

(273-11/12)

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, MARCH 05, 2012**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, March 05, 2012 in the Administrative Center, Room B410. The Deputy County Clerk, Amy Twitchell, took attendance. 24 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:

District Name	Attendance
1 Richmond, Andrea	Present
2 Geary, Ralph	Present
3 Feehan, Bill	Excused
4 Johnson, Jai	Excused
5 Johnson, Karin	Present at 06:03 PM
6 Billings, Jill	Present
7 Plesha, Roger	Present
8 Freedland, Maureen	Present
9 Hampson, Sharon	Present
10 Wood, Margaret	Present at 6:02 PM
11 Kader, Audrey	Present
12 Flood, Bridget	Present
13 Brockmiller, Bill	Present
14 Medinger, John	Present
15 Mach, Beverly	Present
16 Sebranek, Gerald	Excused
17 Meyer, Donald	Present
18 Johnson, Tara	Present
19 Keil, Robert	Excused
20 Bina, Donald	Absent
21 Manthei, Dennis	Present
22 Ebert, Ray	Present at 06:05 PM
23 Gamroth, Tammy	Present
24 Pfaff, Leon	Present
25 Schroeder, Jeffrey	Present
26 Burke, Vicki	Excused at 06:46 PM
27 Pedretti, Marilyn	Present
28 Doyle, Steve	Present
29 Kruse, Monica	Present
30 Spiker, Charles	Present
31 Ferries, Dan	Present
32 Benrud, Arlene	Excused
33 Berns, Jim	Present
34 Wehrs, Tina	Excused
35 Bilskemper, Joe	Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson

- Chair Johnson handed out a "draft" copy of a La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Committee Preferences for the County Board Supervisors to review and open to suggestions. The official copy will be handed out in April.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Mach attended the La Crosse Municipality Transit and Utility Board was last Monday where the 2011 Annual Report was presented. In 2011, it was the highest ridership in 29 years, due to the new routes established in 2010 and the opening of the Grand River Station. Thirty-six percent use the bus to get to work and 32% use the bus to get to school and other education opportunities. Fifty-three percent of the individuals that ride the bus do not have access to a car and without public transportation would not be able to access jobs or other services. Forty-seven percent of individuals ride the bus voluntarily, even if though they have access to a car. In 2007, a program was started that every first Monday of the month be free fare day. This program has been very popular. In 1999, La Crosse MTU installed bike racks on buses. They were the first transit system to offer this option. MTU is also involved with sustainability. The Grand Rivers Station was awarded the 2011 Public Works Project of the Year by the American Public Works Association, Wisconsin Chapter. The award recognizes the partnership between the City, the architects, contractors, and engineers in completing public works projects. Supervisor Mach has served on the MTU Board for four years.
 - Supervisor Flood attended a Judiciary and Public Safety Meeting on Friday, February 17th at the Wisconsin Counties Association. The presenters were from the Department of Justice. Supervisor Flood encouraged everyone on the board to participate and serve on a Wisconsin Counties Association Committee.

Deputy Administrator Report – Gary Ingvalson

PROCLAMATION MARCH 2012 - HUMAN SERVICES AND FAMILY COURT MONTH

WHEREAS, staff who work in the Human Services Department and Family Court of the county literally "touch" thousands of lives every day who are in need of temporary or longer term assistance to meet their basic needs or to adjust to transitions in their families; and, **WHEREAS**, citizens who rely on county human services and family court programs range in age from pre-birth to over 100 years of age; and, **WHEREAS**, county human services programs are designed to protect our most vulnerable populations which include children, adults and children with disabilities, the aging, and people dealing with mental illness; and, **WHEREAS**, to serve and help individuals in need, county human services professionals routinely enter homes and travel to other locations in the community, at times facing volatile situations and safety risks; and, **WHEREAS**, Family Court and Mediation and Family Court Services strive to maintain the dignity, safety and security of families going through difficult transitions; and, **WHEREAS**, the individuals and the entire community benefit from the investment in lives that human services and family court professionals make every day; and, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of March 2012 as Human Services and Family Court Month and urges all citizens to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of Human Services and Family Court staff.

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PROCLAMATION

Motion by S. Hampson/M. Kruse to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - D. Bina, 7 excused - A. Benrud, J. Bilskemper, B. Feehan, J. Johnson, R. Keil, G. Sebranek and T. Wehrs.

- Solid Waste Department Presentation and Update – Hank Koch
 - Solid Waste Director Hank Koch presented on ferrous and non-ferrous recovery and the partnership La Crosse County has with Xcel Energy. Xcel Energy presented a check to Solid Waste. Supervisor Spiker, Chair of Public Works and Infrastructure, was asked to come to the front of the room, where Mark from Xcel presented two checks. The amount of the first check was for \$108,825.00 for the ferrous recovered. The second check was for the aluminum and it was in the amount of \$30,500. We exceeded revenues because of good pricing for commodities. In 2011, Xcel worked on renegotiating the rates with metal scrap dealers. The aluminum system was placed on line in an expedited fashion.

What does this mean? La Crosse County and Xcel partnership is proactive, collaborative, and mutually beneficial. Revenues were exceeded. The money will go into our accounts and reserve funds. Our community is more sustainable since we conserve mineral resources. The aluminum cans recovered could fill the County Board room 16 times.

- Gas to Energy project with Gundersen Lutheran is up and running. Energy is being produced and La Crosse County is making money. This will be a great revenue source for the Solid Waste Department. Jadd and Paul from the Solid Waste Department need to be recognized for all their hard work on this project as well as Nick Nichols, Sustainability Coordinator, the project manager. Nick brought this to construction and Jadd and Paul and others brought it to operation.
- Annual Sustainability Report – Nick Nichols
 - Supervisor Pedretti stated that sustainability is more than planting a tree or recycling, but it is about the money. Sustainability is about the triple bottom line-Economics, Environment and Social Impacts. It's about the people, planet and profit. Thank you goes out to Supervisor Jai Johnson for getting these projects started. Policy papers are being developed and Sustainability and other departments keep getting goals accomplished.
 - Sustainability Coordinator Nick Nichols presented on the Annual Sustainability Report for 2011. The Sustainability goals according to the Natural Step: (1) Reduce the use of fossil fuels; (2) Conserve mineral resources; (3) Protect the ecology; and (4) Treat people fairly. Several departments are working and striving to become more sustainable and save money. Nick is open to any suggestions, input and comments.

Sustainability needs to continually be updated. The envelope needs to be pushed to save more energy, protect the planet, and save more money.

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SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Chair Johnson followed up on the draft form for committee selections. She clarified the number of supervisors in the standing committees reflect what is being proposed in the upcoming Chapter 1 ordinance. There may be some supervisors that will need to serve on more than one committee.

ADJOURN

Motion by B. Brockmiller/M. Wood to adjourn at 7:10 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - D. Bina, 8 excused - A. Benrud, J. Bilskemper, V. Burke, B. Feehan, J. Johnson, R. Keil, G. Sebranek and T. Wehrs.

STATE OF WISCONSIN)

COUNTY OF LA CROSSE)

I, Amy Twitchell, La Crosse County Deputy 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, March 05, 2012 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 23 OF MARCH 2012.