

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, JULY 09, 2012**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, July 09, 2012 in the Administrative Center, Room B410. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 25 supervisors were present when Chair Tara Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and those otherwise present, excused or absent are noted in the roll call detail:

<b>District Name</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
1 Richmond, Andrea	Present
2 Geary, Ralph	Present
3 Veenstra, Joe	Present
4 Freedland, Maureen	Present
5 Johnson, Karin	Excused
6 Plesha, Roger	Present
7 Hampson, Sharon	Present
8 Jerome, Peg	Excused
9 Londre, Andrew	Present
10 Becker, Richard	Present
11 Brockmiller, Bill	Present
12 Holtze, Dave	Present
13 Meyer, Donald	Present
14 Schroeder, Jeffrey	Present
15 Kruse, Monica	Present
16 Ferries, Dan	Present
17 Berns, Jim	Present
18 Berg, Laurence	Present
19 Downer, Thomas	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Burke, Vicki	Present
22 Spiker, Charles	Present
23 Pedretti, Marilyn	Excused
24 Pfaff, Leon	Excused
25 Ebert, Ray	Present
26 Gamroth, Tammy	Present
27 Wehrs, Tina	Present, Excused at 08:21 PM
28 Keil, Robert	Present
29 Johnson, Tara	Present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson**

- Supervisor Conference Reports and Announcements
  - The Public Health Department and our facilities staff, the La Crosse Center, and a couple of the local churches and lots of other people worked on restoring the air conditioning unit at the Salvation Army which was a cooling station during many of the hot days.

**Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley**

**PROCLAMATION JULY 2012 - NURSING HOME MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, La Crosse County residents or members of their family are provided affordable, quality nursing care services in a family-like environment, including those whose care may be difficult or those without financial support; and, **WHEREAS**, staff is committed to excellence in providing care and rehabilitation to all with respect for the dignity and rights of individuals including those who have special physical, developmental, and mental health needs; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County operates two nursing homes – Hillview Health Care Center and Lakeview Health Center. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of July as La Crosse County Nursing Home Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to ensuring quality care to our residents in need.

Motion by R. Plesha/D. Holtze to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 4 excused - P. Jerome, K. Johnson, M. Pedretti and L. Pfaff.

- Presentation by CliftonLarsonAllen – Audit Report on La Crosse County’s 2011 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).
  - The 2011 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report was generated by Assistant Finance Director Sharon Davidson, Shawn Handland and Jonathan Edwards.
  - Debra Welch and Renee Messing presented on behalf of CliftonLarsonAllen.
    - The Financial Report contains a number of components including: auditor’s opinion, management’s discussion and analysis, government-wide statements, financial statements and footnotes, required supplemental information, supplemental information and statistical information.
    - Significant Audit Areas include cash and investments, including restrictions, receivables and revenue, capital assets, long term debt and other obligations including OPEB liabilities and claims payable, fund balance/net assets, and expenses.
    - The Audit communication letter lists the auditor’s responsibility under generally accepted audit standards, qualitative aspects of accounting policies and disclosures–significant estimates, audit adjustments, one uncorrected adjustments, and other matters.
    - On January 2, 2012, Clifton Gundersen merged with the firm, LarsonAllen and was renamed CliftonLarsonAllen. They are the eighth largest CPA firm in the country.
- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 2010
  - The Finance staff received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Annual Statement for 2010. This is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. This is the sixth year in a row that La Crosse County has received the highest standard available. Less than 6% of local governments in the nation have received this award and met this standard.
- La Crosse County Community Development: Challenging Trends, La Crosse Promise and the Joint Housing Task Force - Brian Fukuda, Community Development Specialist
  - The Challenging Trends Report was led by the County Economic Development workgroup to look at some of the challenging trends that we are facing. The City of La Crosse Planning Department also worked with the workgroup. The

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workgroup looked at population trends, school enrollment trends, vacant residential lots, tax rate disparities, concentrations of poverty, neighborhood deterioration and crime, and increased investment in infrastructure. They also looked at "The Power of a Promise" which was started in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Students, Community, Region, and business would benefit from the Promise Program. La Crosse Promise, Inc. was formed.

- Randy Nelson, Superintendent of Schools and La Crosse Promise Board Member presented on La Crosse Promise, Inc. There is a 2-Phase Plan for Implementation: start with putting Future Centers in our schools and work to design an effective scholarship program. The purpose of the Future Centers are to help to prepare students for a productive life after high school and collect data that will help us understand the need for scholarships. Future Center Advisors will work with each high school student and their families to identify an achievable path to a profitable career, explore various higher educational opportunities, complete school applications, FAFSA, scholarship applications, and other paperwork, work with the schools and other institutions to change the culture, get kids thinking about higher education early, and give kids the resources they need to be successful in school from an early age. The La Crosse Promise Board Inc. will need to better understand the need for additional scholarships and craft a program that will provide the incentive to address our challenging trends. There hopes are to build a national reputation as an "Education Community".
- Rick Staff, President & Legal Counsel, Gerrard-Hoeschler Realtors, and Chair of the Housing Task Force. In May 2011, the County Board passed a resolution creating the Joint City-County Housing Task Force (HTF). In March 2012, the City Council passed a resolution adopting the findings of the HTF report. The Housing Task Force recommended to encouraging revitalization of neighborhoods and the need for continued coordinated efforts among public and private entities to address these challenges. The next steps are to ask La Crosse County Board to accept the findings of the HTF Report, continue to keep an eye on trends and support the work of La Crosse Promise, Inc., support the Neighborhood Revitalization Commission, and participate in community discussions regarding CDC. This work is important. The trends indicate regional inefficiencies that start in the core of the City of La Crosse. These trends will only be reversed through effective public-private partnership. This all ties in with all of the work of the County's Economic Development Workgroup.
- Planning for the Future of Lakeview Health Center – Challenges and Capital Improvement Options – Administrator Steve O'Malley, Lakeview Administrator Pam Semb, UW-Extension Department Head Mary Meehan-Strub, Hillview Assistant Administrator Wanda Plachecki, and Facilities Director Jim Speropulos
  - Lakeview is the most cost effective solutions to meet needs of low income and difficult to serve clients. Mississippi Valley Health Services shares cost with other Counties, but has not solved all the financial challenges. Facility presents unique challenges to reduce high operating costs and address deferred maintenance. A team was composed of UW-Extension Department Head Mary Meehan-Strub, Lakeview Administrator Pam Semb, Lakeview Assistant Administrator Wanda Plachecki, Hillview Administrator Pete Eide, and Hillview Assistant Administrator Kelly Kramer to evaluate options to reduce costs and meet the most pressing issues. This team presented three options to the Board with pros and cons: upgrade/repair existing building,

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replacement with large institutional facility, or replacement with small neighborhood facility. They team recommends to replace with small neighborhood facility.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by B. Brockmiller/D. Ferries to adjourn at 8:39 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 18 ayes, 5 excused - P. Jerome, K. Johnson, M. Pedretti, L. Pfaff, and T. Wehrs.

**STATE OF WISCONSIN )  
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE )**

**I, Ginny Dankmeyer , La Crosse County Clerk, in and for the County of La Crosse, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of Proceedings of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors at the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held Monday, July 09, 2012 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 19 OF JULY 2012.**