating poor government” was wrong.

### **COUNTY EXECUTIVE’S APPOINTMENT – MARK QUAM, HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Executive Van de Hey asked for the Board’s approval of her appointment of Mark Quam as Director of the Winnebago County Human Services Department. Mr. Quam’s appointment will become effective on May 27, 2003. Motion by Supervisor Lauson and seconded to approve. **CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

## **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chairman Maehl read a post card from Supervisor Mark Nielsen, who is stationed in Iraq. Supervisor Nielsen’s post card was unique, in that he wrote it on the wrapper from an MRE (meals ready to eat) package. In his letter, Supervisor Nielsen expresses hope that his unit will be back home soon.

### **COURTHOUSE SECURITY REPORT – JUDGE THOMAS GRITTON**

Judge Gritton told the Board that two automatic defibrillators have been installed in the courthouse and that thirty courthouse employees have been trained to use them. Judge Gritton, who is a certified First Responder, and two courthouse security officers are also trained to use the defibrillators. An additional eight county employees who are do not work in the courthouse are also trained to operator automatic defibrillators. The cost to purchase the two

defibrillators, their cabinets and training the employees on how to use them was approximately \$4,000.

Judge Gritton stated that Winnebago County is one of the first county's to install defibrillators in their courthouse and that it's important that the public know they are here and that people are trained to use them.

Another courthouse security project Judge Gritton discussed was the duress buttons that will be located throughout the courthouse. Mike Elder and Judge Gritton have gone over the location plan for these buttons, which they will now take it to the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee. It is hoped that once the plan is approved by the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee and the County Board, the duress buttons will be installed by the end of the year.

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY AG-BUSINESS SNAPSHOT – JEFF KEY, WINNEBAGO COUNTY  
AGRICULTURE/AGRIBUSINESS AGENT; AND KEVIN CONDON, PRESIDENT,  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY FARM BUREAU**

Jeff Key, Winnebago County Agriculture/Agribusiness Agent, and Kevin Condon, President of the Winnebago County Farm Bureau, presented information on how important agriculture and dairy farming is to Winnebago County and the State of Wisconsin. Mr. Key explained that about 150 years ago it was our European ancestors who were instrumental in introducing agriculture to the State of Wisconsin.

Since the mid-1970's there has been a dramatic reduction in the number of dairy herds in Winnebago County. In 1975 there were approximately 675 dairy herds and in 2003 there are approximately 150 herds. The actual number of cows in Winnebago County has also been reduced, but the average herd size is larger (averaging 80 cows).

Mr. Key stated that in Winnebago County approximately 1000 farms cover 182,000 acres or 60% of Winnebago County's area. However, Winnebago County is one of the counties that is at high risk of loosing farmland to urban development. Mr. Key stated that is why the comprehensive land use plan that is being designed for Winnebago County is so important. As the threat of diminishing farmland continues and the issue of agriculture vs. urbanized areas becomes greater, the comprehensive land use plan must address environmental issues, such as nutrient (manure) management and water quality; as well as, zoning/land use issues.

Additional points made by Mr. Key included:

- Over \$61 Million in revenue is generated annually by the agricultural industry in Winnebago County
- State-wide agriculture is the #1 industry
- One out of every five jobs is as the result of agriculture
- Agriculture and its related industries contribute \$84 Billion in revenue to Wisconsin
- Land use decisions impact the agricultural industry
- Sound agricultural production practices are compatible with land use--maintains quality of the water
- Agriculture land keeps the rural landscape open and provides for recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, etc.

Mr. Key then introduced Kevin Condon, President of the Winnebago County Farm Bureau. Mr. Condon stated that he and his family moved from Waukesha County to Winnebago County eight years ago because there is a better future for farming in Winnebago County.

Mr. Condon has been the President of the Winnebago County Farm Bureau for the last five years. He stressed the importance of agriculture and farming in Winnebago County and how we must maintain that way of thinking.

There have been many changes in farming and the agricultural industry. There are less farms, but they are larger, run more efficiently and produce more product. Mr. Condon stated that you also see more hobby farms (farms that aren't the owners primary source of income) in Winnebago County. Because hobby farms are important to the agricultural industry, their needs must also be taken into consideration.

Mr. Condon explained that the Winnebago County Farm Bureau is important because it is a source of information for people involved in agriculture. As fewer people continue farming, there aren't as many people farmers can go to for help or information--the farm bureau fills that need.

Mr. Condon also explained that more and more of the people living in rural areas aren't involved in agriculture or farming and this changes the makeup of, and sometimes the focus of, town and county boards. Mr. Condon stressed how important it is that people realize when they move to a rural area, they are moving into an "agricultural industrial park" and that this can cause some problems and conflict. Farmers can't work on a 9:00 to 5:00 schedule and sometimes their large farm equipment needs to use the county's roads.

Mr. Condon stated how important it is that the Winnebago County Board and town boards keep Winnebago County "agriculture friendly" so that our farms can continue to thrive.

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION NO. 196-52003:**

**Authorize Execution of Ground Lease Between Winnebago County and Chamco Incorporated**

WHEREAS, Chamco, Incorporated desires to lease approximately 92,000 square feet of property at Wittman Regional Airport for a period of thirty-five (35) years, with two (2) additional ten (10) year options plus an option on adjacent property during the term of the lease at a price of \$10,120 per year, which equates to an ordinance rate of \$.11 per square foot; and

WHEREAS, said property would be used for the construction of a building costing approximately \$1.3 million dollars which would be used as an aircraft hangar with four (4) individual 80 ft. x 80 ft. bays; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the lease agreement, said hangar building would need to be completed by May 1, 2004 or said lease would be terminated; and

WHEREAS, your undersigned Committee recommends approval of said lease.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby authorizes execution of a ground lease between Winnebago County and Chamco, Incorporated, a copy of said lease being attached hereto, for approximately 92,000 square feet of space at Wittman Regional Airport for the purpose of constructing a hangar upon said property. Said lease would commence on July 1, 2003 and run for a period of thirty-five (35) years with Lessee having an option to extend said lease for two additional ten (10) year periods.

Submitted by:  
AVIATION COMMITTEE

Supervisor Kline WITHDREW this resolution until the May 20, 2003 County Board meeting.

Chairman Maehl reminded the Board of their tour on Monday, May 19. The bus will leave from the courthouse parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and return around 4:00 p.m.

At approximately 7:15 p.m., a motion was made by Supervisor Robl and seconded to adjourn. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be on Tuesday, May 20, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan T. Ertmer  
Winnebago County Clerk

State of Wisconsin)  
County of Winnebago) ss

I, Susan T. Ertmer, 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 meeting held May 6, 2003.

Susan T. Ertmer  
Winnebago County Clerk