

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, September 13, 2021 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 26 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:

District Name	Attendance
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	Excused
8 Isola, Peg	Present
9 Wacek, Dawn	Present
10 Cable, Kim	Present
11 Scheller, Patrick	Absent
12 Erickson, Randy	Present
13 Tryggestad, Tina	Excused
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

- In Person / Virtual Meetings - Chair Kruse announced that meetings for the month of September would remain in person and all committee and board meetings for October would move to virtual. The status of COVID 19 transmission rates will continue to be evaluated and decisions on meetings will be made on a monthly basis.
- A celebration of life will be held for Jerry Sebranek, a former supervisor who passed away last year, at Boothill on Wednesday, September 22nd from 4-7pm.

(48-21/22)

- The Dive and Rescue Team will have an open house on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 from 4-7pm at 317 Kertzman Place, La Crosse.
- Coulee Region Business Center at 1100 Kane Street La Crosse will be having an open house on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 from 4-6pm.
- Supervisor Conference Reports – none offered.

Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley

PROCLAMATION SEPTEMBER 2021 - LIBRARIES AND UW-EXTENSION MONTH

WHEREAS, research-based educational programs for agricultural producers and professionals, businesses, local governments, communities, families and youth are brought to the residents of La Crosse County; and, **WHEREAS**, research-based educational and library programs identify and respond to specific community needs for education, research and knowledge to improve the quality of life in local communities, to strengthen families, to increase the competitiveness of businesses and agriculture, enhance decision-making in local government, and to develop leadership skills for managing resources and planning for the future; and, **WHEREAS**, libraries provide recreational and educational resources for residents in pursuit of life-long learning and provide community gathering places; and, **WHEREAS**, UW-Extension programming combines faculty, campus-based specialists, and staff expertise to bring University research to the people of La Crosse County in the areas of Agriculture/Horticulture; Community, Natural Resources and Economic Development; Family Living Education; and 4-H & Youth Development; and, **WHEREAS**, UW-Extension faculty & staff and area library staff are committed to educating the residents of La Crosse County to promote life-long learning and provide a more knowledgeable and informed community. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of September as La Crosse County Libraries and UW- Extension Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to educating the residents and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities in La Crosse County.

Motion by D. Wacek/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 2 excused - G. Padesky and T. Tryggestad.

- Update on COVID 19 Status – Health Director Audra Martine
 - The new variant is known as the Delta variant. Transmissibility of this variant is much greater and how quickly people are getting ill and who is getting ill are all things that have changed. Vaccination is the one thing that can keep people safer. President Biden's 6 pronged "Path out of the pandemic plan" includes: vaccinating the unvaccinated, further protecting the vaccinated, keeping school safely open, increasing testing and masking requirements, protecting our economic recovery, and improving care for those with COVID 19. As vaccination rose in La Crosse County, less cases were present. The first case of the Delta variant was identified on June 1st and cases began to rise from that point. Cases are highest in unvaccinated, but risk is high for all. La Crosse County has 61.1% of residents fully vaccinated.
- Overview of 2022 County Administrator's Budget Recommendation
 - The 2022 tax levy will increase 1.99% and the mill rate will be \$3.25 per thousand. Property tax rates will drop for the 3rd year in a row. The 2022 gross expenditures will be \$170.15 million which is down .29% and the 2022 tax levy is at \$37.207 million. The 2022 budget will not rely on American Rescue Plan dollars, will have a 5th year of no increase in health insurance premiums, 3rd year of highway borrowing at \$5 million, 3rd year in a row of decreased Human Services levy, employee pay raise of 2%, an increase in number of FTE for the first time in seven years in multiple areas, general fund balance will be used for smaller capital projects, and better than expected sales tax revenue helped to hold the levy increase to only 1.99%. The fund balance will be used for the property tax system replacement, emergency services radio system, central square computer aided dispatch software, mobile and data conversion, and

electronic health records in the Health Department. The 2022 highway fund balance will be used for the fuel island and scale at the new St. Joe's highway shop, CTH M south of West Salem, STH 16 bike trail, and CTH D bridge at Halfway Creek. A new lake protection budget of \$100,000 as a "place holder" in 2022 which will be available for projects in either Lake District subject to County Board approval and collaborate with the Village of West Salem and Lake Neshonoc Lake District to develop a long-range plan for the remaining 190 acres of County property.

- o The committees will review the department budgets in October and November cycle with overview of key issues at the October 11th Planning Meeting. Any budget changes should be to the Executive Committee and/or full Board in November. All budget resolutions will go to full Board after action by Executive Committee. A public hearing will be held on November 8th for the budget.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-9/21 RE: APPROVAL OF 2021 TENTATIVE COUNTY SUPERVISORY DISTRICT PLAN

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2021, the La Crosse County Clerk received the official results of the 2020 Federal Decennial Census of Population for the La Crosse County from the State of Wisconsin, Legislative Reference Bureau; and, **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Board is required to adopt a tentative county supervisory district plan in accordance with Wis. Stats. s. 59.10(3)(b)1, Wis. Stats; and, **WHEREAS**, the 2020 Federal Decennial Census Data established a total County population of 120,784; and, **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Redistricting Committee has solicited and received suggestions from municipalities concerning the development of an appropriate plan; and, **WHEREAS**, the Redistricting Committee has recommended a 2021 Tentative County Supervisory District Plan for the 30 supervisory districts; and, **WHEREAS**, under a 30 supervisory district plan, the ideal population of each district is 4,052 within the limits of the City of La Crosse and 4,006 outside the limits of the City of La Crosse resulting in 13 supervisory districts in the City of La Crosse and 17 supervisory districts in the remainder of the County; and, **WHEREAS**, in the 30 supervisory district plan each district will be represented by one supervisor and all districts are substantially equal in population; and, **WHEREAS**, in this tentative plan, the supervisory district with the largest population exceeds the ideal population by 1.92 % and the district with the lowest population is 2.12% less than the ideal population; and, **WHEREAS**, the tentative plan, adopted by the redistricting committee is consistent with the following guiding principles adopted by the committee:

- District boundaries will have substantially equal populations with the least possible deviation, will be contiguous and compact to uphold the principle of ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE
- District boundaries will be drawn to minimize the number of municipal boundaries crossed.
- Wherever possible, district boundaries will be co-terminus with municipal wards and aldermanic districts
- District boundaries will keep neighborhoods, communities of interest, minority communities, political subdivisions and geographic and natural boundaries intact
- District boundaries will ensure fair representation of racially and ethnically diverse populations
- District boundaries may consider incumbency, but should honor voter integrity; and,

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2021, a public hearing was held before the County Board on the proposed tentative plan; and, **WHEREAS**, the 2021 Tentative County Supervisory District Plan consisting of 30 supervisory districts complies with federal and state law for the creation of supervisory districts and is in the best interest of the citizens of La Crosse County for the reasons stated above. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board has solicited suggestions on the tentative plan from both the public and the municipalities located within La Crosse County at the public hearing held before the Board on September 13, 2021 and at meetings of the Redistricting Committee; **FURTHER BE IT**

(50-21/22)

RESOLVED, after giving due consideration to the public comment and suggestions by the municipalities, the La Crosse County Board does hereby adopt the 2021 Tentative County Supervisory District Plan dividing La Crosse County into 30 supervisory districts and hereby authorizes the County Clerk to transmit the 2021 tentative plan to each municipal governing body in the County and request that each municipality create its wards in accordance with Wis. Stats. s. 5.15. **FISCAL NOTE:** No cost to the County.

Motion by K. Cable/P. Viner to approve. Discussion ensued. Clerk Dankmeyer, GIS Planner Ron Roth, and Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore responded to questions from the Board. Motion by K. Keil/G. Mathu to amend the map by accepting the requested change for the Town of Shelby. Discussion ensued. The motion to amend the map passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused – M. Nikolay, G. Padesky and T. Tryggestad. Motion by P. Viner/G. Mathu to amend the map by accepting the requested change for the Town of Holland. Discussion ensued. The motion to amend the map passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused – M. Nikolay, G. Padesky and T. Tryggestad. Motion by N. Weber Strauss/R. Cornforth to amend the map by accepting the requested change for the City of Onalaska. Discussion ensued. The motion to amend the map failed on a roll call vote with 13 nays, 10 ayes - V. Burke, K. Cable, R. Cornforth, S. Doyle, M. Freedland, R. Geary, P. Isola, T. Jacobs, G. Mathu and J. O'Neill, 2 abstentions - K. Hoyer and N. Weber Strauss, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused - M. Nikolay, G. Padesky and T. Tryggestad. Motion by R. Geary/A. Richmond to amend the map by replacing the City of La Crosse District boundaries with the boundaries from draft plan 29-01. Discussion ensued. The motion to amend the map failed on a roll call vote with 13 ayes - V. Burke, D. Ferries, R. Geary, K. Hoyer, D. Hundt, T. Jacobs, B. Janssen, M. Nikolay, J. O'Neill, R. Plesha, J. Pogreba, A. Richmond and N. Weber Strauss, 13 nays - K. Cable, R. Cornforth, S. Doyle, R. Erickson, M. Freedland, D. Hesse, P. Isola, K. Keil, M. Kruse, M. Larson, G. Mathu, P. Viner and D. Wacek, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 2 excused - G. Padesky and T. Tryggestad. The motion to approve as twice amended with map changes passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 2 excused - G. Padesky and T. Tryggestad.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS – none offered.

ADJOURN

Motion by J. Pogreba/T. Jacobs to adjourn at 8:18 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 2 excused - G. Padesky and T. Tryggestad.

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, September 13, 2021 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 14 OF SEPTEMBER 2021.