

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, February 8, 2021 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 28 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	Excused
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**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse**

- WCA Virtual Legislative Exchange – March 2-3, 2021
  - Chair Kruse announced the WCA Legislative Exchange will be held virtually this year with presentations from legislators, state officials and WCA staff. Registration is online. There will also be a Virtual Regional Legislative meeting this year on March 15, 2021.

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- Supervisor Conference Reports
  - Supervisor Cornforth asked for a calendar of all the County Board and committee meetings for the year.
  - Supervisor Larson commended the Health Department for the COVID vaccine clinics they held last week.
  - Supervisor Erickson reported that the City of La Crosse Arts Board approved the purchase of 21 works of arts reflecting the year of 2020. This will be displayed at the public library and then in the County Administrative Building in July.
  - Supervisor Freedland noted the WCA has a full week webinar going on that herself and Supervisor Isola are attending on diversity, equity and inclusivity.

**Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley**

**PROCLAMATION FEBRUARY 2021 - PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the Vision of the La Crosse County Health Department is “Healthy People in a Healthful Community”; and, **WHEREAS**, the Mission of the La Crosse County Health Department is “Working collaboratively as a trusted leader and partner, preventing illness and injury, promoting health and well-being to protect and improve our community where we live, work, learn and play”; and, **WHEREAS**, the Values of the La Crosse County Health Department are: collaborate, advocate, lead, serve, and communicate; and, **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Health Department is typically made up of 62 full and part time staff representing 14 different Public Health professions and with COVID response we have a total of 114 people on staff including full time, part time, and limited term employees; and, **WHEREAS**, the Health Department Strategic Plan identifies that our most important strengths are our employees and our relationships with community partners; and, **WHEREAS**, the Health Department Strategic Plan priorities are to: (1) invest in Health Department employees, (2) build intentional relationships, (3) program/staff with intention, and (4) improve visibility and transparency; and, **WHEREAS**, Health Department employees provide leadership and collaboration with and for the community across three top health priority areas including mental health, substance abuse, and social determinants of health (where you live, work, learn, and play); and, **WHEREAS**, Health Department employees provide information and services to County residents in about 55 different program areas that enable citizens to live long and productive lives; and, **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Health Department provides significant leadership and communication in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic; and, **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin rates the Health Department performance at the highest level possible in Wisconsin; and, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of February as Public Health Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of Health Department staff.

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

- Overview of Human Services response during pandemic presented by Human Services Director Jason Witt.
  - During the pandemic, Human Services assisted the Health Department, older adults, homelessness & sheltering, individuals experiencing financial hardship, and grassroots level neighborhood based supports. Human Services has five service sections; family & children services, integrated support & recovery services, justice support services, economic support services and the aging and disability resource center. They have 30 plus programs, over 300 employees and 150 plus service contracts and in some fashion serve approximately 1 in 6 La Crosse County residents. Their pandemic response maintained operations and service access to traditional, redeployed staffing to assist the Health Department, modified services for greater impact, stepped up non mandated

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informal supports, and administered a surge of State and Federal economic relief for individuals and families.

- Update on the Comprehensive Plan Process presented by Zoning Administrator Kathleen Stewart.
  - A comprehensive plan is a guide to the physical, social and economic development of a local government and land use decisions must be consistent with the plan. A Farmland Preservation Plan helps farmers and local government preserve farmland, protect soil and water and minimize land use conflicts. It is required if you have landowners that participate in FPP tax credit programs. A Sustainability Plan is not mandated and is a roadmap for determining and achieving long-term goals and documents strategies to continue the program, activities and partnerships. La Crosse County adopted a development plan in 1995. State Statute 66.1001, established 9 elements that must be included in a plan. They are: issues and opportunities, housing, transportation, utilities and community facilities, agricultural, natural and cultural resources, economic development, intergovernmental cooperation, land use, and implementation. Sustainability was identified by the County Board to be added to the elements. The comprehensive plan drafting began in 2004 and was adopted in 2008 with an amendment in 2014-2016. The Farmland Preservation Plan was adopted within the Comprehensive Plan in 2011. The County Board and PRD Committee will provide guidance on key areas of focus, help create momentum and support for the process and will review and accept the document and use it to guide county efforts. The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) will be appointed by the County Board Chairperson, approved by the County Board and will contain up to 15 representatives. They will serve as a sounding board and advisors for key concepts and strategies, serve as the primary public interface and will work with staff on public outreach components and provide input in visioning and updating recommendations. They will also review drafts of the plan components prior to submittal to the PRD Committee and County Board for consideration. The timeline will be 14 months starting in February 2021 with the creations of the CPAC Committee and ending in March 2022 with the second reading and adoption of the ordinance.
- Report on Impact of Highway Grant Funding presented by Highway Commissioner Ron Chamberlain.
  - La Crosse County uses property tax levy, bonding, grants, cooperative agreements and jurisdictional transfers for road funding. The types of grants pursued include local road improvement programs, BUILD (TIGER), Indian Reservation Roads, Community Development Block Grant, TEA, FLAP, local programs, and FEMA reimbursements. La Crosse County Highway Department in the last 10 years has included 63.79 miles of reconditioning, paving, overlaying and large culverts for a total cost of \$40,351,084 with \$14,434,310 of that funding in grants. They have also spent \$5,591,033 on 11 bridges with grant funding totaling \$3,976,931. There is 12.25 miles of roads and 3 bridges with grant funding for projects not yet completed.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS – none offered.**

**ADJOURN**

Motion by V. Burke/G. Padesky to adjourn at 7:31 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - K. Cable.

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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, February 8, 2021 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 10 OF FEBRUARY 2021.