

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, October 7, 2019 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 22 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 Weidenbach, Doug	Present
4 Freedland, Maureen	Present
5 Tahiri, Isaac	Present
6 Plesha, Roger	Present
7 Hampson, Sharon	Excused at 06:58 PM
8 Isola, Peg	Present
9 Gundersen, Jerome	Excused
10 Cable, Kim	Excused
11 Scheller, Patrick	Excused
13 Tryggestad, Tina	Present
14 Larson, Margaret	Present
15 Kruse, Monica	Present
16 Ferries, Dan	Present
17 Giese, Mike	Present
18 Weber Strauss, Noelle	Present
19 Cornforth, Rick	Excused
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Burke, Vicki	Present
22 Barlow, Patrick	Excused
23 Nikolay, Matt	Present
24 Hoyer, Kevin	Absent
25 Ebert, Ray	Present
26 Hesse, Dan	Present
27 Jacobs, Thomas	Present
28 Keil, Karen	Present
29 Johnson, Tara	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was held for former Board Supervisor Everett Servais who served from 1985-1990, Beverly Mach who served from 2008-2012, and current Board Supervisor David Holtze who served from 2012 until the time of his passing on September 26, 2019.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson

(105-19/20)

- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Isola attended the WCA Conference and listened to sessions on water quality and election security in Wisconsin.
 - Supervisor Weidenbach noted that a piece of artistic development has passed the Economic Development Fund to buy books for the libraries to have art classes and possibly a mural somewhere in the County.
 - Supervisor Weber-Strauss also attended the WCA Conference and a session on water quality. Wisconsin's Green Fire and Wisconsin's Farmers Union were a couple resources she made note of for water quality issues.

Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley

PROCLAMATION OCTOBER 2019 - SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING MONTH

WHEREAS, La Crosse County helps to minimize the environmental impact of waste disposal in our region through management of award winning programs including waste-to-energy, landfill operations, gas to energy recovery and household hazardous materials collection; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County has helped to facilitate the successful implementation of single-stream recycling collection in the cities of La Crosse and Onalaska that has resulted in a 137 percent increase in recycling; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County has adopted an update to the 2008 Solid Waste Management Plan, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has accepted the plan that provides a roadmap for continued success in the operational, environmental and financial performance of the Solid Waste Department; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County enhances regional solid waste and recycling efforts through expanding sustainability practices and collaboration on all aspects of solid waste and recycling, processing and beneficial reuse of by-products, in part through support of the Sustainable La Crosse Commission. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of October 2019 as La Crosse County Solid Waste and Recycling Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to operating one of the most environmentally sustainable solid waste disposal systems in the nation.

Motion by R. Geary/M. Freedland to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 1 absent - K. Hoyer, 5 excused - P. Barlow, K. Cable, R. Cornforth, J. Gundersen and P. Scheller, 1 vacant – District 12.

- Progress report by the Collaboration to End Homelessness – presented by Julie McDermid
 - The total number of households served is currently at 126 with 302 individuals. 38% of these households have experienced domestic violence. 55 of those households were previously homeless. Only 12 of the 126 households are paying above the fair market rent, 79% are paying more than 30% of their gross income (including zero income households), and 56% are paying more than 30% of their gross income (not including zero income households). The projected expenditure as of September 30, 2019 is \$223,897.83 based on the amounts committed for one-time assistance plus on going subsidy. The actual expenditure is at \$156,728.58 based on invoices submitted by agencies to La Crosse County. There is a decline in overall inflow as well as in the number of first time/new to the system households. It is still too soon to determine that is was directly caused by the implementation of the program. 92% of clients who have completed the program have retained housing and 40% of clients completing the program increased their income by gaining employment. Area organizations have committed \$430,146 with up to an additional \$330,000. The next steps will focus on provision of quality service for increased self-sustainability, begin actively using Coordinated Entry Prevention Prioritization List, and develop marking materials to focus UPSTREAM- targeting landlords as well as clients.

(106-19/20)

- Update on the Fire-EMS study by Wisconsin Policy Forum – presented by Administrator O'Malley
 - When to pursue service sharing; the real promise lies not in saving money, but in the potential for individual governments to join forces to achieve levels of service quality and efficiency they could not achieve alone. The six criteria is the demand for new technology/equipment, regulations or services causing costs to become unaffordable; key staff scheduled for retirement or an opportunity for new service models; are there areas of clear cost inefficiency or redundancies among neighboring municipalities; could service sharing improve the level, type, or mix of services; is one municipality providing a service that is benefiting the larger region; and are the capital replacement needs intensive. The proposal for La Crosse County is research and facilitation to explore how the county's independent fire departments might further share or consolidate services and/or jointly redesign the fire and EMS service delivery model. It would produce a series of options and lay out the fiscal and programmatic impacts of each and would be guided by a work group of fire chiefs and administrators representing each of the participating municipalities, as well as one or more from Tri-State. Options for the future would to be keep status quo, immediate actions for current departments, consolidate two to one and exclude a third, or to consolidate three to one.

- 2020 County Administrator's Budget Recommendation Overview
 - In the 2020 recommended budget, La Crosse County tax levy will go to \$35.792 million. That's a 2.6% increase versus 1.43% value of new construction. The mill rate would be \$3.58 per thousand. The tax rate per \$1000 valuation decreased by 9.6% since 2014. Total governmental debt is \$52.19 million and total county debt is \$76,791,633. The 2020 gross expenditures increased 5.75% to \$166.429 million. The 2020 tax levy went up 2.60% to \$35.791 million. Property taxes equal 21.5% of total revenues.
 - 2020 budget results will include a no levy increase for Human Services, Health and Highway. No levy support from Hillview or MVHS to support Lakeview. There will be a very slight change or decrease in most departments, continue improving emergency radio system and conducting study to evaluate improvements to date. Begin landfill expansion as planned. Across the board raise of 1.75%, similar to upper Midwest Salary Survey while no increase in health insurance premiums. Contingency to address salaried pay study mid-year and first year increase in Highway in annual borrowing to \$5 million each year and begin to address unmet road needs.
 - Fund balance for small Capital Projects will include the radio system microwave upgrade, parks-facilities capital road improvement at Goose Island, CDBG to close to enable grant for CTH B in the Village of Bangor, upgrade HHS building restrooms, phosphorus trading program capital funding, estate trust fund for meal sites and aging summit, medical examiner vehicle replacement, SMRT bus local match, and land records LIDAR aerial imagery project.
 - Committees will review budgets in the October cycle. A special Executive Committee meeting will be held on October 24th and any changes by committees to Executive Committee and/or full board in November. Resolutions for changes to fees and personnel positions will be at the November 4th Planning meeting after action by the Executive Committee. Public hearing on the budget will be held on November 12th at 5pm following by the County Board Annual Meeting.

SUGGESTION FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS – none offered.

ADJOURN

(107-19/20)

Motion by M. Larson/K. Keil to adjourn at 7:40 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 21 ayes, 1 absent - K. Hoyer, 6 excused - P. Barlow, K. Cable, R. Cornforth, J. Gundersen, S. Hampson, and P. Scheller, 1 vacant – District 12.

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 7, 2019 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 8 OF OCTOBER 2019.