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**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, July 16, 2020 via Microsoft Teams. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 27 supervisors were present when Chair Monica Kruse 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 Janssen, Barb	Present
4 Freedland, Maureen	Present
5 Mathu, Grant	Present
6 Plesha, Roger	Present
7 Padesky, Gary	Present
8 Isola, Peg	Present
9 Wacek, Dawn	Present
10 Cable, Kim	Present
11 Scheller, Patrick	Absent
12 Erickson, Randy	Present
13 Tryggestad, Tina	Present
14 Larson, Margaret	Present
15 Kruse, Monica	Present
16 Ferries, Dan	Present
17 Pogreba, Jack	Present
18 Weber Strauss, Noelle	Present
19 Cornforth, Rick	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Burke, Vicki	Present
22 Kovacevich, Joe	Present
23 Nikolay, Matt	Present
24 Hoyer, Kevin	Excused
25 Hundt, David	Present
26 Hesse, Dan	Present
27 Jacobs, Thomas	Present
28 Keil, Karen	Present
29 O'Neill, Jamie	Present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse**

- Letters from Constituents – Chair Kruse noted that Supervisors may respond to letters/emails from constituents if they would like to. Supervisors were reminded to not reply all when responding.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
  - Supervisor Freedland attended the Governor's Task Force on Green Energy listening session via zoom.

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**Associate Administrator Report – Jane Klekamp**

- COVID – 19 Update
  - The metrics for the COVID-19 Compass was explained including the epidemiology status, health status and public health status and how these are all used in determining the current risk status. It was noted there are some issues with how test results are being relayed and the need to do better with people who test positive for COVID-19 and those who they had contact with.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Motion by M. Kruse/A. Richmond to appoint Wendi Stimec to the Joint Board of Harbor Commissioners for the remainder of a term to expire July 31, 2023 to replace Brenda Rundahl; reappoint Diane Brose, Cindy Jansen, Kathy Lucey, Sister Mary Stuttgen, and Rhonda Staats to the Aging & Disability Resource Center Advisory Committee for a three year term to expire July 31, 2023 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by R. Plesha/D. Hesse to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning meeting held June 8, 2020 and the Monthly meeting held June 18, 2020 and the claims list for \$1,124,373.75 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-7/20 RE: AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL FEDERAL COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (MHBG) FUNDING FROM WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (DHS)**

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has made available additional funds to be utilized to supplement current community mental health services and address unmet needs or gaps in services arising from the COVID-19 pandemic; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County is receiving additional funding totaling \$130,609 to be used immediately through September 30, 2020 and anticipates using the funds to:

- Support the delivery of telehealth services including E-Prescribing
- Support reassignment of Human Services staff to assist in homeless shelter needs
- Purchase technology to a) build individual telehealth spaces within Human Services to assist consumers in accessing mental health services b) purchase equipment to support continued delivery of services for staff stationed at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the additional Community Mental Health Services Block Grant funding of \$130,609; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair is authorized to execute any contracts or documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution, after approval by Corporation Counsel; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate account transfers relating to accepting this additional Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Supplemental Award funding.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Additional supplemental award funds of \$130,609, with no County match required, and the award period ending September 30, 2020. The personnel and operating costs will be tracked under the 210.450.5235 division within the County financial system under the Integrated Support and Recovery Services section.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by T. Tryggstad/D. Wacek to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-7/20 RE: LA CROSSE COUNTY SUPPORT OF UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE**

**WHEREAS**, despite gains made since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, the

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number of Americans without health insurance remains nearly 30 million<sup>1</sup>, with another 40 million Americans being under-insured to the degree that they cannot afford to see a doctor or seek preventive medical care; and **WHEREAS**, the high and rising costs of health care harm the economy and hit home here in La Crosse County, adding uncontrollable expenses to the small businesses that make our community thrive, and our county government that is on the frontline of providing critical behavioral health services to the uninsured population; and **WHEREAS**, research has long shown that the current private provider-based system in the United States is fraught with inefficiencies, with significantly higher administrative costs than other developed countries that use single payer systems<sup>2</sup>; and **WHEREAS**, the coronavirus pandemic has exposed gaps in America's healthcare system and has made reform all the more urgent, with an estimated 5.7 million Americans at high risk for severe COVID-19 being uninsured and large numbers of Americans losing their employer-based coverage<sup>3</sup> due to the pandemic-caused economic downturn; and **WHEREAS**, the disparities fueling current racial unrest and protests extend to health insurance coverage<sup>4</sup> and outcomes, where about half of the approximately 30 million uninsured Americans are people of color and where African American moms die from childbirth related causes at triple the rates of white moms (42.8 per 100,000 versus 13 per 100,000); and **WHEREAS**, the insured status of low-income earners is especially fragile, where here in Wisconsin, which has refused federal Medicaid expansion dollars, the steepest declines in ACA Marketplace enrollment between 2015 and 2020 was among the lowest of income groups<sup>5</sup>; and **WHEREAS**, there is a recognized need for a healthcare system that would provide national health insurance for every person in the United States for all necessary medical care including prescription drugs, hospital surgical and outpatient services, primary and preventive care, emergency services, reproductive care, dental and vision care and long-term care; and **WHEREAS**, a universal healthcare system could provide coverage without copays, deductibles or other out-of-pocket costs, and would reduce bureaucracy, protect the doctor-patient relationship and assure patients a free choice of doctors; and **WHEREAS**, studies have found that the U.S. could save up to \$500 billion annually in billing and administrative costs by moving to a universal healthcare system, money that could be used to greatly expand preventive and primary care leading to additional savings in emergency room care and hospital visits; and **WHEREAS**, a universal healthcare system would end the burden on local employers to provide health insurance, unleashing resources to invest in innovation and business growth, increasing international competitiveness and freeing up entrepreneurs to pursue their business ideas without fear of risking the loss of health insurance; and **WHEREAS**, by guaranteeing universal health coverage for every person, would better position the United States to defeat COVID-19 and potential future pandemics, provide stability in health care coverage during future economic downturns and close the racial disparities gap related to health insurance; and **WHEREAS**, a universal healthcare system would benefit La Crosse County Government fiscally by reducing expenses in providing employee health care and by increasing reimbursements for behavioral health and other County-provided services. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors supports universal healthcare and calls on our federal legislators to work toward its immediate creation and implementation, assuring appropriate and efficient health care for all residents of the United States. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, U.S. Senator Ron Johnson and Congressman Ron Kind. **FISCAL NOTE:** La Crosse County spends approximately \$13.2 million annually to provide health insurance for its employees and has approximately \$3.3 million annually in unreimbursed behavioral health service costs due to individuals who either lack insurance, whose insurance provider denies payment, or whose insurance does not fully reimburse the cost.

#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by T. Tryggestad/G. Mathu to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 25 ayes, 2 nays - D. Hundt and J. Pogreba, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 1130 FILED BY PAUL M & SUSAN L HUBER DBA ALL SEASONS LAWN & SPORT**

The La Crosse County Planning, Resources and Development Committee, having considered an application filed by: PAUL M AND SUSAN L HUBER, W6856 COUNTY RD OT, ONALASKA, WI, 54650, D/B/A ALL SEASONS LAWN & SPORT and having held a public hearing on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020 for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a small engine and equipment repair service, servicing lawn mowers, motorcycles, and similar implements; including parts and used equipment sales and outdoor storage and zoned RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT "A" in the Town of Onalaska and described as follows: Part of Lot 14, Oak Hills Addition, and part of the NW/NW of Section 29, T17N, R7W. Tax parcel 10-863-0. Property address W6856 County Rd OT. Town of Onalaska. And pursuant to s. 59.69 Wis. Stats. and s. 17.36 Zoning Code: the Committee did publish and receive proof of a Class II notice of the hearing; did receive receipts of mailing of the notices to the affected Town Clerk(s); did hold a public hearing to hear testimony or correspondence from the people; and, did receive and consider action from the affected Town Board(s). The Committee, under s. 91.48(1), Wis. Stats., along with the affected Town Board(s), under s. 17.36(4), have the authority to approve the application with integral conditions or to disapprove of the application. Having considered the entire record the Committee's recommendation is to: By a vote of seven (7) in favor, and zero (0) no, the committee recommended approval of Conditional Use Permit No. 1130 subject to the following eleven (11) conditions:

1. This permit is granted specifically to Paul M and Susan L Huber, W6856 County Rd OT, Onalaska, WI, 54650, d/b/a All Seasons Lawn & Sport, to operate a small engine and equipment repair service, servicing lawn mowers, motorcycles, and similar implements; including parts and used equipment sales and outdoor storage. Property described as part of Lot 14, Oak Hills Addition, and part of the NW/NW of Section 29, T17N, R7W. Tax parcel 10-863-0. Property address W6856 County Rd OT. Town of Onalaska;
2. Outdoor storage is limited to the approximately 10-ft x 22-ft area between the attached garage and detached workshop and the 12-ft x 22-ft area behind the shop, and both shall be screened from public view by use of a gated solid fence;
3. Inventory of used equipment or item for sale shall not be parked outdoors on the lot for display to the public, unless a solid fence is installed that meets highway setbacks on the north and west side of the lot and shields inventory from view from the adjoining lots to the west and north;
4. Any proposed access to Paula Lane must receive appropriate approval. The access shall be an all-weather surface such as concrete or asphalt and shall provide access to the parking area identified. Correspondence indicating approval shall be provided to the Zoning Department and made part of this file;
5. Business hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.;
6. Employees are limited to the applicant, his spouse, and son;
7. Any proposed outdoor advertising shall comply with Chapter 33 Outdoor Advertising of the La Crosse County Code of Ordinances, except upon successful appeal to the Planning, Resources and Development Committee for a sign or signs that do not meet code standards;
8. Retail sales of parts shall be conducted indoors;
9. All waste oils or hazardous substances shall be disposed of or recycled in accordance with applicable laws;
10. The identified parking area for a minimum of four cars shall be accessible for off-street parking at all times; and
11. This permit is non-transferrable and automatically terminates if the property ownership transfers or this use is discontinued for more than 12 consecutive months.

THE COUNTY BOARD took the following action this 16th day of July, 2020. Approved subject to conditions as outlined.

**PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Motion by P. Isola/D. Hesse to approve as recommended by the Committee passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-7/20 RE: APPROVAL OF LEASE TO LYNXX NETWORKS TO INSTALL AND OPERATE EQUIPMENT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER UNDER THE TERMS OF A "COLLOCATION AGREEMENT"**

**WHEREAS**, Lynxx Networks, an internet service provider, the County Facility Department and the County IT Department have reached a tentative agreement with regards to Lynxx Networks collocated their equipment (such as transmission lines, fiber optic cable) in the basement of the County Administrative Center; and **WHEREAS**, the negotiated terms include a 10 (ten) year lease with the County receiving \$400/month in lease payments; and **WHEREAS**, the installation of the equipment by Lynxx Networks has the potential to improve internet speed and access for citizens of La Crosse County in the downtown area of the City of La Crosse as well as potentially benefitting the County and its' employees; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board approves the collocation agreement between the County of La Crosse and Lynxx Networks under specific terms as approved by Corporation Counsel. **FISCAL NOTE:** The monthly lease payment of \$400.00 will be deposited into an account to be determined by the County Administrator and Finance Director.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Motion by R. Erickson/J. Kovacevich to approve. Discussion ensued. IT Director John Parshall and Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 nay - N. Weber Strauss, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**RESOLUTION NO. 17-7/20 RE: ACKNOWLEDGE "THE BEST OF PUBLIC SERVICE"**

**WHEREAS**, the following employees have been a faithful part in providing "The Best of Public Service" to La Crosse County:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
Jay A. Loeffler	Emergency Management Services	38+
Susan E. Schreiner	Health Department	34+
Mary J. Marco	Human Resources	31+
Brian R. Reynolds	Facilities	31+
David L. Schauland	Highway Department	28+
Jay E. Lowenstein	Hillview Health Care	27+
Randy J. Hericks	Sheriff Department	22+
Douglas J. Schoenfeld	Information Technology Department	22+
Kathy L. Pieterick	Hillview Health Care	15+

**WHEREAS**, it is the wish of the County Board of Supervisors to acknowledge long and faithful service on behalf of the citizens of La Crosse County; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that a resolution extending our congratulations be recorded in La Crosse County Board Proceedings and a certificate of our actions be presented as an expression of our gratitude.

**MONICA KRUSE, COUNTY BOARD CHAIR**  
**GINNY DANKMEYER, COUNTY CLERK**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/G. Mathu to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-7/20 RE: AUTHORIZING REMOTE APPEARANCE AT MEETINGS THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020**

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**WHEREAS**, in December, 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19 was detected, and COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the United States and the State of Wisconsin; and **WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and **WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, La Crosse County (the "County") declared a county-wide emergency and, based on an analysis that, while COVID-19 remains an emergency and a nation-wide pandemic, the majority of the provisions secured by the emergency declaration are no longer necessary in that they are provided for by other nation-wide and state-wide means, this declaration of emergency will be allowed to lapse on July 18, 2020; and **WHEREAS**, one of the provisions in the emergency declaration was a resolution that the "General Code of La Crosse County Ordinances 2.02(5) and 2.03(4)(a) are hereby modified during the period of emergency and the County Supervisors are hereby authorized to attend meetings of the Board remotely, and the Board shall take all actions necessary to effectuate the same in compliance with all other applicable laws"; and **WHEREAS**, given the uncertainty with regards to the progression of the pandemic on multiple metrics being monitored by the County's health department as well as the fact that the current status of risk in La Crosse County is considered "severe" and in-person gatherings of groups is contraindicated, it may be necessary to continue to allow remote attendance at County Board and committee meetings for the foreseeable future; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that through December 31, 2020, County Supervisors are hereby authorized to attend meetings of the Board remotely when approved by the County Board Chair. The County Board Chair shall determine on a meeting by meeting basis whether a meeting will be held remotely; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that during the same period, upon determination by Committee chairs in consultation with the County Board Chair, County Supervisors are hereby authorized to attend committee meetings remotely. Committee Chairs shall determine on a meeting by meeting basis whether a meeting will be held remotely; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that decisions regarding whether a meeting will be held remotely must be made at least 2 business days in advance of the meeting and communicated to the County Clerk so that all meetings are noticed correctly and all necessary steps are taken to ensure public access and, where applicable, public participation. **FISCAL NOTE:** No fiscal impact.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/R. Cornforth to approve. Discussion ensued. Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 19-7/20 RE: APPROVAL OF FUNDING TO SUPPORT NON-PARTISAN GET OUT THE VOTE CAMPAIGN IN LA CROSSE COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, in December, 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19 was detected, and COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the United States and the State of Wisconsin; and **WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and **WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, La Crosse County (the "County") declared a county-wide emergency and, based on an analysis that, while COVID-19 remains an emergency and a nation-wide pandemic, the majority of the provisions secured by the emergency declaration are no longer necessary in that they are provided for by other nation-wide and state-wide means, this declaration of emergency will be allowed to lapse on July 18, 2020; and **WHEREAS**, COVID-19 may still be active for the November election cycle, making it more difficult for La Crosse County voters to feel safe to participate in in-person voting; and **WHEREAS**, given the uncertainty with regards to the progression of the pandemic on multiple metrics being monitored by the County's health department, it is imperative La Crosse County voters understand the process to vote by absentee ballot; **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse Area League of Women Voters in partnership with the Driftless Voter Coalition have proposed to lead a public relations campaign to encourage all eligible voters to register to vote and seek absentee ballots by using promotional materials, videos, website, billboards and public service radio and television announcements to be

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developed by Elevate Media Group. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors approves \$10,500 to the La Crosse Area League of Women Voters to conduct a Voter Education campaign for the 2020 election to encourage all eligible voters to register and seek absentee ballots. **FISCAL NOTE:** Funding is not included in the 2020 Elections budget, however there are sufficient funds in County Board Special Projects 100.100.1000.66540.02 and this may be eligible for reimbursement from the Routes to Recovery funding provided by the State of Wisconsin to La Crosse County.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/B. Janssen to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

- An update was asked for on the County Board Advance and the County Board Annual Picnic.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by R. Erickson/D. Ferries to adjourn at 7:13 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**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 Monthly Meeting held Thursday, July 16, 2020 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 17 OF JULY 2020.**