

**Winnebago Township Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**February 11, 2025**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Winnebago Township Westfield Facility**

Supervisor Hodges called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Township officials present were Supervisor, Greg Hodges; Trustees: Dennis Cross, Ray Heeren, Craig McClure and Barry Palm; Road Commissioner, Aaron Rowley; and Clerk Sue Jansen. Assessor Paula Lutzow was absent. Guests present were Jim and Joyce King, Ron Wright and Ernie Fuhr.

**Public Comments**

Ron Wright was present to bring to the board's attention the condition of South Weldon Road. He stated that the road is not crowned correctly so water stands and freezes in the middle of the road, He asked that it be properly crowned in the future. Road Commissioner Rowley stated that he was aware of the problem, and some options were discussed for improvements. The road was tarred and chipped this last summer, but because of long standing deficiencies in the road, and the limitations of chip and seal the problem was not eliminated.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the January 14, 2025 Regular Meeting were read. Trustee McClure made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Trustee Palm. All voted aye and the minutes were approved as read.

**Clerk's Corner**

Clerk Jansen reported that the list of those who must file Statements of Economic Interest for 2024 was submitted to the Winnebago County Clerk's office on January 19, 2025. She attended a webinar regarding completion of Statements of Economic Interest and provided each member with a copy of a handout that should make completing the form less stressful.

**Financial Reports**

Supervisor Hodges read the General and Cemetery Funds Bills Payable Report for February 2025. Trustee McClure made a motion to approve the General and Cemetery Funds Bills Payable for February 2025; seconded by Trustee Cross.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cross, Heeren, McClure, Palm and Hodges. Nay: None.  
Motion approved 5-0.

Supervisor Hodges read the General and Cemetery Funds Bills Paid Report for January 2025. Trustee McClure made a motion to approve the General and Cemetery Funds Bills Paid for January 2025; seconded by Trustee Heeren.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Heeren, McClure, Palm, Hodges and Cross. Nay: None.  
Motion approved 5-0.

Road Commissioner Rowley read the Road and Bridge and Hard Road Bills Payable Report for February 2025. Trustee McClure made a motion to approve the Road and Bridge and Hard Road Bills Payable for February 2025; seconded by Trustee Palm.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: McClure, Palm, Hodges, Cross, and Heeren. Nay: None.  
Motion approved 5-0.

Road Commissioner Rowley read the Road and Bridge and Hard Road Bills Paid Report for January 2025. Trustee McClure made a motion to approve the Road and Bridge and Hard Road Bills Paid for January 2025; seconded by Trustee Cross.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Palm, Hodges, Cross, Heeren and McClure. Nay: None.

Motion approved 5-0.

### **Supervisor's Comments**

Supervisor Hodges stated that he and Clerk Jansen attended the January 27 meeting of Township Officials hosted by Cherry Valley Township at Cherry Valley Fire District Station #2. Current elected officials not running for office on April 1 were recognized.

### **Road Commissioner's Comments**

Road Commissioner Rowley stated that he is doing tree work and working on the budget. He received \$25 in Sullivan's gift cards, which should be donated to a food bank. Supervisor Hodges made a motion to donate the gift cards to the Micro Pantry at First Presbyterian Church in Winnebago; seconded by Trustee McClure. All voted aye and the motion was approved.

He also reported that ComEd has resumed billing for electricity charges for the township garage. He does not think we have received appropriate compensation for the billings in error and will be doing more research now that the original bills have been returned from the auditor.

### **Assessor's Comments**

Absent.

### **Old Business**

The closing on the purchase of land for Winnebago Cemetery is scheduled for 2 p.m. on February 21, 2025 at Title Underwriters. Supervisor Hodges and Trustee McClure will attend.

There was discussion of the mowing bids. Options were discussed regarding Jim King's position and whether to continue to have a contractor mow part or all of the cemetery. Action was tabled awaiting a firm recommendation from the Winnebago Cemetery Board.

### **New Business**

Trustee Heeren made a motion to add "Donation to Vet's Roll" to the Annual Meeting Agenda; seconded by Trustee McClure. All voted aye and the motion was approved.

After discussion and suggested changes, Trustee Palm made a motion to approve the tentative General and Cemetery Funds Budget for Fiscal year 2025-2026; seconded by Trustee McClure. All voted aye and the motion was approved.

After discussion and suggested changes, Trustee McClure made a motion to approve the tentative Road District Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; seconded by Trustee Palm. All voted aye and the motion was approved.

There being no further business Trustee McClure made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned; seconded by Trustee Heeren. All voted aye and the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

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Sue Jansen, Winnebago Township Clerk

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Gregory Hodges, Supervisor

Approved: March 11, 2025