

**Winnebago County Board
Economic Development Committee**

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

MINUTES of
Monday, January 12, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Members Present:

John Sweeney, Chair
Tim Nabors, Vice Chair
(arrived at 5:35 pm)
Angela Fellars
Brad Lindmark
John Penney

Other Present:

Joseph V. Chiarelli, County Board Chairman
Mike Schablaske, Chairman, Chicago Rockford Airport Authority &
Winnebago County Rail Authority
Molli Staroszczyk, Economic Development, Region 1 Planning

Absent:

Freddy De La Trinidad
Ray Thompson

AGENDA:

A. Call to Order

Chairman John Sweeney called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

B. Roll Call

A roll call was taken of all members present. Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Brad Lindmark, and John Penney.

A quorum is present.

C. Approval of Minutes

MOTION TO APPROVE the minutes of **September 25, 2025**, Economic Development Committee by Mr. Brad Lindmark, and seconded by Ms. Angela Fellars. Chairman John Sweeney called for any discussion.

MOTION APPROVED (4-0). Aye votes were: Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Brad Lindmark, and John Penney.

D. Public Comment

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

E. Resolution Authorizing An Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Among The County Of Winnebago, The Village Of New Milford, The Four Rivers Sanitation Authority, And JMD Real Estate Holdings, LLC For Extension Of Sewer Line On Harrisville Road

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by John Penney and seconded by Brad Lindmark.

Discussion followed by Chairman John Sweeney, Chairman Joseph Chiarelli, John Penney, and Angela Fellars.

Vice Chair Tim Nabors arrived at 5:35 pm.

Motion APPROVED (5-0). Aye votes were: Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, and John Penney.

F. Resolution Granting One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) From Host Fees To The Winnebago County Rail Authority (WCRA) To Establish A Dedicated Site Acquisition Fund And Support Regional Economic Growth

MOTION TO APPROVE was made by John Penney and seconded by Brad Lindmark and Angela Fellars.

Discussion followed by Chairman John Sweeney, Molli Staroszczyk, Mike Schablaske, John Penney, and Chairman Joseph Chiarelli.

Chairman John Sweeney congratulated Mike Schablaske on becoming Chairman of the Chicago Rockford Airport Authority and expressed appreciation for Region 1 Planning, the community's preeminent economic development logistics driver.

Motion APPROVED (5-0). Aye votes were: Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars, Brad Lindmark, Tim Nabors, and John Penney.

G. Other Matters

Chairman John Sweeney met with Pam Osborne, Executive Director, and toured the Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful (KNIB) recycling facility. The committee previously expressed interest in sponsoring a countywide free electronics disposal event. Angela Fellars followed with a discussion. The committee agreed to invite Pam Osborne to attend a committee meeting to discuss the KNIB organization.

Discussion followed by Chairman John Sweeney, Angela Fellars

H. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN the meeting by Tim Nabors, seconded by Angela Fellars.

MOTION APPROVED (5-0) to adjourn the committee meeting at 5:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Bleile
Executive Assistant