

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, OCTOBER 07, 2013**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, October 07, 2013 in the Administrative Center, Room B410. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 21 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 Veenstra, Joe	Excused
4 Freedland, Maureen	Excused
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	Excused
14 Schroeder, Jeffrey	Present
15 Kruse, Monica	Excused
16 Ferries, Dan	Present
17 Berns, Jim	Present
18 Berg, Laurence	Excused
19 Downer, Thomas	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Burke, Vicki	Present
22 Spiker, Charles	Excused
23 Pedretti, Marilyn	Present
24 Pfaff, Leon	Present
25 Ebert, Ray	Present
26 Gamroth, Tammy	Excused
27 Wehrs, Tina	Present
28 Keil, Robert	Present
29 Johnson, Tara	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson

- Supervisor Conference Reports – none reported.

Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley

PROCLAMATION OCTOBER 2013 - SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING MONTH

WHEREAS, dedicated nationally recognized County professionals help to minimize our county's impact on the environment by effectively managing waste through award winning programs; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County solid waste programs in part include waste-to-energy, permanent household hazardous materials collection, asphalt shingle recycling, treatment of petroleum impacted soils, and trailer home recycling; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County's solid waste program has achieved Green Tier status and is recognized by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for having superior environmental performance. **WHEREAS**, in addition to these programs, La Crosse County facilitates local and regional collaborative efforts in managing waste through shared recycling newsletters, mobile collection of household hazardous materials, access to the waste-to-energy program, and solid waste planning; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County has shown its commitment to further enhancing solid waste and recycling efforts through sustainability practices which will be coordinated by the County's sustainability coordinator; and, **WHEREAS**, residents benefit from the cost savings, improved service and enhanced sustainability that result from intergovernmental collaboration at all levels of government on solid waste and recycling collection, processing and beneficial reuse of by-products; and, **WHEREAS**, all residents have an on-going responsibility to participate in sustainability through decreasing the amount of garbage that is produced in our homes, schools, communities, and work place by practicing waste reduction, recycling, and buying recycled products. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of October 2013 as La Crosse County Solid Waste and Recycling Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to the welfare of La Crosse County residents.

Motion by L. Pfaff/R. Becker to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 21 ayes, 1 absent - A. Richmond, 7 excused - L. Berg, M. Freedland, T. Gamroth, M. Kruse, D. Meyer, C. Spiker and J. Veenstra.

- 2014 Administrators Budget – Administrator O'Malley reviewed the 2014 La Crosse County Administrators recommended budget.
 - The 2014 gross expenditures is \$162.3 million. Lakeview facilities is the reason for one the largest increases, if approved. The levy is going up 3.7%. This is the highest it's gone up in a few years. In 2012 the levy went up zero and in 2013 it went up 1.25% for highway or jail debt.
 - 2014 Budget conditions and decisions
 - We are in a strong financial position currently, low interest rates, levy limit to value of new construction, no carry-forward or unused levy.
 - Sales tax revenue is strong and stable.
 - 2014 Decisions, including impact on 2015 debt services
 - Jail staffing for direct supervision pod
 - Lakeview facilities: who we serve, sizing, and location
 - Land sale to West Salem School District and disposition of Lakeview Facility
 - Administrative Center design of remodel or replacement
 - Change in staff positions, phase out of home health services
 - Fees and charges
 - Medical Examiner costs and partnership with Dane County
 - Highway funding and debt strategy, without highway funding, debt levy will rise in future years or we'll need to do less work
 - **Highway Department Capital Improvements**
 - 285 miles of County highways, 159 miles of State highways, 124 bridges that we are responsible for and only 69 of those are on the County highway system, hundreds of small structures of less than 20', and an additional 748 miles of local roads in La Crosse County.

(151-13/14)

- Challenges facing the Highway Department: declining sources of revenue, inflationary increase of costs, aging pavements, increasing traffic, and increases in legal weight limits.
- Revenue challenges: property tax levy caps, decreasing share of costs for general transportation aids, and less grant dollars from Federal and State.
- Construction and maintenance costs have gone up significantly since 2004.
- Asphalt roadway life expectancy is 30 years with proper maintenance.
- Per the Wisconsin System for local roads, our average pavement age is 27 years old.
- Changes in traffic counts have continued to go up.
- PASER rating Countywide averages 5.75.
- \$3 million of Capital support at the 2013 cost to maintain the current average PASER rating.
- How is road maintenance and construction paid for?
 - 83% of costs are paid for by property taxes, remaining 17% are paid by gas tax.
 - Average of \$779 per year from each household.
 - General Transportation Aids were intended to fund 30% of costs, 2012 GTA was about 18% of costs statewide.
- Possible solutions for increasing funding: increase property tax levy, borrowing for Capital work, grant funding, reduce system size by jurisdictional transfers, user fees, roadway maintenance agreement, statutory language changes, and cooperative agreements with local municipalities similar to current efforts with CTH SN (Sand Lake Rd).
- Solutions we have used so far are borrowing for capital projects and grant funding.
- Solutions untried are increasing property tax levy and or debt, user fees, roadway maintenance agreements, public/private partnerships, and statutory language changes.
- Highway Commissioner Ron Chamberlain reviewed the road projects scheduled for 2014-2018 in La Crosse County with the PASER ratings, scheduled year of repair, construction costs, mileage involved, grant dollars involved, other costs/funding, and the County costs.
- Finance Director Gary Ingvalson reviewed the 12/31/2013 fund balances and cash flow requirements. The fund balance is very specific to what it can be used for and that is outlined in the County Ordinances. The auditors recommended fund balances percentages for General Fund to be in the 25-35% range.
- Human Services fund balances have been used for major initiatives such as software system upgrades and offsetting fluctuations in expenses.
- The strength of the County Self Insurance Health Fund has been used to hold the premium increases to 0% for four years in a row, helping County and employees with these costs and the transition to a high deductible plan.
- Administrator O'Malley reviewed plans for Lakeview Facilities and the possible sale of the Lakeview building.
- **2014 Budget Next Steps** – In October the committees will review budgets including Executive Committee review, County Board compensation for 2014-2016 term, November 4th Planning meeting will be on the Administrative Center Committee recommendations and study results, and fees and charges schedule. The week of November 4-6 will be additional committee reviews. The Public Hearing will be on November 12th and the annual budget meeting and adoption will be November 13th.

(152-13/14)

ADJOURN

Motion by A. Londre/P. Jerome to adjourn at 7:48 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - L. Berg, M. Freedland, T. Gamroth, M. Kruse, D. Meyer, C. Spiker and J. Veenstra.

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, October 07, 2013 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 15 OF OCTOBER 2013.