

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD
SEPTEMBER 21, 2017**

1. Chairman Haney called to order the Special Meeting of the Winnebago County Board for Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 5:35 p.m.
2. Chairman Haney announced the following Agenda Change:

Under Public Participation

Please Add:

Faye Lyon – Eliminate 4th Floor Court House Security - CON

3. Roll Call: 19 Present, with 1 Absent. (Board Member Nicolosi was absent.)
4. County Board Member G. Jury gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Public Participation

Attorney Faye Lyon spoke of several violent incidents that have occurred immediately following court proceedings and the need for courthouse security, particularly on the fourth floor where good people are often at their worst.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATION

6. None.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

7. Chairman Haney gave several undisputed budget parameters, there can be great debate, but how we got here are the following:
 - o Since 2005 we have spent \$18,000,000 in Reserves.
 - o Since 2008 we are bringing in about \$8,000,000 less in Revenue
 - o Since 2007 the Effect Tax Rate has increased 48.7%
 - o Since 2007 the Tax Rate itself has increased 42.5%

He believes and has heard from many within the community and from speaking with most of the County Board Members that we need to live within our means, but also have an eye on the future; and Public Safety has been, is and will continue to be a priority in the County.

Chairman Haney spoke briefly of the Judge's comments in the newspaper today and of the need to have everyone on board to get through the crisis we're in. Also, it is the responsibility of the Sheriff to protect the Court House and to man our Jail; and the Sheriff is committed to just that.

The Chairman spoke of the loss of wealth in our community, the increased poverty, the increase in crime and the lack of formal education of our youth. He is personally proud that this Board voted to partner with others in the community for the Barber-Colman Project, which is about attacking these problems.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

8. County Board Member Biondo announced that this is the first of two meetings for discussion of the Fiscal Year 2018 Proposed Budget. He spoke with the County Clerk regarding the official recording of votes taken during meetings. At this time, the Finance Committee is presenting a Budget with the following reductions; \$4.3 million in the Sheriff's Office, the State's Attorney at \$300,000, the Public Defender at \$250,000, Circuit Court \$300,000, the Coroner \$75,000, the Circuit Clerk \$150,000, the Recorder \$300,000, Host Fees (one time) \$500,000, various County Departments \$125,000, and \$500,000 in efficiencies found by the administration.

County Board Member Jury made a Motion that the FY 18 Budget Laid Over at the September 11, 2017 meeting of the Winnebago County Board be amended as follows: That the New Growth Increase included in the Budget Laid Over be removed and that the Budget be Amended to show no Tax Levy Increase in the FY 18 Budget, seconded by Board Member Boomer. Discussion by CFO Paschal, Board Members Goral, Fellars, and Gerl.

County Board Member Gerl made a Friendly Amendment to Board Member Jury's Amendment, seconded by Board Member Wescott. The Amendment is as follows: To keep the current tax levy with no increase, cut only \$2.5 million from the Sheriff's budget and reduce the other mentioned cuts in public safety cuts by 50%, leaving \$3.542 million to be taken from Reserve Funds. Discussion by Chairman Haney, CFO Paschal, Board Members Hoffman, Jury, Fellars, Gerl, Wilson, Fiduccia, Biondo, Redd, and Schultz.

County Board Member Salgado called the question, to end discussion and vote on Board Member Gerl's Friendly Amendment (not to approve the items themselves), seconded by Board Member Fellars. A Roll Call vote was taken with 12 yes votes, 7 no votes with 1 absent. (Biondo, Boomer, Fiduccia, Goral, Jury, McDonald and Webster voted no.) (Nicolosi was absent.) Discussion by Chairman Haney, Board Members Redd and Biondo. Second roll call vote was taken to end discussion and vote on the two items in Board Member Gerl's Amendment. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 18 yes, 1 no, with 1 absent. (Board Member McDonald voted no.) (Board Member Nicolosi was absent.)

Chairman Haney entertained a motion to approve Board Member Gerl's Amendment. With the motion before the Board a roll call vote was taken. The motion failed with 5 yes, and 14 no votes, with 1 absent. (Board Members Biondo, Boomer, Crosby, Fellars, Fiduccia, Goral, Jury, Kelley, McDonald, Redd, Salgado, Schultz, Webster and Wilson voted no.) (Board Member Nicolosi was absent.)

With Board Member Jury's motion before the Board a roll call vote was taken. The motion failed with 5 yes, and 14 no votes, with 1 absent. (Board Members Biondo, Booker, Crosby, Fellars, Gerl, Goral, Hoffman, Kelley, Redd, Salgado, Schultz, Tassoni, Wescott, and Wilson voted no.) (Board Member Nicolosi was absent.)

9. Chairman Haney entertained a motion to go into Closed Session. Board Member Boomer made a motion to close the meeting pursuant to the provisions of Section 2C-11 of the Illinois Open Meeting Act 5ILCS 20/2C-11 to discuss threatened and pending litigation, seconded by Board Member Crosby. Motion was approved by a voice vote. (Board Member Nicolosi was absent.) The meeting closed at 6:56 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:38 p.m., with Chairman Haney announcing that no action was taken during the Closed Session.
10. Chairman Haney entertained a motion to adjourn. Board Member Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Board Member Hoffman. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote of all members present. (Board Member Nicolosi was absent.) The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Margie M. Mullins
Winnebago County Clerk

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