

**RACINE COUNTY
GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Melissa Kaprelian, Chairman
Nick Demske, Vice Chairman
Donald Trotter, Secretary
Supervisor Marlo Harmon

Supervisor Tom Rutkowski
Supervisor Taylor Wishau
Supervisor Renee Kelly

*** THIS LOCATION IS HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE ***

The public may also join this meeting virtually via:

Browsing to this web address on a computer or smartphone:

<https://racinecounty.webex.com/racinecounty/j.php?MTID=m766bcd6948d32ae0fd6d3b73c649ca90>

Password: meetme

via facebook live at <http://www.facebook.com/RacineCounty>

Or by calling: 1-408-418-9388

Access code: 2485 259 4226

In the event of any technical difficulties with the above-referenced options, the conference line listed below will be activated for virtual participation. Note that the conference line provided below will only be activated in the event of technical difficulties with the above-referenced options.

Or by calling: 1-414-455-2762

Access code: 1-858-648-9977

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE
GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

DATE: TUESDAY, September 26, 2023
TIME: 5:15 p.m.
PLACE: Peter L. Hansen County Board Chambers at Ives Grove
14200 Washington Avenue, Sturtevant, WI 53177

**** AMENDED ****

A G E N D A

1. Public Comments
2. Chairman Comments
3. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting(s)
4. Old Business
 - A. Questions from committee related to presentation at prior meeting by Sheriff's Office
5. New Business
 - A. The Youth in Governance Report for Group 9
 - B. Ordinance 2023-xx By Government Services Committee Amending the Racine County Code of Ordinances – Chapter 16, Article III, Division 1 – Generally, Sec. 16-46. – Closing Hours. Possible action: Request 1st Reading at the September 26, 2023 County Board meeting
 - C. Discussion regarding Wisconsin Assembly Bill 277 related to revenue transfer fees schedule
 - D. Discussion reviewing the date and time for the Government Services Committee meetings
6. Referrals from the County Board
 - A. ** Resolution No. 27-23 Supporting a Restitution Court Program for Polk County.
 - B. Resolution requesting the State of Wisconsin Review and Revise the Compensation Rate for State Public Defenders and Require the State of Wisconsin to Reimburse Winnebago County the Hourly Rate that has been appropriated by Wisconsin to Provide Required Counsel Coverage in Criminal Case from Winnebago County.
7. Adjournment

**PETER L. HANSEN COUNTY BOARD CHAMBERS
AT IVES GROVE OFFICE COMPLEX
14200 WASHINGTON AVENUE, STURTEVANT 53177
August 22, 2023**

The meeting of the Government Services Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Melissa Kaprelian.

Meeting attended by: Supervisors Trottier, Rutkowski, and Kelly. Supervisor Demske arrived at 5:32 p.m. Supervisor Wishau arrived at 5:35 p.m. Also attending was Lt. Luell from the Sheriff's office.

Excused: YIG Reddy and Turek.

Absent: Supervisor Harmon.

#1 – Public Comments

None.

#2 – Chairman Comments

None.

#3 – Approval of minutes from previous meeting(s)

Action: To approve the minutes from the July 25, 2023, Government Services Committee meeting, as printed. **Motion passed.**
Moved: Supervisor Trottier. **Seconded:** Supervisor Kelly. **Vote:** All Ayes, No Nays.

#4A - Presentation by Sheriff's Office

A presentation was given by Lt. Luell from the Sheriff's Office. He explained his background and distributed a report that showed statistics regarding the numbers and types of calls they see, overdose and drug-related deaths. He also talked about the problem with 'switch' guns and referenced some of the initiatives related to water safety and violent crime reduction.

#4B - Discussion regarding Wisconsin Assembly Bill 277 related to revenue transfer fees

This item will be taken up at the next meeting in September.

#4C - Discussion regarding committee schedule/meeting dates

This item will be taken up at the next meeting in September.

#5 – Referrals from the County Board

None.

#6 - Adjournment

Action: Adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. **Motion Passed.** **Moved:** Supervisor Trottier. **Seconded:** Supervisor Kelly. **Vote:** All Ayes, No Nays.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-XX

ORDINANCE BY THE GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE AMENDING THE RACINE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES – CHAPTER 16, ARTICLE III, DIVISION 1 – GENERALLY, SEC. 16-46. – CLOSING HOURS.

To the Honorable Members of the Racine County Board of Supervisors:

The Racine County Board of Supervisors does ordain as follows:

Chapter 16, Article 3, Division 1 – Generally, Section 16-46 of the Racine County Code of Ordinances relating to closing hours is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec.16-46. – Closing hours.

- (a) The courthouse shall be kept open on all days of the year except Saturdays, Sundays and as provided in the current labor contracts.
(b) The office hours of the courthouse shall be Monday to Friday, except for the holidays specified in the labor contracts, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(c) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) above, the business hours for the clerk of courts, register of deeds, county clerk, county treasurer, and real property lister shall be, for any official business day during which those offices are open to the public, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

(Ord. No. 2001-152, pt. 1, 12-11-01; Ord. No. 2023-22)

Respectfully submitted,

1st Reading _____

GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

2nd Reading _____

BOARD ACTION

Melissa Kaprelian, Chairman

Adopted _____

For _____

Against _____

Absent _____

Nick Demske, Vice-Chairman

VOTE REQUIRED: Majority M.E.

Donald J. Trottier, Secretary

Prepared by:
Corporation Counsel

Marlo Harmon

Tom Rutkowski

Taylor Wishau

Renee Kelly

1 Ord No. 2023-XX

2 Page Two

3

4

5 **The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of**

6 **Racine County, Wisconsin, is hereby:**

7 **Approved: _____**

8 **Vetoed: _____**

9

10 **Date: _____,**

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Jonathan Delagrave, County Executive

Resolution No. 27-23

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A RESTITUTION COURT PROGRAM FOR POLK COUNTY

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TO THE POLK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, the Polk County Board of Supervisors understands that the Polk County Circuit Court frequently orders restitution in criminal cases in order to make crime victims whole for financial losses they suffered as a result of criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County Board of Supervisors further recognizes that when defendants are ordered to pay restitution after being found guilty of a crime and they reside in Minnesota, the Minnesota Probation Officers are not empowered to collect restation ordered by a Wisconsin Court; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County Board of Supervisors support our local Judges in their efforts to make all crime victims whole; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County Board of Supervisors wish to thank the local Judges for their efforts to address this problem.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors pledge to offer support to the local Judges in expanding efforts to make crime victims whole.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors thank the local Judges for scheduling restitution hearings and providing incentives for defendants to pay their ordered restitution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors encourages the local Judges to expand their efforts to address this problem.

RACINE COUNTY CLERK
FILED AUG 10 '23 AM 9:43

Resolution No. 27-23

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A RESTITUTION COURT PROGRAM FOR POLK COUNTY

RESOLUTION SPONSOR(S):

X <u>Brad Olson</u>	X <u>Kim O'Connell</u>
X <u>Doug Route</u>	X <u>Amy Middleton</u>
X <u>Steve Warndahl</u>	X <u>Jay Luke</u>
X <u>Ryan Wood</u>	X <u>Denise L'Allier-Pray</u>
X <u>Tracy LaBlanc</u>	X <u>Russ Arcand</u>
X <u>Dan Ruck</u>	X <u>CJ Simones</u>
X <u>Barbara McAfee</u>	X <u>John Bonneprise</u>
X <u>Sharon Kelly</u>	X <u>Vince Netherland, Administrator</u>

Committee 1: Public Safety and Public Works

- Recommended
- Not Recommended
- Neutral

Committee 2: Select a Committee

- Recommended
- Not Recommended
- Neutral

Certification:

I, Shabana Lundeen, County Clerk, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 20th day of June, 2023 by the Polk County Board of Supervisors.

Shabana Lundeen
Shabana Lundeen, Polk County Clerk

VOTE BY ROLL CALL

Board Members	Aye	Nay	Excu.
Olson			
Route			
Warndahl			
Wood			
LaBlanc			
Ruck			
McAfee			
Kelly			
O'Connell			
Middleton			
Luke (Chairperson)			
L'Allier-Pray			
Arcand (2 nd Vice Chair)			
Simones			
Bonneprise (Vice Chair)			

BOARD ACTION

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Motion to Approve Adopted Defeated

1st Warndahl

2nd Olson

Yes: _____ No: _____ Excu: _____

- Approved by unanimous voice vote
- Approved by majority voice vote
- Defeated by lack of majority voice vote

RESOLUTION REVIEW COMPLETED BY:

X Malia Malone
Malia Malone, Corporation Counsel

X Vince Netherland
Vince Netherland, Administrator

X Don
Don Wortham, Finance Director

Fiscal & Legal Impact(s):

1 239-062023

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3 **RESOLUTION:** Requesting the State of Wisconsin to Review and Revise the Compensation Rate
4 for State Public Defenders and Require the State of Wisconsin to Reimburse
5 Winnebago County the Hourly Rate That Has Been Appropriated by Wisconsin to
6 Provide Required Counsel Coverage in Criminal Cases

7

8 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

9 **WHEREAS**, criminal cases continue to rise due to a variety of factors with a backlog of 35,000 pending
10 cases across the state due to a shortage of public defenders; and

11 **WHEREAS**, both the United States Constitution and the Wisconsin Constitution provide that persons
12 accused of crimes have the right to counsel; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Office of the Public Defender provides legal counsel to criminal defendants and
14 other persons meeting income eligibility guidelines for services; and

15 **WHEREAS**, public defender offices do not have enough staff attorneys available or public defender assigned
16 private attorneys willing to assist the Public Defender's office because of inadequate pay: 17 to 20 percent of staff
17 attorney jobs are currently unfilled coupled with a shortage of private attorneys willing to take public defender cases; and

18 **WHEREAS**, this scenario results in increased costs to counties by requiring counties to pay significantly
19 higher hourly rates for private attorneys to represent criminal defendants coupled with holding inmates in jail for
20 longer periods of time pending court appointment of private attorneys, resulting in reduced efficiency of Courts and
21 law enforcement, and delayed justice for victims; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the State Public Defenders (SPD) rate was adjusted downward in 1995 to \$40 per hour, making it
23 the lowest private attorney rate in the nation. In January 2020, the SPD rate increased to \$70 per hour; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin is the only state in the country with a state-funded, state-administered public defense
25 system that requires counties to pay a higher rate for attorneys when the state cannot obtain counsel; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's Circuit Court system is a partnership funded with a mix of state general purpose
27 revenue (GPR), court fees and surcharges, and county taxes; and

28 **WHEREAS**, in recent years, the partnership has frayed as counties have borne a growing share of the costs
29 including the salaries and benefits of the clerks of circuit court and their employees, salaries and benefits for court
30 commissioners, courtroom security personnel and equipment, office supplies, law libraries, and jury costs.

31

32 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it supports
33 providing sufficient resources to the Wisconsin Office of the Public Defender to ensure that the Wisconsin criminal
34 justice system operates effectively and efficiently.

35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it supports an increase in
36 the rate of reimbursement for assigned public defender appointments by private attorneys to a market rate that will
37 help ensure prompt legal representation for criminal defendants and allow cases to be handled in a timely and
38 efficient manner.

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it supports requiring the
40 State of Wisconsin to reimburse Winnebago County the hourly rate that has been appropriated by Wisconsin to
41 provide required counsel coverage in criminal cases.

42

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that the County Clerk forward
44 a copy of this Resolution to Governor Tony Evers, members of the Wisconsin State Assembly and State Senate,
45 every county in the State of Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.


46
47 *Fiscal Note: Legislation as supported by this resolution could potentially have the effect of decreasing County*
48 *expense for legal fees and increasing County revenue as reimbursement for legal fees, but the amounts cannot be*
49 *reasonably estimated at this time.*

50
51 Respectfully submitted by:
52 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

53 Committee Vote: 9-0

54
55 Vote Required for Passage: Three-Fourths of Members Present

56
57 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this 28th day of June, 2023.

58
59 
60 _____
61 Jonathan D. Doemel
Winnebago County Executive

CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

ABSTAIN: NICHOLS

1 237-062023

2
3 **RESOLUTION:** Urge the Wisconsin Legislature to Support Health Care Providers Referring Individuals
4 to Aging and Disability Resource Centers for Options Counseling
5

6 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

7 **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Legislature seeks to create Wis. Stat. 46.281 (1n) (bm) which will allow health
8 care providers to refer individuals to an Aging and Disability Resource Center (hereinafter "ADRC") or an ADRC
9 website for information relating to long term care options for counseling; and

10 **WHEREAS**, this bill requires the Department of Health Services (hereinafter "DHS") to allow a health care
11 provider to send communications to a patient referring the patient to an ADRC or to an ADRC or DHS website for
12 information regarding long-term care options counseling; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the bill also requires DHS to make a long-term care options counseling referral letter available
14 on its website for use by health care providers; and

15 **WHEREAS**, options counseling is a decision support service intended to empower older adults, adults with
16 disabilities, and their families and caregivers to make informed decisions about current or future long-term care choices.
17

18 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby
19 urges the Wisconsin Legislature to support health care providers referring individuals to Aging and Disability
20 Resource Centers for Options Counseling.

21 **BE FURTHER IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that the County Clerk forward
22 a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin and the state senators and state representatives
23 representing Winnebago County.

24 *Fiscal Note: No fiscal impact.*

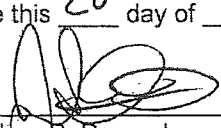
26 Respectfully submitted by:

27 **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

28 Committee Vote: **9-0**

30 Vote Required for Passage: **Three-Fourths of Members Present**

31
32 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this 28th day of June, 2023.

33
34 
35 _____
36 Jonathan D. Doemel
Winnebago County Executive