

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, OCTOBER 06, 2014**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, October 06, 2014 in the Administrative Center, Room B410. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 23 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	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	Excused
13 Logue, Brian	Present
14 Schroeder, Jeffrey	Excused
15 Kruse, Monica	Present
16 Ferries, Dan	Present
17 Giese, Mike	Present
18 Berg, Laurence	Excused
19 Hoffman, Hubert	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Excused
21 Burke, Vicki	Present
22 Barlow, Patrick	Present
23 Nikolay, Matt	Present
24 Pfaff, Leon	Present
25 Ebert, Ray	Excused
26 Hesse, Dan	Present
27 Wehrs, Tina	Excused
28 Keil, Robert	Present
29 Johnson, Tara	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson

- Update on Lot C and Campus Parking considerations – Supervisor Veenstra announced that they have been having regular meetings with Weber Holdings and the City of La Crosse. The City of La Crosse has requested an updated parking

study. There are several options available for additional parking with the best option so far being Lot D. Another meeting will be held October 7th with regards to the parking.

- Budget cycle schedule and logistics – Chair Johnson reminded Supervisors that the October committee meetings are full with budget items. October 23rd will be a second budget meeting for the Executive Committee that will review all changes that are coming through all committees. The November 10th Board meeting will be a public hearing at 6pm followed by the Annual Budget meeting if there is time. The Annual Budget meeting will continue on Wednesday, November 12th at 9am. Supervisors who are intending to make a budget amendment need to contact Administrator O'Malley before the budget meeting.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Hoffman announced the Lake Onalaska Overlook on Brice Prairie is close to being done and a dedication is set for October 20th. He also noted that the Village of Holmen will be shutting down its wastewater treatment center in 2017 and will then be using the City of La Crosse's treatment center.
 - Chair Johnson reminded Supervisors that the 2015 United Way Pledge forms should be turned in to the County Clerk by the October 16th Monthly meeting.

Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley

PROCLAMATION OCTOBER 2014 - 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, landfill gas to energy, permanent household hazardous materials collection, asphalt shingle and clean wood waste 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 are 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 2014 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/P. Barlow to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 23 ayes, 6 excused - L. Berg, S. Doyle, R. Ebert, D. Holtze, J. Schroeder and T. Wehrs.

- 2015 Budget Overview and decision making process – Administrator O'Malley reviewed the budget book and pointed out the different sections.
 - Emergency Services Administrator Jay Loeffler reviewed the current County Radio System and the coverage estimates. The consultant's proposals included 5 sites with coverage of 80%, up from 71% and a projected cost of \$2.3 million, 6 sites with coverage of 86% with a projected cost of \$3.2

(102-14/15)

million, and the recommended plan of 7 sites with coverage of 96% and 99% digital law enforcement and a projected cost of \$5.8 million. For County Radio System, Motorola proposed a 9 site plan with a projected cost of \$6

million. The final proposal after discussion was a 6 site system using four existing towers, two shared with the City of La Crosse and eliminates three new tower sites. The projected cost is \$4.5 million and 95% reliability and coverage of 92% of the County. After looking at all the projections, the decision was made to hold off as the equipment is good through 2017 and the County has other capital needs right now. Currently \$550,000 is budgeted to cover the County's share of the City of La Crosse phase.

- The committee review of department budgets will happen this week with a special Executive Committee meeting on October 23rd at 8am. Changes by committees to Executive Committee and/or full board will happen in November. Individual budget amendments by Supervisors should be identified as early as possible. The equalized value is up 3.9% with a tax rate decrease of 7 cents. The levy increase is limited to net new construction, 1.3% plus any increase in debt payments. Expenditure increase of .45%, excluding construction projects and Human Services increase, funded by non-levy sources.
- 2015 Debt Service schedules and impact on Tax Levy – Budgeted tax levy for debt services rises \$316,000. 2015 projects that use other sources for debt are Carroll Heights - \$1.45 million with \$750,000 borrowed, Lakeview Campus - \$16.9 million with 20 year bonding. 2015 projects that use tax levy funded debt are Highway - \$2.58 million with a 7.5 year note, Administrative Center budgeted at \$22 million with 20 year bonding, and the Radio System shared costs of \$550,000 with a 5 year note of general fund balance. With continued use of Highway borrowing and spreading the Administrative Center borrowing over 2.5 years will raise the total levy by 1.4% in 2016, 1.9% in 2017, and 1% in 2018 assuming 0% increase in equalized value and operating levy.
- Capital Improvement Plan Projects
 - Remodel of Associated Bank for Administrative Center
 - Lakeview Campus
 - Radio System shared cost with the City of La Crosse
 - Carroll Heights façade improvements
 - Economic Development, Schroeder Property
 - Solid Waste, \$635,000 in multiple projects
 - Highways, \$5,675,000 and affecting 16.2+ miles
- Future decisions regarding highway funding
 - Highway challenges include declining sources of revenue and property tax limits, inflation increases (hot mix and seal oil), aging pavement, increasing traffic, increase in legal weight limits, 83% of costs paid by property taxes, less grant dollars from Federal and State, and decreasing share of costs paid with General Transportation Aids. Originally GTA intended to fund 30% of cost and now it's about 17%. Possible solutions for increasing funding include increase property tax levy, borrowing for capital work, grant funding, user fees such as vehicle registration fees, roadway maintenance agreements, public and private partnerships, statutory language changes for different types of sale taxes, cooperative agreements with local municipalities similar to the current efforts with CTH SN and reducing system size by jurisdictional transfers. La Crosse County Highway System includes 285 miles of CTH, 159 miles of STH, 124 bridges we are responsible to manage of which 69 are on the CTH system and hundreds of small

(103-14/15)

structures of less than 20 feet. There is also an additional 748 miles of local roads in La Crosse County. Highway Commissioner Ron Chamberlain has secured \$6,734,827 of grant dollars for highways. \$2.766 million of levy supports annual maintenance, plowing, mowing, etc. We must seek other sources than property tax or debt for reconditioning, reconstruction, resurfacing and rehabilitation.

- o Fund Balances Applied – A breakdown of the fund balances applied can be found on page 409 of the budget book. The strength of the balance sheet encourages bond rating agencies to give the County the highest rating and for bond holders that buy the debt to be confident that payments will be made. The County uses the strength of their balance sheet and when they have a fund balance they investigate if they can use that other than for a rainy day fund and how they end up applying that. Fund balances include the General Fund, Business Park, Land Records Assessment, Library, Old Landfill, Aging, Health, Human Services, Self-Insurance Health, Self-Insurance WMMIC, and Highway unrestricted fund balances.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – none offered.

ADJOURN

Motion by P. Scheller/D. Hesse to adjourn at 8:22 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 23 ayes, 6 excused - L. Berg, S. Doyle, R. Ebert, D. Holtze, J. Schroeder 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, October 06, 2014 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 2014.