

**Winnebago County Board  
Finance Committee Meeting**  
County Administration Building  
404 Elm Street, Room 303  
Rockford, IL 61101

Thursday, May 7, 2026  
Immediately following the Operations & Administrative Committee Meeting

**Present:**

John Butitta, Chairperson  
Paul Arena  
Valerie Hanserd  
John F. Sweeney

**Absent:**

Joe Hoffman  
Christina Valdez

**Others Present:**

Patrick Thompson, County Administrator  
Steve Schultz, Chief Financial Officer (Staff Liaison)  
Lafakeria Reuter, Civil Bureau Chief, State's Attorney's Office  
Chris Dornbush, Chief Operations Officer  
Hope Edwards, Director, Purchasing  
Bill Crowley, Auditor, Winnebago County  
Shawn Franks, Director, Facilities  
Lori Gummow, County Clerk, Winnebago County  
Tom Klein, Circuit Clerk, Winnebago County  
Jennifer Muraski, Coroner, Winnebago County  
Matt Lane, Deputy Coroner, Winnebago County  
Luke Carlson, State's Attorney's Office  
Matt Gabel, County Board Member  
Jim Webster, County Board Member  
Zach Enderle, 1919 Architects  
Clayton Nelson, Huffman Keel

**AGENDA:**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of April 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- D. Public Comment – This is the time we invite the public to address the Finance 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 that 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 Chairman, please stand and state your name. Thank you.
- E. Ordinance for a Budget Amendment for ESDA Grant Additional Funding
- F. Ordinance for a Budget Amendment for Public Safety Building Roof Replacement
- G. Discussion – County Elected Official Salaries
- H. Closed Session to Discuss Pending Litigation
- I. Other Matters
- J. Adjournment

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Butitta called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM.

## **Roll Call**

Chairperson Butitta, yes; Mr. Arena, yes; Ms. Hanserd, yes; Mr. Sweeney, yes.

A quorum is present.

## **Approval of April 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

Motion: Chairperson Butitta. Second: Ms. Hanserd.

Chairperson Butitta called for any discussion.

Chairperson Butitta called for a vote to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2026, meeting.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

## **Public Comment**

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

## **Ordinance for a Budget Amendment for ESDA Grant Additional Funding**

Motion: Chairperson Butitta. Second: Ms. Hanserd.

Mr. Schultz provided details about the ordinance.

Chairperson Butitta called for any discussion.

Chairperson Butitta called for a vote to approve the ordinance.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

## **Ordinance for a Budget Amendment for Public Safety Building Roof Replacement**

Motion: Chairperson Butitta. Second: Ms. Hanserd.

Mr. Schultz provided details about the ordinance.

Chairperson Butitta called for any discussion.

- A discussion followed.

Chairperson Butitta called for a vote to approve the ordinance.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Matthew Gabel was introduced to the committee by Chairperson Butitta and welcomed as a future committee member pending approval of the 2026 County Board Standing Committees Resolution at the May 14, 2026, Winnebago County Board meeting.

## **Discussion – County Elected Official Salaries**

Chairperson Butitta provided background information on the County Elected Official Salaries.

Chairperson Butitta called for any discussion.

- A discussion followed on non-bargaining employees and on elected officials' compensation compared to bargaining employee groups.

## **Closed Session to Discuss Pending Litigation**

Motion: Chairperson Butitta made a motion to enter a Closed Session. Second: Mr. Arena.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

## **Roll Call**

Chairperson Butitta, yes; Mr. Arena, yes; Ms. Hanserd, yes; Mr. Sweeney, yes.

Chairperson Butitta – No action was taken during the closed session.

**Other Matters**

- None reported.

**Adjournment**

Chairperson Butitta called for the adjournment of the Finance Committee meeting.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Bleile

Executive Assistant