



RESOLUTION # 34-11/21

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 11-9

**BOARD ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 24  
Against: 3  
Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Abs/Excd: 2  
Vote Req: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Action: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: \_\_\_\_\_  
Against: 10  
Abstain: 0  
Abs/Excd: 1

**RE: CREATION OF A STUDY COMMITTEE RELATED TO POLICING**

**WHEREAS**, the Criminal Justice Management Council [CJMC] is a committee created by the County Board to act in an advisory capacity to the Judiciary and Law Committee, Health and Human Services Committee and County on all aspects of the criminal justice system and to "recommend changes, including the creation, elimination or modification of programs, policies and procedures" and;

**WHEREAS**, in June of 2020 a subcommittee of the CJMC was formed to explore the concept of a Citizen Advisory Board or Police Oversight Committee and;

**WHEREAS**, in May of 2021, after completing their work, the CJMC subcommittee reported back to the full CJMC recommending the creation of a 'civilian oversight board' and since that time this terminology as well as the terminology "independent police oversight committee" has also been used to refer to this possible committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the creation of a formal committee, particularly one that is multi-jurisdictional, would require a change in ordinance and full approval of the La Crosse County Board as well as specific and independent action by each jurisdiction in the County; and

**WHEREAS**, additional study and coordination between stakeholders across the County is necessary to consider and implement such a change; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the consideration of any ordinance change, there are additional issues that need more comprehensive study and recommendation to the Judiciary and Law Committee, and ultimately the full Board; and

**WHEREAS**, while the committee has been referred to as "an independent police oversight committee" and "civilian oversight board" and "independent police advisory committee" the actual name, purpose and scope of any potential committee should be part of the issues to be studied; and

**WHEREAS**, an ad-hoc study committee created under s. 2.02(10) would assist the Board in making informed decisions;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors hereby establishes a study committee related to policing comprised of members appointed by the County Board Chair subject to approval by the County Board; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that membership of the committee will be made up of stakeholders including law enforcement; policy and decision makers for agencies and municipalities; and community stakeholders including victim advocates, representatives of disproportionately

**RE: CREATION OF A STUDY COMMITTEE RELATED TO POLICING**

impacted communities, subject matter experts, criminal legal system researchers, representatives with legal, civil rights or law enforcement expertise; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the study committee shall consider and make recommendations to the County Board regarding the name, feasibility and framework for any future committee including scope and authority; structure; and funding while also taking into account the nature of a county-wide multi-jurisdictional approach; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that given the multi-jurisdictional nature of the law enforcement organizations, the study committee related to policing should remain aware that any recommendations, decisions and authority related to the hiring, termination or discipline of individual law enforcement officers remains under the control of each jurisdiction and their own law enforcement agency and personnel/Human Resource department; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, recommendations or direction from the committee shall not supersede any statutory or municipal authority granted for the management of any law enforcement agency and thus will be considered non-binding; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the study committee will periodically report to the Judiciary and Law Committee, with the Judiciary and Law Committee establishing a timeline related to the work of the committee, resulting in a final report to the full County Board.

**FISCAL NOTE:** No financial impact to La Crosse County.

Date: 2 Nov 2021

Date: 11/2/21

Margaret Larson  
**COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Lisa Bruring  
**RECORDING CLERK**

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended
Co. Admin.	_____	<u>50</u>	_____
Fin. Director	<u>SLD</u>	_____	_____
Corp. Counsel	<u>MB</u>	_____	_____
Board Chair	_____	_____	_____

Requested By: Monica Kruse  
Date Requested: October 25, 2021  
Drafted By: Corporation Counsel

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 8 Day of November, 2021

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 2021.

Ginny Dankmeyer  
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk