

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, August 19, 2021 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 27 supervisors were present when Chair Monica Kruse called the meeting to order at 5:00 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 at 05:47 PM
6 Plesha, Roger	Present
7 Padesky, Gary	Present
8 Isola, Peg	Present
9 Wacek, Dawn	Excused
10 Cable, Kim	Present
11 Scheller, Patrick	Present
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 Viner, Pamela	Present
23 Nikolay, Matt	Present
24 Hoyer, Kevin	Present
25 Hundt, David	Present
26 Hesse, Dan	Present
27 Jacobs, Thomas	Present
28 Keil, Karen	Present
29 O'Neill, Jamie	Present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN ACT (ARPA) REVIEW**

- Refining Priorities
  - The County has been allocated \$22.89 million through ARPA and the funding needs to be obligated by the end of 2024. The guiding values for distribution was quality of life, equity, and collaboration. The project areas being discussed are sustainability and environmental protection, affordable housing, childcare, local economy and tourism. Groups will be created to further investigate these project areas to consider funding and will be brought back for discussion at the November or December board meeting.

(39-21/22)

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse**

- WCA Conference – the deadline to sign up to attend the WCA Conference has passed. The County has a complimentary booth as the host county and we will need volunteers to work the booth on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Opioid Update
  - La Crosse County joined this lawsuit four years ago. The settlement is for \$26 billion and will be paid out over the next several years with 70% going to locals and 30% to those who were part of the lawsuit in Wisconsin. The current lawsuit settlement only involves the distributors. There are still lawsuits pending against the pharmacies and manufacturers. The first payments will be in 2022 and Act 57 dictates who gets how much which is favorable for Wisconsin.
- September Meeting Schedule
  - The September Planning meeting will be held on Monday, September 13, 2021 and will begin at 5pm with a public hearing on the tentative redistricting plan. The PWI meeting will also be held on Monday, September 13, 2021 at 4pm. Veterans, Aging and Long Term Care was cancelled.
- Supervisor Conference Reports – none offered.

### **Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley**

- Information on the Lake Neshonoc District and the dredging project
  - Lengthy discussion was held on the background on Lake Neshonoc and the current and past dredging projects. Dave Sauer from Cedar Corporation and Land Conservation Director Matt Hanewall responded to questions from the board regarding funding, dredging, conservation methods and the future of the lake.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by R. Plesha/T. Jacobs to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly meeting held July 15, 2021 and the claims list for \$5,350,484.41 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

## **ZONING ORDINANCE NO. Z434-8/21 RE: PETITION NO. 2057 FILED BY KEITH P & MARY M HERLITZKE TO REZONE FROM EXCLUSIVE AGRICULTURE DISTRICT TO RURAL DISTRICT A 16.35 ACRE PARCEL FOR A PROPOSED 30'X45' EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE IN THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD**

The La Crosse County Planning, Resources and Development Committee, having considered Petition No. 2057 to amend the La Crosse County Zoning Ordinance filed by: KEITH P & MARILYN M HERLITZKE W2818 EVANS DWYER RD, COON VALLEY, WI, 54623 and having held a public hearing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2021 for a petition to rezone from the EXCLUSIVE AGRICULTURE DISTRICT to the RURAL DISTRICT a 16.35-acre parcel for a proposed 30' x 45' expansion of an existing single family residence located in the Town of Greenfield. and is described as follows: Property described as part of the NE/SW of Section 25, T15N, R6W. Tax Parcel 6-595-0. Property address W2818 Evans Dwyer Rd. Town of Greenfield. And pursuant to s. 59.69 Wis. Stats.: 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 and official correspondence; 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. 17.10(8), has the authority to approve the petition as submitted; to disapprove of the petition; or, to modify and approve the petition. Having considered the entire record the Committee's recommendation is to: By a vote of five (5) in favor, zero (0) no, and one (1) excused (Scheller), the committee voted to approve Zoning Petition No. 2057 subject to the recording of the following four (4) deed restrictions;

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1. Create a tax parcel that contains the entire existing residence and meets setback requirements per Chapter 17 - Zoning Code;
2. 1/5 of the Base Farm Tract and the area described in Exhibit A (tax parcel no. 6-595-0, 7/23/2021) is to be deed restricted from further residential development;
3. These deed restrictions shall be recorded within 60 days of County Board approval;
4. These restrictions can be lifted or amended by the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors only.

(IF THIS PETITION IS APPROVED AS A CONDITIONAL ZONING, DEED RESTRICTIONS MUST BE RECORDED BEFORE ZONING TAKES EFFECT.) The County Board, under s.59.69(5)(e)5 Wis. Stats., has the authority to effectuate the petition by ordinance or to disapprove it. The County Board took the following action this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021. Approved the petition as submitted, becomes an ordinance.

**PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Motion by P. Isola/K. Keil to approve as recommended by the Committee passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

**FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE**

ORDINANCE NO. 188 TO AMEND S. 7.02 ENTITLED "PARKING REGULATIONS" OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

**PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Motion by R. Erickson/P. Viner to move the first reading. The ordinance will be held over for 30 days and is on file and open for public inspection in the office of the County Clerk and on the La Crosse County web site at: [www.lacrossecounty.org](http://www.lacrossecounty.org). Upon adoption and publication, it will be incorporated into the La Crosse County General Code of Ordinances.

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-8/21 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>
Pamela E Radtke	Clerk of Courts	40+
Lori A Peterson	Emergency Services	36+
Jonna J Goede	Information Technology	30+
Darlene K Kissel	Health Department	27+
Sandra E Mader	Sheriff Department	19+
Terrence P Clark	Sheriff Department	17+
Martin M Gundersen	Sheriff Department	13+
Molly J. Stuessel	Lakeview Health Care	13+
Ronald Z Chamberlain	Highway Department	10+

**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/R. Cornforth to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-8/21 RE: ACCEPTANCE OF BAKER TILLY VIRCHOW KRAUSE, LLP AUDIT REPORT ON LA CROSSE COUNTY 2020 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT (ACFR)**

(41-21/22)

**WHEREAS**, the audit firm of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP recently completed their audit of the Financial Statements of La Crosse County for the year ended December 31, 2020; and, **WHEREAS**, the Financial Audit Results and Reporting and Insights from the 2020 Audit were presented to the La Crosse County Board at the County Board Meeting on August 9, 2021. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the Financial Audit Results and Reporting and Insights from the 2020 Audit as presented for the 2020 fiscal year. **FISCAL NOTE:** Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP's fee for 2020 audit services is \$79,000 for which money is budgeted in 2021 and allocated across several departments.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/G. Mathu to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 17-8/21 RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION PRIOR TO MATURITY OF THE OUTSTANDING TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2010-C, OF THE COUNTY OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN**

**WHEREAS**, the County of La Crosse, Wisconsin (the "*County*"), has previously issued and there are currently outstanding certain Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2010-C (the "*Bonds*"); and **WHEREAS**, in accordance with their terms, the Bonds may be called for redemption prior to maturity on any date after April 1, 2021; and **WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of the County (the "*Board*") has determined that the County has funds on hand and lawfully available (the "*Available Funds*") to redeem all of the outstanding Bonds, the same being equal to the outstanding principal amount thereof in the amount of \$1,005,000 plus accrued interest to the Redemption Date (as hereinafter defined); and **WHEREAS**, the Board does hereby further determine that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County to call the Bonds for redemption on the Redemption Date, to give proper notice to the registered owners of the Bonds and to apply the Available Funds to the redemption of the outstanding Bonds: **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Board of Supervisors of the County of La Crosse, Wisconsin, as follows:

*Section 1. Incorporation of Preambles.* The Board hereby finds that all of the recitals contained in the preambles to this Resolution are full, true and correct and does incorporate them into this Resolution by this reference.

*Section 2. Transfer; Authorization to Redeem Bonds.* The Finance Director of the County (the "*Finance Director*") is hereby authorized to provide for the call of the Bonds for redemption prior to maturity on the date determined by the Finance Director to be most advantageous to the County (the "*Redemption Date*"), and to provide for the transfer of the Available Funds to the bond fund established in the resolution authorizing the issuance of the Bonds for the payment of debt service on the Bonds on the Redemption Date. The Finance Director is authorized to apply the Available Funds to the redemption of the Bonds on the Redemption Date

*Section 3. Call of the Bonds.* In accordance with the redemption provisions of the resolution authorizing the issuance of the Bonds, the County, by the Board, does hereby make provision for the payment of and does hereby call the Bonds for redemption on the Redemption Date.

*Section 4. Severability.* If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

*Section 5. Repealer and Effective Date.* All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed and that this Resolution shall be in full force and effect forthwith upon its adoption.

**FISCAL NOTE:** The \$1,005,000 needed to pay off the 2010-C Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds principal on October 1, 2021 will be funded by General Fund Unassigned Excess Sales Tax account 100-34501.002. As of December 31, 2020, the balance in that account was \$3,958,896.16. \$890,000 will be transferred to the Debt Service Fund, Org 300.736.1000 Unfunded Pension Liability; and the remaining \$115,000 will be transferred to the Business Park Fund, Org 284.705.5770 Non-TIF.

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/R. Erickson to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

**FAILED RESOLUTION - RESOLUTION RE: ALLOCATION OF \$500,000 FOR ADDITIONAL DREDGING OF LAKE NESHONOC**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/G. Padesky to approve. Motion by A. Richmond/G. Padesky to amend by changing the Fiscal Note from General Funds to ARPA Funds failed on a roll call vote with 17 nays, 11 ayes - D. Ferries, R. Geary, D. Hesse, K. Hoyer, D. Hundt, T. Jacobs, M. Nikolay, J. O'Neill, G. Padesky, J. Pogreba and A. Richmond, 1 excused - D. Wacek. The motion to approve failed on a roll call vote for a lack of a 2/3rds full board vote with 15 ayes, 13 nays - V. Burke, K. Cable, R. Cornforth, M. Freedland, P. Isola, K. Keil, M. Kruse, M. Larson, G. Mathu, J. O'Neill, T. Tryggestad, P. Viner and N. Weber Strauss, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-8/21 RE: AUTHORIZING RESOURCES TO BETTER SERVE LA CROSSE COUNTY'S OLDER ADULTS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**WHEREAS**, the state of Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) Division of Public Health provides \$920,014 annually to La Crosse County for services provided by the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) as authorized under Wisconsin Statute 46.283 and subject to the requirements contained in Chapter DHS 10 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code; and, **WHEREAS**, ADRCs support the fastest growing demographics of our state's population through services that include but are not limited to: information and assistance; benefits counseling; coordination of short-term services; access to publicly funded long-term care programs and services; transitional services for students and youth; health promotion and early intervention services; and dementia care services; and **WHEREAS**, the number of individuals in La Crosse County who are age 65 and older is expected to double by the year 2040 and according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, currently one-third of households in La Crosse County house one or more individuals 60 years of age or older and one-fourth house one or more individuals 65 years of age or older; and **WHEREAS**, the number of adults with disabilities age 18 and older in La Crosse County is 12,954 and according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, this number is also expected to increase; and **WHEREAS**, while only serving approximately 20 percent of La Crosse County's total population of older adults and individuals with disabilities, caseloads for ADRC workers remain significantly higher than the state average, with each ADRC Professional serving approximately 50-60 individuals monthly; and **WHEREAS**, additional supervisory and professional staff is needed to keep pace with the ADRC workload due to a combination of current service needs, the growing complexity of cases, state mandates increasing the time to complete work, La Crosse County's obligation under the ADRC Contract Scope of Services (which includes outreach and has increasingly emphasized caregiver support and health promotion, prevention and early intervention services) and to strategically plan and work with the community to meet ongoing and future needs of the growing Elder Adult and disabled population; and **WHEREAS**, adding an Economic Support (ES) Specialist position to embed within the ADRC for the purpose of assisting ADRC customers to apply for Medicaid will streamline the process for enrollment into long term care programs like Family Care and significantly improve customer service by increasing face-to-face assistance and the ability to take care of needs in one stop; and **WHEREAS**, the costs for all of the positions added in this resolution will be fully covered by state and federal revenues for the remainder of 2021, with expected increases to La Crosse County's ADRC allocation due to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allowing sustainability for years to come. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors authorize the addition of 1.0 FTE Human Services/ADRC Supervisor, 1.0 FTE ADRC Professional, and 1.0 FTE ES Specialist, effective August 20, 2021, to adequately support current and future needs of the ADRC. **FISCAL NOTE:** The cost of an additional ADRC Supervisor is estimated to be approximately \$35,682 for the last 4.5 months of 2021. It is expected that 100 percent of these costs will be covered

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through state and federal grant funding. The cost of an additional ADRC Professional is estimated to be approximately \$28,912 for the last 4.5 months of 2021. It is expected that 100 percent of these costs will be covered through state and federal grant funding. The cost of an additional ES Specialist is estimated to be approximately \$24,024 for the last 4.5 months of 2021. It is expected that 100 percent of these costs will be covered through state and federal grant funding. The operating costs will be tracked under the 255.650.1000 and 230.600.1000 divisions within the County financial system.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by T. Tryggestad/K. Cable to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-8/21 RE: AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL WISCONSIN HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WHEAP) CRISIS SERVICES AND ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDING FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2021**

**WHEREAS**, La Crosse County administers the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP), under which crisis funding is provided by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) to assist eligible households that experience an energy emergency that may include:

- Having no heat
- Having received a disconnect notice from their vendor
- Being nearly out of fuel and unable to purchase more; and

**WHEREAS**, WHEAP agencies such as La Crosse County also receive administrative funding to support operational expenses incurred in determining eligibility for crisis benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, Financial struggles brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in an increase in Wisconsin households seeking financial assistance for an energy emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, La Crosse County and other WHEAP agencies across the state have been provided additional funding from the Wisconsin DOA throughout Federal Fiscal Year 2021 to help households facing an energy emergency, with La Crosse County having received an additional \$260,000 in Crisis Services Benefit dollars for FFY 2021; and **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin DOA has also provided to La Crosse County an additional \$105,000 in WHEAP administrative funds to be used through September 30, 2021 for the purposes of:

- Covering staff salary expenses incurred in determine eligibility for the increased benefits available
- Satisfying costs directly related to providing crisis services
- Purchasing educational and informational materials that are related to the provision of emergency services.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the funding of \$365,000 provided by the Wisconsin DOA for WHEAP crisis services (\$260,000) and administrative costs (\$105,000); and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate account transfers related to accepting this additional federal funding. **FISCAL NOTE:** Award funds of total \$365,000, with no County match required, and the award period ending September 30, 2021. The operating costs will be tracked under the 210.480.4960 division within the County financial system.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by T. Tryggestad/P. Scheller to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-8/21 RE: APPROVAL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SUPERVISOR POSITION FOR 2021**

**WHEREAS**, local health departments in the State of Wisconsin are responsible to investigate, prevent, suppress, control, report sources, and advise how to control outbreaks and epidemics and also to advise on quarantine and isolation as needed in disease cases; and **WHEREAS**,

the Health Department continues to be involved in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic requiring increased collaboration with long term care facilities, schools, businesses, individuals and others along with coordination of an expanded team of staff as well as maintaining responsibility to perform similar responsibilities for various communicable diseases; and **WHEREAS**, in an average year La Crosse County experiences 19 Category 1 illnesses and 933 Category 2 illnesses; in 2020 La Crosse County experienced 10,118 Category 1 illnesses and 979 Category 2 illnesses, showing a significant increase in workload; and **WHEREAS**, the immediate need for Communicable Disease Supervisor necessitates the addition of the position outside of the normal budget process; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board approves the addition of 1.0 FTE Communicable Disease Supervisor, effective September 1, 2021, to fulfill a leadership role in the Health Department; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Human Resources department is authorized to take the necessary steps to fill the position in cooperation with the Health Director as soon as practical and the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate account transfers related to funding. **FISCAL NOTE:** Total cost for this position with a start date of September 1, 2021 is estimated to be \$21,120 and will be funded initially through Health Department committed fund balance; future cost for this role would be sought through state and federal funds if available but may be tax levy based and will be addressed in future budgets. The new position would be created in the County financial system under the Health Department – Nursing section to account for the personnel and operating costs of the role.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by T. Tryggstad/G. Mathu to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTUTRE AGENDA TOPICS**

- Supervisor Hundt asked for a solution for Lake Neshonoc sediment issues.
- Supervisor Weber Strauss sked for an update on the refugees coming to the area.
- Supervisor Freedland noted there was a community meeting being held regarding the refugees coming to Fort McCoy.
- Supervisor Ferries asked for an update on Veteran’s Services and the demand on that department.
- Supervisor Geary asked for a report on the economic benefits, sales tax, tourism, etc on Lake Neshonoc.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by T. Jacobs/G. Padesky to adjourn at 8: 18 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Wacek.

**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, August 19, 2021 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 20 OF AUGUST 2021.**