



# VILLAGE OF WINNECONNE

*The Community of Opportunity*

30 South First Street - P.O. Box 488 - Winneconne, Wisconsin 54986-0488 - 920-582-4381

www.winneconnewi.gov

## Minutes

### Special Meeting of the Village Board

Wednesday, July 30th, 2025, 12:00pm

Village Board Room, 30 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St., Winneconne

---

### Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 12:05pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance** said in unison.

**Roll Call:** Olson (present), Bouras (present), Stelzner (absent), Janikowski (absent), Krings (present via phone), Miller (present), Boucher (present)

### Communications

None.

### New Business

**Motion by Olson, Second by Miller** to join the Southern Winnebago Emergency Medical Services Intergovernmental Agreement

**Motion passes by roll call vote: Olson (aye), Bouras (aye), Krings (aye), Miller (aye), Boucher (aye) 5-0-0**

The Village Board was presented with the updated Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the contingencies accepted by the Southern Winnebago Emergency Medical Services (SWEMS) board; of note, not all requested contingencies were accepted. The Town of Winneconne has officially joined the IGA. Following the review of alternative providers, the IGA group selected Lifestar as the EMS provider and will move forward with a service contract. The Village evaluated a potential partnership with Waushara County for emergency services. This option would not require a capital investment in a new facility, although some operational considerations (e.g., mutual aid agreements) remain unresolved. Joining the IGA would necessitate facility costs; the City of Omro was suggested as a possible site for the EMS facility. While no final location has been confirmed, projected costs for an Omro location and how those costs would be distributed among communities were reviewed by the Board.

Discussions emphasized prioritizing public safety, followed by economic feasibility. Concerns were raised about the lack of pricing transparency in the IGA and the challenge of committing without a clear understanding of potential costs under various scenarios. The Board discussed using the Innovation Grants to help offset facility expenses, however Village Administrator Fuller noted recent changes to the grant as well as the lack of certainty around obtaining the grant. Deputy Fire Chief Ed Quigley expressed a preference for maintaining a single EMS provider across the fire district to ensure continuity and effective mutual aid. He cautioned against fragmentation, which could compromise service, however, affirming the final decision rests with the Board and should prioritize the best outcome for residents. Timeline considerations were also discussed: Lifestar requires a minimum of 2 months to become operational, with a preferred timeline of 4 months, while Waushara County indicated a 2-month ramp-up period to be ready for service.

While joining the IGA presents minimal immediate risk, there is financial uncertainty over the next three years, including: Innovation Grant availability and terms, facility location and associated capital costs, and potential changes in municipality participation within the IGA.

The towns of Black Wolf and Nekimi are still considering maintaining service with Oshkosh and have not committed to the IGA. If Black Wolf and Nekimi ultimately decide not to join, the Village may need to reevaluate its position, as cost structures would likely shift. According to the IGA language, the agreement will go into effect on the day the agreement is signed by all municipal board members' respective representatives.

**Motion by Olson, Second by Miller** to nominate Trustee Bouras to the Southern Winnebago Emergency Medical Services Board

**Motion passes by roll call vote: Olson (aye), Bouras (abstain), Krings (aye), Miller (aye), Boucher (aye) 4-0-1**

Trustee Bouras is the chair of the Village Public Safety Committee and as such was recommended by Trustee Olson to be nominated to the SWEMS Board.

**Confirm next meeting**

Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 5:30 pm – Village Hall Board Room

**Adjourn**

**Motion by Bouras, Second by Olson** to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion passes by voice vote: 5-0-0**

Meeting adjourned at 12:47pm.