

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, MARCH 07, 2016**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, March 07, 2016 in the Administrative Center, Room B410. The Deputy County Clerk, Amy Twitchell, took attendance. 25 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	Excused at 06:59 PM
8 Jerome, Peg	Present
9 Caucutt, Nancy	Present
10 Cable, Kim	Present
11 Scheller, Patrick	Excused
12 Holtze, Dave	Present
13 Vacant	
14 Schroeder, Jeffrey	Excused
15 Kruse, Monica	Present
16 Ferries, Dan	Present
17 Giese, Mike	Present
18 Berg, Laurence	Absent
19 Hoffman, Hubert	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Burke, Vicki	Excused at 06:28 PM
22 Barlow, Patrick	Present
23 Nikolay, Matt	Present
24 Pfaff, Leon	Present
25 Ebert, Ray	Present
26 Hesse, Dan	Present
27 Wehrs, Tina	Present
28 Keil, Robert	Present
29 Johnson, Tara	Present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson**

- Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission (MRRPC) appointment process.
  - Appointments are made by the County Board and Governor's office. Packet of materials were provided and if any Supervisors are interested, the deadline to apply is March 10<sup>th</sup>. Contact Supervisor Burke with questions.
- April/End of Term Schedule - The April Board Organizational meeting is on Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup>, not Thursday. All Supervisors serve through Committee week and the Planning meeting.

(200-15/16)

- Supervisor Conference Reports
  - Supervisor Barlow attended a public hearing in regards to a boundary agreement between the Villages of Holmen, Town of Onalaska, and City of Onalaska.
  - Supervisor Pfaff announced the Town of Farmington had a public meeting with Highway Commissioner Ron Chamberlain regarding the Hwy 108 and County Road C swap. Approximately 100-150 people attended. Informational packets will be sent. The swap will be effective May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Supervisor Burke announced the La Crosse City Arts Program Hear Here. There are orange devices on poles throughout the city at houses and landmarks and you can dial a number and hear a recorded story about the house or landmark.

**Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley**

**PROCLAMATION MARCH 2016 - 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 2016 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.

Motion by M. Kruse/K. Cable to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - L. Berg, 2 excused - P. Scheller and J. Schroeder, 1 vacant – District 13.

- Report on Neighborhood Based Social Workers and the Family Services Collaborative
  - Human Services Director Jason Witt recognized Jason Larson who is the Program and Prevention Supervisor and Isaac Hoffman as the Neighborhood Social Worker for the Northside.
  - Neighborhood deterioration is driving local human service needs. Potential contributing factors include declining housing values, declining resident-owned homes, unkept and dilapidated properties, increase transient population, and home turnover velocity. Results of neighborhood deterioration is poor environment, increased crime, declining tax base, and increased human services needs especially for children and youth. The urgency to act is family stability.
  - The La Crosse Area Family Collaborative (LAFC) prevention strategy is to stabilize families to avoid entry into emergency care systems. Neighborhood social workers are located in neighborhood offices in the lower Northside Depot / Logan North and Powell-Poage Hamilton / Washburn.
  - Early numbers show 52 families served, \$3,500 resource pool dollars expended and \$8,500 prevention system dollars leveraged. Early success is stabilizing families, overcoming system barriers, creating partnerships to fill gaps, and hearing overwhelmingly positive community feedback.

## (201-15/16)

- Upcoming LAFC education activities include Neighborhood Social Worker office open houses at Washburn Corner on April 6<sup>th</sup>, Neighborhood Social Workers share experiences in report to Health & Human Services Board on April 12<sup>th</sup>, and LAFC featured in video, Healthy County La Crosse Annual Summit on April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- County Impact on Economic Development – presented by Charlie Handy and Brian Fukuda
  - Grant activity and projects by County Staff – County Community Development Team includes County Administrator Steve O'Malley, Community Development Specialist Brian Fukuda, Planner Charlie Handy, UW-Extension CNRED Educator Karl Green. They work with municipal staff, partner agencies, and businesses throughout the County. The County leads on economic development; industrial development, small business and entrepreneurship, neighborhood revitalization, and grant writing. Research and staff work has led to increased awareness of neighborhood challenges. La Crosse Promise has raised over \$2 million in philanthropic contributions, and ReNEw has completed 171 projects on 101 properties, with over 5,000 volunteer hours.
  - Impact of Downtown Campus projects on local economy – Lot C Development has created \$68 million in construction projects, Economic Modeling (from MRRPC), projected tax base increase of \$35 million, new downtown housing which helps attract more commercial activity, and over 500 jobs expected within development.
  - The next focus will be workforce development and attraction.
- Seven Rivers Alliance Executive Director Presentation – Lisa Herr
  - The 7 Rivers Alliance is a regional leadership group that boosts economic growth by fostering collaboration in Southwest Wisconsin, Southeast Minnesota, and Northeast Iowa. They advocate for open dialogue, create networks for collaboration, leverage private and public resources, forge entrepreneurial growth, act as a clearinghouse of vital information, and enhance quality of life in the region. Their strategic priorities include removing barriers to growth, support talent pipeline development, thrive in a unified region, grow key industry clusters, and focus on business.
  - La Crosse County Economic Development Initiatives include Lakeview Business Park, La Crosse Promise, CDBG Flood EAP Program, Meadow Park Estates, CDBG Small Cities Housing Program, BORE visits, and Park Plaza. Results show revolving loan funds with 3 funds, 22 loans to date of \$6.6 million,
  - The Golden Shovel Verified Sites Program was developed for sites throughout the region that are ready for development, both publicly owned and privately owned. This program provides a scaled down alternative for smaller sites or those that cannot meet the criteria or the State program. In 2015, four sites completed the verification.
  - Upcoming events include the 2016 7 Rivers Region Business Survey on April 4<sup>th</sup>, Human Capital: effective strategies for recruiting and retaining a rural workforce on April 28<sup>th</sup>, and In the Bag: strategies for sustaining community grocery stores on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

- Supervisor Ebert asked for an update on the child safety report and Lakeview TIF District.

(202-15/16)

**ADJOURN**

Motion by R. Plesha to adjourn at 7:17PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 23 ayes, 1 absent - L. Berg, 4 excused - V. Burke, S. Hampson, P. Scheller, and J. Schroeder, 1 vacant – District 13.

**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, March 07, 2016 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 14 OF MARCH 2016.**