

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, April 10, 2023 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 25 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	Vacant	
2	Geary, Ralph	Present
3	Pierce, David	Present
4	Freedland, Maureen	Present
5	Mathu, Grant	Present
6	Plesha, Roger	Present
7	Padesky, Gary	Present
8	Isola, Peg	Present
9	Wacek, Dawn	Excused
10	Cable, Kim	Excused
11	Scheller, Patrick	Present
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	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	Excused
25	Jacobsen, Dennis	Present
26	Hundt, David	Present
27	Hesse, Dan	Present
28	Silva, Leonardo	Present
29	Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30	Mader, Dillon	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was held in honor of the two officers from Chetek that lost their life in the line of duty.

(132-22/23)

PROCLAMATION APRIL 2023 - APRIL 2-8, 2023, WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

WHEREAS, the first years of a child's life are the period of the most rapid brain development and lay the foundation for all future learning; and, **WHEREAS**, a high percentage of mothers return to work in the first six weeks after the birth of a child; and, **WHEREAS**, participation in high-quality early childhood education saves taxpayer dollars, makes working families more economically secure, and prepares children to succeed in school, earn higher wages, and live healthier lives; and, **WHEREAS**, high-quality early childhood education depends on high-quality early childhood educators who ensure that children, supported by families, have the early experiences they need for a strong foundation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim April 2 to April 8 as the Week of the Young Child and honors the complex, valuable, essential, and demanding work of early childhood educators, and urges all members of our community to support efforts that increase access to high-quality early childhood education.

Motion by G. Mathu/R. Cornforth to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 4 excused - K. Cable, K. Hoyer, T. Tryggestad and D. Wacek.

- County Board District 1 Update – Chair Kruse announced the resignation of Pelli Lee and will be accepting letters of interest for the vacancy.
- Supervisors were reminded that the meeting next week will be on Tuesday rather than our normal Thursday.
- Chair Kruse noted that there are Joint Finance Committee meeting being held around the State.
- Chair Kruse read a thank you note from Community Grant Recipient, Pride.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Pierce noted at a neighborhood meeting, a member of the La Crosse Folk Festival was also thankful for the donation from the Community Grants.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION APRIL 2023 - NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH

WHEREAS, the nation's 3,069 counties serving more than 330 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe and vibrant communities; and **WHEREAS**, counties fulfill a vast range of responsibilities and deliver services that touch nearly every aspect of our residents' lives; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County and all counties take pride in our responsibility to protect and enhance the health, wellbeing and safety of our residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and **WHEREAS**, under the leadership of National Association of Counties President Denise Winfrey, NACo is highlighting how "Counties RISE!," demonstrating exemplary Resiliency, Inclusion, Solvency, and Empowerment; and **WHEREAS**, each year since 1991 the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties across the country to elevate awareness of county responsibilities, programs and services; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County employees work to protect and strengthen community in all parts of our county through programs that improve public infrastructure and create opportunities for people and businesses to thrive. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim April 2023 as National County Government Month and encourages the public to recognize the contributions county governments make to improving the quality of life for all.

Motion by R. Erickson/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 4 excused - K. Cable, K. Hoyer, T. Tryggestad and D. Wacek.

- General Update
 - Sara Koopman has been hired as the Associate Administrator and will start on May 1st. Administrator Klekamp has been meeting with various town/village/city officials to build a relationship and will now have regular meetings with them. She will have monthly conversations with WIZM on their radio show. The Hillview project will be brought back in July, Skilled Trades Training proposal has been received and will be reviewed, MOU for Bridge Housing will go to the Executive Committee, Solar Energy resolution will come this month, and the Childcare Grants process is being developed. Preparations for the 2024 budget has begun and one concern is the jail workers being granted protective status which could have an affect on the budget.

- County Solar Update – Conservation Specialist Jacob Schweitzer, County Planner Dillon Constant, and Aaron Benson of Solar Connection presented.
 - Jacob Schweitzer reviewed the steps that got the Solar Project to this point. \$1.5 million was set aside, projected sites were chosen, site visits by contractors, bids for RFP and the solar installation project is projected for 2023. La Crosse County solar array would provide long-term impacts by reducing energy costs and CO2 emissions for La Crosse County and into the future. The energy usage and each site with pricing was reviewed. The total bid for all sites is \$1,847,034. There is a Focus on Energy Grant amount of \$104,942 and an Inflation Reduction Act tax credit on the project of \$522,267. The final project cost will be \$1,219,464.
- Town of Campbell Water Report – Town of Campbell Supervisor Lee Donahue and UW Extensions Karl Green presented.
 - La Crosse County donated \$100,000 with matching funds from the Town of Campbell which allowed for the drilling of a test well in 2022. This was key in finding out if the deep aquifer is a long-term solution to the contaminated water. The testing showed the deep aquifer is safe and is a sustainable water source. The three shallow wells are contaminated but the deep well has consistently shown non levels of PFAS. The study will show if PFAS plumes currently found on French Island migrate in regional aquifers or will in the future and do the PFAS plumes have the potential to contaminate the deeper Mt. Simon aquifer and/or communities outside Campbell. The study will also deliver a sentry well with the ability to monitor PFAS transport in the shallow and deep aquifers, an improved map of the extent and properties of the Eau Claire confining unit including direct samples and geophysical surveying within the river valley, and an updated and refined model for the La Crosse County region to predict PFAS movement in the upper and lower aquifer. La Crosse County will benefit by supporting safe, long term sustainable drinking water sources for Campbell and adjacent communities, model and monitor PFAS movement in the shallow and deep aquifers in the region, updated regional maps showing extent and protective qualities of various rock formations between aquifers, and develop protocols to safeguard water supplies in the region.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Hundt asked to have places that provide tourism speak to the County Board on what ARPA funds could do for them.

ADJOURN

Motion by G. Padesky/P. Isola to adjourn at 7:13 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 4 excused - K. Cable, K. Hoyer, T. Tryggestad and D. Wacek and 1 vacant – District 1.

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, April 10, 2023 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 17 OF APRIL 2023.