

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, JULY 07, 2014**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, July 07, 2014 in the Administrative Center, Room B410. The Deputy County Clerk, Amy Twitchell, took attendance. 27 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 Rosa, Keyla         | Present           |
| 6 Plesha, Roger       | Present           |
| 7 Hampson, Sharon     | Present           |
| 8 Jerome, Peg         | Present           |
| 9 Caucutt, Nancy      | Present           |
| 10 Cable, Kim         | Present           |
| 11 Scheller, Patrick  | Present           |
| 12 Holtze, Dave       | Present           |
| 13 Logue, Brian       | Excused           |
| 14 Schroeder, Jeffrey | Present           |
| 15 Kruse, Monica      | Present           |
| 16 Ferries, Dan       | Present           |
| 17 Giese, Mike        | Present           |
| 18 Berg, Laurence     | Present           |
| 19 Hoffman, Hubert    | Present           |
| 20 Doyle, Steve       | Present           |
| 21 Burke, Vicki       | Present           |
| 22 Barlow, Patrick    | Present           |
| 23 Nikolay, Matt      | Present           |
| 24 Pfaff, Leon        | Present           |
| 25 Ebert, Ray         | Present           |
| 26 Hesse, Dan         | Present           |
| 27 Wehrs, Tina        | Absent            |
| 28 Keil, Robert       | Present           |
| 29 Johnson, Tara      | Present           |

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson**

- County Board and Public Involvement in Lot C Development Process – Chair Johnson informed the County Board of upcoming dates and meetings in regards to the RFPs for Lot C Development.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
  - Supervisor Burke made note that the annual report from the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission was on their desk.

**Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley**

**PROCLAMATION JULY 2014 - 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/P. Jerome to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 2 excused - S. Doyle, B. Logue and 1 absent - T. Wehrs.

- Presentation by CliftonLarsonAllen - Audit Report on La Crosse County's 2013 Annual Financial Report (CAFR)
  - CliftonLarsonAllen representative, Renee Messing, gave a summary of the audit report and provided a handout to the Supervisors. The significant audit areas are made up of several items – transaction cycles, cash and investments, receivables, property and equipment, long-term obligations and related accounts, fund balance and net position, revenues and expenditures / expenses, and financial statements and related disclosures. The Auditor's Report identifies managements' responsibilities and auditors' responsibilities. The report says, "Financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted account principles." The General Fund financial results are composed of revenues and transfers in, expenditures and transfers out, fund balance beginning of year and the end of year. The financial results for the Government Funds include Human Services Fund, Debt Service Fund, Business and Nonmajor Governmental Funds-land record assessment, old landfill, aging, health, and other. The Reconciliation of Fund Balance to the Government-wide Net Position is statement of La Crosse County's capital assets and long-term debt. The Business-type funds are composed of two types of funds: enterprise funds-Hillview Health Care Center, Solid Waste, Nonmajor, County Highway; and internal service funds-County Highway and self-insurance. The significant disclosures are accounting policies, cash and investments, receivables, capital assets, and long-term debt. The Auditor's Communication Letter is a standard communication between the auditors and the Board. It identifies the qualitative aspects of account practices-accounting policies, accounting estimates, disclosures, adjustments, management representations, and other items-no difficulties or disagreements, no consultations with other independent accountants. The Internal Control Letter is required by the government audit standards and addresses two issues-internal control and compliance.
- Request for one time funding by Mayor Kabat for Trane Neighborhood Park Improvement in the City of La Crosse (TIF District #15)
  - Mayor Tim Kabat presented on Tax Incremental District 15 (TID #15). Mayor Kabat stated that the City, La Crosse County, and neighboring local jurisdictions need to come together due to the federal government and the State of Wisconsin imposing cuts and limitations on what local governments can do. The City of La Crosse cannot fund these types of economic development projects alone. Last December, the La Crosse Common Council reached an agreement with Trane for a \$5 million TIF incentive to keep Trane in La Crosse for the next generation. Trane's total investment is over \$55 million, with \$8.8 million in real estate and \$45 million in equipment and

training. The focus is the retention of over 1,700 jobs. According to Trane, 60% of these jobs are filled by non-City residents. Investments by non-City residents benefit surrounding communities. Sales tax paid by 1,700 employees benefit La Crosse County directly. The City of La Crosse doesn't receive benefits from the real estate taxes and sales tax. The TIF that was set up with Trane and Chart included flood and stormwater repairs, park upgrades, new housing, and other infrastructure. County funds can help to improve the quality of life, increase the tax base, build a better community, and become a model for how the Coulee Region does economic development. This request aligns with recommendations from the 2012 City-County Joint Housing Task Force. The Housing Task Force report recommended the City and County invest capital improvement dollars into the community. The request is for \$350,000. Granting this request would be a step forward, showing all of our constituents that we can work together.

- Staff report on options for funding sources for Trane Neighborhood Park Improvements in the City of La Crosse and policy on use of CapX 2020 payment
  - Administrator O'Malley presented on the financial perspective of the upcoming resolution. In the evaluation, administrative and finance department looked at three revenue sources-general fund, excess sales tax, and CapX 2020 money. It was ruled out to use the general fund and excess sales tax. CapX 2020 was unbudgeted and unexpected money provided to La Crosse County. La Crosse County received \$723,506. The Board adopted a resolution in March 2014, Policy for Use of One-Time Environmental Impact Fee Received by La Crosse County due to Construction of the CapX 2020 Transmission Line. In this resolution it states that the expenditure of the one-time Environmental Impact Fee would only be used for one-time projects or capital expenditures and will not be considered for any other public purpose except those identified under Wisconsin Statute 16.969(4), which indicated that the municipality may use the funds only for park, conservancy, wetland or similar environmental programs. Only a portion of the CapX 2020 funds would be used for the resolution being presented. There would still be remaining money to be used for other parks in the County.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-7/14 RE: APPROVAL OF ONE TIME FUNDING FOR A PORTION OF NEIGHBORHOOD PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN TAX INCREMENTAL DISTRICT #15, DUE TO REALLOCATION OF TID REVENUES FOR TRANE COMPANY EXPANSION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of La Crosse Common Council has approved a development agreement with Trane Company that pledges up to \$5 million in cash grants over the life of Tax Incremental District (TID) #15, which is unprecedented in support of their \$55 million proposed for equipment and training, plus \$8.8 million in real estate expansion; and **WHEREAS**, the TID #15 project plan calls for neighborhood improvements, including \$2.4 million in streets, storm water, bike accommodations, \$1.3 million housing and \$875,000 for park improvements, which will not be able to fully funded due to the development agreement with Trane; and, **WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of La Crosse requests that the County provide up to \$350,000 for neighborhood housing and park improvements, because of the regional economic impact of Trane Co., including 1700 jobs with approximately 60% of employees living outside the City of La Crosse; and **WHEREAS**, the County has few funding sources available to consider this unprecedented request, but has not allocated the CapX 2020 environmental impact fee, that could be used to park improvements. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County and the regional economy benefit significantly from the continued presence of the Trane Company in the City of La Crosse, and the County and region will also benefit from a revitalized neighborhood in the area established as TID #15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board approve a one-time allocation of \$250,000 from the CapX 2020 environmental impact fee to the City of La Crosse for Neighborhood Park Improvement in TID #15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that release of the funding is contingent upon receiving a detailed report to the

County Board describing the sustainability of the park improvements funded with this contribution and that the City request funding from other regional municipal partners as well. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board approves an additional allocation of up to \$100,000 contingent upon matching funds being formally committed from other governmental units. **FISCAL NOTE:** The County has received \$723,506 from the State of Wisconsin for the one time environmental impact fee and use of these funds must be approved by the County Board.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by S. Hampson/V. Burke to approve. Discussion ensued. Facilities Director Jim Speropulos and Administrator O'Malley responded to questions from the Board. Motion by R. Ebert/P. Barlow to amend by replacing \$250,000 with \$100,000 in the first be it further resolved, replace \$100,000 with \$50,000 in the third be it further resolved, and insert County before governmental in the third be it further resolved, failed on a roll call vote with 23 nays, 4 ayes - P. Barlow, R. Ebert, D. Ferries and R. Keil, 1 excused - B. Logue, and 1 absent - T. Wehrs. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous roll call vote with 27 ayes, 1 excused - B. Logue, and 1 absent - T. Wehrs.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

- Supervisor Barlow asked about the funding of safety car seats program.
- Supervisor Geary suggested meeting with Supervisor Freedland in regards to the railroad issues and maybe having someone from the Federal regulatory agency to make a presentation.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by H. Hoffman/K. Rosa to adjourn at 7:26 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 excused - B. Logue, and 1 absent - T. Wehrs.

**STATE OF WISCONSIN )**

**COUNTY OF LA CROSSE )**

**I, Amy Twitchell, La Crosse Deputy 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 07, 2014 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 16 OF JULY 2014.**