

Winnebago County Board
Special Operations and Administrative Committee Meeting
County Courthouse
Conference Room 815
Behind County Board Room
400 West State Street
Rockford, IL 61101

Thursday, August 8, 2024
5:30 PM

Present:

Keith McDonald, **Chairperson**
Paul Arena
John Butitta
Joe Hoffman
Jaime Salgado
Michael Thompson

Absent:

Valerie Hanserd, **Vice Chairperson**

Others Present:

Patrick Thompson, County Administrator
Steve Schultz, County Chief Financial Officer
Hope Edwards, Purchasing Director, (Staff Liaison)
Lafakeria Vaughn, State's Attorney Office
Chris Dornbush, Chief Operations Officer
John Penney, County Board Member
John Sweeney, County Board Member
Jim Webster, County Board Member
Ryan Brauns, Rockford Election Board

AGENDA:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of Minutes – July 18 and 25, 2024
- D. Public Comment – This is the time we invite the public to address the Operations and Administrative Committee with issues and concerns. We ask you to limit your comments to three minutes. Personal attacks or inappropriate language of any sort will not be tolerated. We will allow a maximum of five speakers on a first come basis with sign-up at the meeting. Speakers may not address zoning matters which are pending before the ZBA, the Zoning Committee or the County Board. Personnel matters or pending or threatened litigation may not be addressed in open session. An individual may speak a maximum of three times per calendar year on the same topic. This prohibition shall include the repetition of the same topic in a statement on what is purported to be a different topic. After acknowledgment by the chair, please stand and state your name. Thank you.
- E. Resolution Submitting to the Electors by Referendum the Question of Imposing a One-Half (½) Percent Special County Retailers' Occupation Tax (Sales Tax) for Mental Health Purposes for a Period not to Exceed Five (5) Years, Effective July 1, 2026, for the County of Winnebago, Illinois
- F. Future Agenda Items
- G. Adjournment

Chairperson McDonald called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Roll Call

Chairperson Keith McDonald yes, Paula Arena yes, John Butitta yes, Joe Hoffman yes, Jaime Salgado yes, Michael Thompson yes.

Approval of Minutes – July 18 and 25, 2024

Motion: Chairperson McDonald. Second: Mr. Salgado.

- Discussion followed.

The motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

Public Comment

Chairperson McDonald omitted reading the Public Comment Section of the Agenda because no one was present to speak.

Resolution Submitting to the Electors by Referendum the Question of Imposing a One-Half (½) Percent Special County Retailers' Occupation Tax (Sales Tax) for Mental Health Purposes for a Period not to Exceed Five (5) Years, Effective July 1, 2026, for the County of Winnebago, Illinois

Motion: Chairperson McDonald. Second: Mr. Thompson.

- Discussion followed.

Motion: Mr. Salgado made the motion to amend the Resolution to include all County Board Members, with the exception of John Butitta as sponsors of the Resolution.

Page 1. Mr. Salgado proposed amending the title: “RESOLUTION SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS BY REFERENDUM THE QUESTION OF IMPOSING...,” replacing **IMPOSING** with **EXTENDING**.

Page 2., Paragraph 4., Mr. Salgado proposed amending: “WHEREAS, the County Board wishes to place a referendum question regarding the imposition...”, replacing **imposition** with **extension**.

Page 2., Paragraph 6., Mr. Salgado proposed amending the paragraph to remove the word **IMPOSED** and replacing it with the word **EXTENDED** to read:

TO PAY FOR MENTAL HEALTH PURPOSES SHALL THE COUNTY OF
WINNEBAGO BE AUTHORIZED TO IMPOSE AN INCREASE ON ITS SHARE OF
LOCAL SALES TAXES BY ONE-HALF (1/2) PERCENT FOR A PERIOD NOT TO
EXCEED FIVE (5) YEARS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026?”

THIS WOULD MEAN THAT A CONSUMER WOULD PAY AN ADDITIONAL \$0.50 IN
SALES TAX FOR EVERY \$100 OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY BOUGHT AT
RETAIL. IF **EXTENDED**, THE ADDITIONAL TAX WOULD CEASE BEING
COLLECTED AT THE END OF FIVE (5) YEARS, IF NOT TERMINATED EARLIER BY
A VOTE OF THE COUNTY BOARD.

The State’s Attorney has reviewed the requested amendments.

Second: Mr. Arena.

Chairperson McDonald called for any discussion on the amendment.

Chairperson McDonald called for a vote on the amendment.

The amendment was passed by a unanimous vote.

Motion: Chairperson McDonald made the motion to approve the Amended Resolution.

Second: Mr. Salgado.

Chairperson McDonald called for any discussion on the Amended Resolution.

- Discussion followed.

The motion to approve the Amended Resolution was passed by a majority vote.

Mr. Butitta voted no.

Future Agenda Items

- Operations & Administrative Committee Meeting August 15, 2024
 - Agenda reviewed and approved by State's Attorney.

Motion to Adjourn

Chairperson McDonald called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Salgado. Second: Mr. Thompson.

The motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Bleile
Executive Assistant