

**Winnebago County Board
Economic Development Committee**

County Administration Building
404 Elm Street
Room 303
Rockford, IL 61101

MINUTES of
Monday, March 03, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Members Present:

John Sweeney, Chairman
Angela Fellars
Valerie Hanserd
Brad Lindmark
Tim Nabors
John Penney (via virtual)
Ray Thompson

Other Present:

Chris Dornbush, Chief Operations Officer, Winnebago County
Kevin McCarthy, County Board Member, Winnebago County
Gretchen Gilmore, RAVE

AGENDA:

A. Call to Order

Chairman John Sweeney called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM.

B. Roll Call

A roll call was taken of all members present. Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Valerie Hanserd, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, and Ray Thompson were in attendance.

A quorum is present.

Chairman John Sweeney called for a motion to include John Penney in the meeting via Zoom.

Motion: Tim Nabors. Second: Angela Fellars.

Motion APPROVED (6-0). Aye votes were: Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Valerie Hanserd, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, and Ray Thompson.

John Penney was welcomed to the board meeting.

C. Approval of Minutes

MOTION TO APPROVE the minutes of **February 13, 2025**, Economic Development Committee by Valerie Hanserd and seconded by Brad Lindmark.

Motion APPROVED (7-0). Aye votes were: Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Valerie Hanserd, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, John Penney, and Ray Thompson.

D. Public Comment

Chairman John Sweeney noted for the record that no members of the public were here to speak for the public comment section; therefore, the public comment will not be read in.

E. Resolution Electing To Opt-In To The Illinois Electronics Recycling Program For Program Year 2026

Motion to APPROVE was made by Tim Nabors and seconded by Valerie Hanserd.

Discussion followed by Chris Dornbush, Valerie Hanserd, Angela Fellars and Ray Thompson.

Motion APPROVED (7-0). Aye votes were: Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Valerie Hanserd, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, John Penney, and Ray Thompson.

F. Resolution Allocating Host Fee Funds To The Rockford Metropolitan Exposition, Auditorium And Office Building Authority D/B/A The Rockford Area Venues And Entertainment Authority (RAVE) For Capital Improvement Projects And Infrastructure At The BMO Center

Motion to APPROVE was made by Valerie Hanserd and seconded by Tim Nabors.

Discussion followed by Chairman John Sweeney.

Motion to AMEND the Resolution made by Chairman John Sweeney.

by adding after the 7th WHEREAS, to read;

“**WHEREAS**, this agreement shall be null and void if the Chicago Blackhawks’ American Hockey League affiliate, the Rockford IceHogs were to end their agreement with utilizing the BMO; and”

and after the 9th WHEREAS, to read;

“**WHEREAS**, said County allocation shall be in effect as long as the City of Rockford contributes to the BMO or up to a maximum of five (5) years as outlined within this document or whichever ends first; and”

and at the end of the 1st BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to continue as follows to say;

... “as long as the City of Rockford contributes to the BMO during this stated period of time in said Host Fee Schedule”

and adding after the 1st BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, below the Host Fee Schedule, to read:

“**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, this agreement shall be null and void if the Chicago Blackhawks’ American Hockey League affiliate, the Rockford IceHogs were to end their agreement with utilizing the BMO; and”

Second: Valerie Hanserd.

Chairman John Sweeney called for any discussion.

Discussion followed by Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Gretchen Gilmore, Kevin McCarthy, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, Valerie Hanserd, and Chris Dornbush.

Motion To APPROVE AMENDMENTS (6-1). Aye votes were: Chairman John Sweeney, Valerie Hanserd, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, John Penney, and Ray Thompson. Opposed: Angela Fellars.

Chairman John Sweeney called for discussion on the main item as amended.

Motion APPROVED As AMENDED (7-0). Aye votes were: Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Valerie Hanserd, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, John Penney, and Ray Thompson.

G. Discussion – GoRockford (RACVB) FY-2025 Quarter 2 (October-December) Report
Chris Dornbush discussed the GoRockford (RACVB) FY-2025 Quarter 2 Report.

H. Other Matters

None reported.

I. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN the meeting by Ray Thompson, seconded by Tim Nabors.

Motion APPROVED (7-0) to adjourn at 6:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Bleile
Executive Assistant