

**Winnebago Township Resolution on the proposed Great Lakes Basin
Railroad (GLBRR) – Docket # FD 35952**

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will transverse Winnebago Township residences, farms, businesses, watersheds, and other natural areas, permanently altering and damaging them;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will lower property values for those parcels crossed, as well as all others in the area;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will increase travel times through the area by residents, school busses and emergency responders among others;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will increase the risks of derailments and other catastrophic events in the area;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will increase insurance costs for area residents and businesses because of increased travel times for emergency responders and increased risks of accidents;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will cause numerous costs on area resident and businesses (monetary, aesthetic, safety, environmental, etc.) without compensation; now, be it Resolved, that the Winnebago Township Board urges the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to adopt a no-action option for the proposed GLBRR:

1. because no amount of engineering can prevent the damages which will be done to the residences, farms, businesses, watersheds, and other natural areas;
2. because no compensation will mitigate the losses in property values to Winnebago Township and all other affected taxing districts;
3. because no design can maintain current travel times in the area;
4. because no engineering can prevent increased safety risks to area residents, farms, and businesses;
5. because no compensation will mitigate the increased insurance costs to area residents, farms, and businesses; and
6. because the area residents, farms, businesses, watersheds, and natural areas will bear all the costs. Any benefits will go to the GLBRR. This is not fair, especially considering this will be done by using eminent domain for the benefit of a private corporation.

PASSED this 13th day of December, 2016, by the Board of Trustees of Winnebago Township.

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Supervisor Dimke	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Rowley	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Cross	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Heeren	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
Trustee McClure	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____

By: Leslee A Dimke
LESLEE DIMKE, SUPERVISOR
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WINNEBAGO TOWNSHIP

ATTEST: Lorita Ooyen
LORITA OYEN
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Winnebago Township
P.O. Box 575
Winnebago, IL 61088



Mr. Ken Blodgett
Surface Transportation Board
Docket # FD 35952
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001



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