

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, December 5, 2022 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 6:00 P.M. and those otherwise present, excused or absent are noted in the roll call detail:

District	Name	Attendance
1	Konradt, Joe	Present
2	Geary, Ralph	Present
3	Pierce, David	Present
4	Freedland, Maureen	Excused
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 at 06:10 PM
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	Baroni, Mike	Present
19	Cornforth, Rick	Present
20	Doyle, Steve	Present
21	Abraham, Rob	Present
22	Viner, Pamela	Present
23	Nikolay, Matt	Present
24	Hoyer, Kevin	Present
25	Jacobsen, Dennis	Present
26	Hundt, David	Present
27	Hesse, Dan	Present
28	Keil, Karen	Present
29	Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30	Mader, Dillon	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse

- January Board Advance - Chair Kruse announced the January Board Advance will be on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, from 5pm – 9pm. Discussions will include Hillview, County Farm in West Salem, ARPA funding and Board priorities.
- WCA Ambassador Program – Let Chair Kruse know if you are interested in this program put on by WCA.
- Supervisor Conference Reports

(90-22/23)

- Supervisor Tryggestad announced the Homeless Persons' Memorial Service for those who lost their lives in 2022 on December 21, 2022, at 5:30pm. There will be a silent walk from Burns Park to Cameron Park ending with a candle lighting ceremony.

Interim Administrator Report – Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION DECEMBER 2022 - ZONING, PLANNING AND LAND INFORMATION AND METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING MONTH

WHEREAS, the staff of these departments assist and advise individuals, businesses, professionals, and governmental units in administering zoning, floodplain, shoreland, subdivision, telecommunication, and nonmetallic mining ordinances; and, **WHEREAS**, they coordinate land information systems for the assessment, taxation, mapping, permitting, planning and educational needs of the public and private sector, including through the county land records website; and, **WHEREAS**, they help provide transportation planning to develop and obtain funding for safe and efficient transportation networks throughout our region. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of December 2022 as Zoning, Planning and Land Information and Metropolitan Transportation Planning Month in recognition of the contributions of staff dedicated to promoting planned and orderly land use development for the benefit of all.

Motion by K. Hoyer/J. Pogreba to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - K. Cable and M. Freedland.

PROCLAMATION NO. 173-12/22 DECEMBER 2022 - ELECTION AND POLL WORKERS RECOGNITION MONTH

WHEREAS, the County Clerk and staff, municipal clerks and poll workers assist La Crosse County voters throughout the election process by registering voters, issuing ballots, monitoring voting machines and explaining ballots to ensure that each eligible voter can cast a ballot; and, **WHEREAS**, these individuals follow our laws to maintain open, fair and accurate elections while working long hours, often taking time off from their regular jobs to be a poll worker to serve the public; and, **WHEREAS**, these individuals have helped to successfully conduct four major elections and a recount while implementing voting law changes over the past year. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board extends gratitude and appreciation to the County Clerk and staff, the municipal clerks and poll workers, the Board of Canvassers, and tabulators of La Crosse County for their hard work, integrity, and unstinting professionalism. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of December 2022 as Election Clerk and Poll Workers Month and urges all residents to recognize the valuable contribution our election clerks and poll workers make to ensure elections in La Crosse County are secure and accurate.

Motion by D. Ferries/M. Larson to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - K. Cable and M. Freedland.

- Recognition of retiring Sheriff – Jeff Wolf
 - Sheriff Wolf was recognized for his 34 years of dedicated service to the county. He served under three sheriffs before being elected sheriff in 2018. He worked as a patrol deputy, sergeant, investigative sergeant, and captain during his time at the county.
- ARPA Project Update – Bridge Housing for Families Recommendation
 - In January 2022, the County Board prioritized family bridge housing as one of eight implementations' initiatives and \$3 million of ARPA funds were reserved for this. Family Bridge Housing is different as it offers solutions to housing with fair market pricing, no tenant background or references, mandatory case management and family housing focus. An RFP was released on October 5, 2022. Couleecap and Catholic Charities were recommended to receive contracts. The Executive Committee will vote on December 7th and the resolution will go to the full Board on December 15th.
 - Hetti Brown – Executive Director of Couleecap; Ashley Lacenski – Community Development Director for Couleecap; Roberto Partarrieu – Executive Director of Catholic Charities; and Kevin Burch – Housing Services Director of Catholic Charities presented. Couleecap and Catholic Charities presented a partnership proposal for Family Bridge Housing. Currently families with children are not served adequately by existing shelters and housing programs.

The private rental market presents barriers for families facing housing uncertainty. The program would be called Thriving Families – A bridge housing program that enables families to achieve personal, financial, and permanent housing goals. The program goals would address family homelessness by acquiring up to 20 units for scattered-site bridge housing throughout the county, remove barriers to rental placement for families experiencing homelessness, and develop sustainable property management plan. Couleecap and Catholic Charities would manage multiple houses/units as a program. No application process needed and property manager handles maintenance and general management. The County case management team works with families to determine readiness, fit, income, etc. the Case Manager makes referrals to property manager when units are available. There will be ongoing support for families and the goal will be for families to move to permanent housing within 24 months. Catholic Charities and Couleecap are experienced nonprofit property managers that have procedures and processes in place suitable for this project. They are experienced in working with low-income tenants, families, and individuals experiencing homelessness. They would see 2–4-bedroom properties and then repair or rehabilitate where needed. Locations would be scattered throughout La Crosse County. Approximately 70% of units will need to collect fair market rent in order to offer the rest of units to families that have zero income or cannot pay full rent. This % will adjust depending on the income situation of families placed in the units. The length of time from purchase to family placement is within 90 days. 1/3 of properties will be purchased by end of 2023, 2/3 by end of 2024, and the remaining by the end of 2025. Units that become vacant will become reoccupied within 30 days. The goal is to keep units full and serve as many of families as possible during the contract period, and to acquire as many properties as possible to achieve “family homelessness functional zero” in La Crosse County.

- State and Local Broadband Overview
 - Community Development Educator Charlotte Peters reviewed broadband. An ordinance will be brought forward at the December board meeting for a first reading and again at the January board meeting for a second reading. A resolution will be presented to the board at the December board meeting. Once both are approved, the application for certification will be submitted. An update will be given once the applications have been processed and certification received. A course of action will then need to be determined by the County Board.
 - Carah Koch presented the Internet for All funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and administered by the Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is a once-in-a-generation investment in infrastructure and competitiveness. NTIA will administer approximately \$48 billion through four programs that drive high-speed internet access, affordability, and adoption. The Middle Mile Grant will invest in construction, improvement or acquisition of middle mile infrastructure. Technical amendments and new funding will strengthen current Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. The Digital Equity Act created three programs to promote digital equity and inclusion. The BEAD program will provide approximately \$42.45 billion for infrastructure planning and implementation. Each eligible entity will receive BEAD grants and distribute funds to subgrantees. Eligible entities have the option to submit a Five-Year Action Plan and receive initial planning funds. BEAD will prioritize complete coverage of unserved locations and underserved locations. The BEAD program will include a low-cost broadband service option to all eligible subscribers. There are many ways stakeholders may get involved in the programs.
- ARPA Project Update – Child Care Recommendations, Charlotte Peters – UW Extension and Kelly Matthews – WEESN Co-Director
 - Results of the survey were reviewed. Kelly Matthews explained the resources made available to child care programs and WECA services. Those programs include Raising Wisconsin – provides support for families, early education profession and support for children; Food Program – reimburses regulated Family Child Care providers for serving healthy and nutritious meals and snacks; reward Wisconsin – provides cash stipends to

(92-22/23)

thank early educators for their commitment to the field; WECA – Wisconsin Early Childhood Association – offers workforce recruitment and retention stipends, child care counts, and technology grants; T.E.A.C.H. – provides scholarships to early educators for credit based education; and WEESN – Wisconsin Early Education Shared Services Network – offers three comprehensive levels of completely personalized support focused on financial stability. Child Care programs are still struggling, and counties are responding with local stipends, initiatives, funding WEESN, business grants and more. The REWARD stipend is currently funded at \$27 million and will revert to \$700,000 statewide in June 2024 without additional funding. Recommendations are to offer a \$500,000 grant program to in home providers and centers. The grant can be used for expansion, repairs, upgrades, training, education, onboarding, certifications, or new services. Some considerations are to partner with providers and a county facility. Next steps for UW Extension is workforce recruitment and retention, new employee funding resources, assistance to families for childcare expenses, and employee assistance program.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Baroni asked for an update on what will happen with the Opioid settlement
- Supervisor Hesse asked about interviews for the Administrator

ADJOURN

Motion by D. Ferries/J. Pogreba to adjourn at 8:33 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - K. Cable and M. Freedland.

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, December 5, 2022 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 12 OF DECEMBER 2022.