

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, NOVEMBER 04, 2013**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, November 04, 2013 in the Administrative Center, Room B410. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 26 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	Present
6 Plesha, Roger	Present
7 Hampson, Sharon	Present
8 Jerome, Peg	Present
9 Londre, Andrew	Present
10 Becker, Richard	Present
11 Schultz, 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	Excused
19 Downer, Thomas	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Burke, Vicki	Excused at 06:52 PM
22 Barlow, Patrick	Present at 06:09 PM after being sworn into office
23 Pedretti, Marilyn	Present
24 Pfaff, Leon	Present
25 Ebert, Ray	Present
26 Gamroth, Tammy	Present
27 Wehrs, Tina	Absent
28 Keil, Robert	Present
29 Johnson, Tara	Present

A moment of silence was held in honor of Russ Fiedler who passed away. He was the County Clerk from 1974 - 1985 and after that he continued working for several years as a bailiff for the courts.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:  
County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson**

(159-13/14)

**CHAIR CHANGE:** 1st Vice Chair S. Hampson took the chair.

**APPOINTMENT:** Appoint Patrick Barlow as County Board Supervisor for District 22 for a term to begin immediately and to expire April 15, 2014 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Charles Spiker. Motion by T. Johnson/M. Kruse to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - T. Wehrs, 1 excused - L. Berg, 1 vacant - District 22.

Patrick Barlow was sworn into office by Judge Scott Horne. Chair Johnson thanked Supervisors Hampson, Freedland, Ebert, K. Johnson, Meyer, Kruse and Burke who all assisted in interviewing the four applicants for this vacancy.

**CHAIR CHANGE:** Chair T. Johnson resumed the chair.

- Transition to County email – Supervisors are reminded that today is the last day that personal email addresses will be used. All Supervisors should now be using County email addresses.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
  - Supervisor Veenstra announced that District Attorney Tim Gruenke was awarded Prosecutor of the Year for the State of Wisconsin. Supervisor Veenstra also made mention of the unexpected passing of the Monroe District Attorney, John Matousek.
  - Supervisor Holtze reported on the County Ambassador Program. Four topics that were discussed are transferring jurisdiction of 17-year-old offenders back to juvenile court, the Speaker's Task Force on Mental Health, treatment alternatives and diversion programs, and designating razing from a special tax to a special charge.
  - Supervisor Hampson attended an Effective Sentencing Program. It included several counties in our area and they were comparing diversion programs and what each county is doing and where to improve. La Crosse County is in the forefront, and the next thing the county needs to focus on is presentencing.
  - Supervisor Schroeder reminded that on Veteran's Day, Freedom Honor Flight and UWL – Athletics are sponsoring a Veteran's breakfast at UWL Mitchell Hall at 8 AM.
  - Supervisor Ebert read a resolution from the La Crosse County Board in February 1945 renaming Waterloo Park to Veteran's Memorial Park and that it be dedicated to the men and women who serve in the Armed Forces of World War I and II.

#### **Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley**

#### **PROCLAMATION NOVEMBER 2013 - VETERANS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the Veterans Service Office assists and supports La Crosse County veterans and their family members in recognition of the sacrifices and service of veterans to La Crosse County, the state of Wisconsin, and the United States; and, **WHEREAS**, respect for veterans' achievements and sacrifices on behalf of the nation and the world is ensured; and, **WHEREAS**, leadership and advocacy for La Crosse County veterans is demonstrated; and, **WHEREAS**, commitment to service excellence while assisting veterans with their applications for state and federal veterans' programs is of the highest level. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of November 2013 as La Crosse County Veterans Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution military veterans have made to La Crosse County.

Motion by R. Becker/J. Schroeder to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - T. Wehrs, 2 excused - L. Berg and R. Keil.

- **Final Update on 2014 Budget and Resolutions for consideration at Annual Meeting** – Administrator O’Malley gave a brief update on the 2014 budget including the Chapter 4 Ordinance rewrite including general fund balance, debt levy mill rate cap and debt rate history.
  - 2014 budget conditions and decisions include a strong financial position, low interest rates, levy limit to value of new construction, no carry-forward of unused levy and sales tax revenue remains strong and stable.
  - 2014 decisions, including impact on 2015 debt service are jail staffing for direct supervision pod, Lakeview Facilities and who we serve, sizing and location, land sale to West Salem School District and disposition of Lakeview Facility, Administrative Center design and remodel or replacement, change in staff positions – phasing out of Home Health service, Medical Examiner costs and partnership with Dane County, and Highway funding an debt strategy. Without new Highway funding, debt levy will rise in future years or we’ll need to do less work.
  - 2014 budget next steps – Supervisors are encouraged to meet with Administrator O’Malley or Finance Director Ingvalson to ask questions or develop proposals for amendments to the budget. The public hearing on the budget will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> and the Annual Meeting and budget adoption will be November 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Resolutions that need to be considered are the County Board compensation for the 2014-2016 term, changes in positions including recommendation to phase out Home Health Division, and fees and charges resolution.
  
- **Report by the Administrative Center & Downtown Campus Study Committee** – Supervisor Veenstra gave an overview of this committee and the work that has been completed thus far. A study was done in 2004 regarding asbestos removal in the Administrative Center. Money was budgeted last year to look at options for the building. This committee was charged with looking at and obtaining data as to decide what is in the best interest of this building with regards to the campus and service to the citizens. The committee commissioned Stantec to do a market assessment of Lot C and also requested an RFP for a space needs and cost comparison analysis with regards to the Administrative building.
  - **Presentation on Market Study evaluation of Lot C** – Brian Fukuda reviewed the evaluation done by Stantec.
    - Lot C is a very prominent block in the downtown area with approximately 98,000 square feet (2.247 acres). The County may need to use part of Lot C to build a new Administrative Center.
    - Both the City and downtown have experienced a growth in households from 2000-2010 and the city is projected to see increases in both population and households in the future.
    - Uses mentioned in the study include bank, hotel, workforce housing, market rate housing, museum, office (possibly school district administration, and retail.) The hotel was viewed as most market ready with banking, residential and museum being next on the list. Retail appears to be the most challenging at this point, and the museum is a unique use that could be a potential.
    - Lot C is generally a good site near the heart of downtown. Generally participants were looking for standalone sites with a shared parking structure. All uses would be viable for 2014 construction season and hotel appears to be most urgent. This site is attractive because it would not require demolition. All options assumed that parking would need to be in a shared facility in the center of the site and the project would benefit significantly from shared parking scenarios.

- There are many variables that will have an effect on the ultimate assessed value of this lot and it is difficult to draw a definitive conclusion.
- **Presentation of Space Needs and Cost Comparative Analysis** – River Architects Chad Bloedel and Val Shute [View full presentation](#)
  - A primary component of this analysis is the documentation of an existing building program and proposal of future building program for an improved Administrative Center taking into account each department's special needs and opportunities to share building amenities.
  - A second component of the analysis is focused on the existing building's structure, systems, and exterior envelope. Experts in each discipline provide insight and preliminary solutions to various challenges of the existing building.
  - A third component was to propose a range of solutions which included a number of schemes, each offering unique possibilities for improving departmental flow and interaction with the public. Maximizing parking on campus, minimizing costs and working on a tight schedule were assumed goals in each scheme with some schemes having notable advantages over the others. The full range of options was presented so that all components can be evaluated and considered.
  - Finally a decision matrix and set of recommendations are included to guide the County's first steps in this decision.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Supervisors are reminded that next Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 6 PM will be the Public Hearing on the 2014 budget followed by the Annual Meeting that evening if time allows. If needed, the Annual Meeting will continue on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at 9 AM.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by T. Downer/P. Jerome to adjourn at 7:58 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - T. Wehrs, 2 excused - L. Berg and V. Burke.

**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, November 04, 2013 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 11 OF NOVEMBER 2013.**