

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Reorganizational Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 22 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	Excused
5	Mathu, Grant	Present
6	Plesha, Roger	Present
7	Padesky, Gary	Excused
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	Excused
17	Pogreba, Jack	Present
18	Baroni, Mike	Excused
19	Cornforth, Rick	Present
20	Doyle, Steve	Excused
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

- WCA Convention – Supervisors should sign up with Clerk Dankmeyer if they are interested in attending.
- Resolution Platform – If any Supervisors have a resolution they would like submitted to WCA for consideration, please let Chair Kruse or Clerk Dankmeyer know.
- Conflict of Interest / Code of Ethics – All Supervisors should fill out the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics form on your desk and turn them in before you leave.

(2-23/24)

- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Chair Kruse read a thank you note from the Great River Festival of Arts for the Great River Folk Festival who was a recipient of a Community Events Grant Donation.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

- Wisconsin Counties Association Presentation on Roles and Responsibilities
 - Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf, Director of Outreach & Member Engagement for WCA presented on the Roles and Responsibilities. County structure and forms of County Government were reviewed including Executive, Administrator and Administrator Coordinator. The roles and responsibilities of the County Board of Supervisors was discussed that included the primary function of legislative. The function of the County Board Chair, Standing Committees, staff roles and responsibilities, administration (department heads and staff) were all discussed.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion by T. Tryggestad/P. Viner to reappoint Sharon Hampson and Kim Cable to the Health & Human Services Board for a three year term to expire April 30, 2026; reappoint Dewey Severson, Anthony Pfaff and Gary Padesky to the Solid Waste Policy Board for a three year term to expire April 30, 2026 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by R. Plesha/J. Pogreba to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly meeting held March 16, 2023 and the claims list for \$4,204,800.25 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

RESOLUTION NO. 1-4/23 RE: LA CROSSE COUNTY JOINING THE WISCONSIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE COALITION (WLGCC)

WHEREAS, in 2020, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors adopted resolution 21-8/20 entitled “Adopting Sustainability Goals of Improved Efficiency to Reduce Energy Consumption, Achieving Carbon Neutrality and Transitioning to 100% Renewable Energy by 2050”; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County is concerned about the impact of climate change on local agriculture, business, and public infrastructure due to the increased risk of extreme weather and **WHEREAS**, addressing and mitigating the major contributing factors, such as the burning of fossil fuels, is imperative to slow climate change and protect the public welfare; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County’s Comprehensive Plan, adopted by Ordinance 199-9/22 on September 15th, 2022, identifies that sustainability is one of the County’s core values and states the County’s goals to:

1. Pursue sustainability initiatives for county facilities and operations.
2. Promote sustainability programs, policies, and actions throughout La Crosse County.

WHEREAS, Resolution 21-8/20, states the County will seek to collaborate across local governments, institutions and community organizations in pursuit of sustainability goals; and **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin has a goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050 and local governments are important actors to help achieve this goal and implement its Clean Energy Plan; and **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC) is comprised of local governments from across the state working together to seek low-carbon and clean energy solutions, and members recognize that climate change poses severe risks to communities and that the worst effects of climate change cannot be avoided without effective State policy; and **WHEREAS**, WLGCC supports the following:

1. Increased State and Federal funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy, electrification of transportation and buildings, and advanced technology and research development solutions.
2. State policies and laws that enable local governments and others to implement such actions to grow the clean energy workforce.
3. A State plan to retire coal plants no later than 2040.
4. Choices and universal access to clean energy to reduce cost and participation barriers.
5. Smart growth development policies and funding to reduce vehicle miles traveled and to preserve natural resources, including agricultural, forestry, and recreational lands; and

WHEREAS, there is no cost to becoming a WLGCC member and WLGCC shares the current sustainability goals of La Crosse County. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board

(3-23/24)

hereby authorizes joining the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC); and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Planner is hereby authorized to represent La Crosse County and its interests in supporting sustainability initiatives, programs, policies and actions at WLGCC meetings and events; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Board Chair is hereby authorized to execute any documents necessary to join the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition. **FISCAL NOTE:** There is no fiscal impact.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by R. Erickson/R. Cornforth to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 18 ayes, 4 nays - D. Hundt, D. Jacobsen, J. Pogreba and K. Schlimgen, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

RESOLUTION NO. 2-4/23 RE: REQUESTING THE STATE TO REVISE THE CURRENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER FEES REVENUE SHARING FORMULA

WHEREAS, the collection of a real estate transfer fee by counties was mandated by the State of Wisconsin in 1969, and included a requirement that counties remit 50% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and **WHEREAS**, in 1981, the State changed the transfer fee formula to require counties to remit 80% of all transfer fees collected to the State; and **WHEREAS**, the County, through the Register of Deeds Office, assumes the annual operating costs of recording all real estate transfers occurring in each county, including the collection of real estate transfer fees; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County real estate transfer fee collections over the past five years totaled \$11,153,241, of which the County retained \$2,230,648 and \$8,922,593 was remitted to the state; and **WHEREAS**, using a 50/50 split, the County's share of fees collected on local real estate transfers during that same five-year period would have provided an additional \$3,345,972 in support of county government; and **WHEREAS**, in 2021, the State of Wisconsin has a budget surplus of approximately \$2.5 billion dollars, while many Wisconsin counties continue to struggle financially due to the ever-increasing costs of providing county government services to an inflationary economy and providing services for increasing unfunded State mandated programs along with financial restrictions imposed by State imposed levy limits. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors, in an effort to assist all Wisconsin counties, requests the State of Wisconsin revise the real estate transfer fee share formula to again allow Wisconsin counties to retain 50% of all real estate transfer fees collected, with 50% to be remitted to the state. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the State Legislature representing La Crosse County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all other Wisconsin Counties. **FISCAL NOTE:** La Crosse County's Register of Deeds operations are tracked in the 100.175.1000 division within the County financial system.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by R. Erickson/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

RESOLUTION NO. 3-4/23 RE: APPROVE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR ON LA CROSSE COUNTY BUILDINGS

WHEREAS, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution #21-8/20 adopting sustainability goals of improved efficiency to reduce energy consumption, achieving carbon neutrality and transitioning to 100% renewable energy by 2050; and, **WHEREAS**, transitioning County facilities to energy generated by renewable energy infrastructure, such as photovoltaic solar panels, supports the La Crosse County Comprehensive Plan's recommendations to "pursue sustainability initiatives for county facilities and operations" and "promote sustainability programs, policies, and actions throughout La Crosse County"; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County was allocated \$22,923,224 through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which must be financially obligated by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026; and, **WHEREAS**, in January of 2022, the Board of Supervisors reserved \$1.5 million of the American Rescue Plan Act for "Green Infrastructure – County Solar" as outlined in Resolution #55-1/22; and **WHEREAS**, a request for proposal was released on January 10, 2023 for solar installation on buildings including; the Administrative Center, West Salem Highway Shop, Courthouse & Law Enforcement Center, Lakeview Health Care Center, Solid Waste, Health and Human Services building and Goose Island Campground; and, **WHEREAS**, five vendors attended an all-day vendor conference on January 31, 2023. Four proposals were received on February 14, 2023; and, **WHEREAS**, a team of county staff in partnership with a

(4-23/24)

consultant reviewed the proposals for a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors; and, **WHEREAS**, under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 there are rebates available of at least 30% and up to 70% for solar projects; and, **WHEREAS**, to maximize federal funding available under the Inflation Reduction Act, the County will utilize 2023 budgeted property tax dollars (originally budgeted for Highway Projects) for solar initiatives. The \$1.5 million solar allocation will be reassigned for Highway Projects, which is an allowable use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors approves the allocation of up to \$1.5 million for the purpose of installing solar on the Hillview Healthcare Center, the Administrative Center, West Salem Highway Shop, Courthouse & Law Enforcement Center, Lakeview Health Care Center, Health and Human Services building, Goose Island Campground and any other county owned structure where solar is deemed cost effective; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors approves Solar Connection Inc. as the vendor for this project; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Administrator, County Board Chair, Finance Director and County Clerk are authorized to take all appropriate actions to effectuate the purpose of this resolution subject to the approval as to form by County Corporation Counsel. **FISCAL NOTE:** To maximize federal funding available under the Inflation Reduction Act, the County will be using 2023 budgeted property tax dollars (originally budgeted for Highway Projects) for solar initiatives. Up to \$1.5 million of the solar allocation will be reassigned for Highway Projects, which is an allowable use of ARPA funds.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by R. Erickson/P. Viner to approve. Discussion ensued. Finance Director Lanae Nickelotti and Administrator Klekamp responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 20 ayes, 2 nays - D. Jacobsen and K. Schlimgen, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

RESOLUTION NO. 4-4/23 RE: ACCEPTING GRANT FUNDING TO SUPPORT RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR MEDICAID MEMBERS WITH OPIOID USE DISORDER

WHEREAS, the residential substance abuse benefit offered by Wisconsin Medicaid since February 2021 excludes the costs of room and board due to restrictions in Federal law, creating a potential barrier to residential substance use disorder treatment for Medicaid members; and **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), is using \$2.5 million of Wisconsin's share of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation settlement funds to cover the room and board costs for individuals with an opioid use disorder in 2023 and has approved a one-year grant to La Crosse County in the amount of \$57,379; and **WHEREAS**, the grant funding, which is available to cover costs incurred from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, will help support the Human Services Department in providing much needed treatment access to La Crosse County citizens suffering from opioid use disorder. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the \$57,379 in grant funding from Wisconsin DHS; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that La Crosse County is obligated to contract for all services that are necessary to meet the terms of the DHS Grant as long as they can be supported with the related federal funding; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair is authorized to execute any contracts or documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution, after approval by Corporation Counsel; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate account transfers relating to accepting this additional federal funding. **FISCAL NOTE:** Award funds of a total \$57,379 with no County match required, and the award period ending December 31, 2023. The operating costs will be tracked under the 210.450.1000 division within the County financial system under the Integrated Support and Recovery Services section.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Motion by T. Tryggestad/G. Mathu to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

RESOLUTION NO. 5-4/23 RE: AUTHORIZATION TO RECEIVE 2023 SAFE COMMUNITIES GRANT

WHEREAS, the La Crosse County Sheriff's Office has been awarded \$82,030 through the State of Wisconsin's Department of Administration (DOA); and **WHEREAS**, these funds will be allocated to purchase up to 14 new Mobile Audio Video systems and equipment for squad cars; and **WHEREAS**, the new Mobile Audio Video systems will sync with the Body Worn Cameras which will help to alleviate any

(5-23/24)

error in non-activation during an emergency situation; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the \$82,030 in grant funding from Wisconsin DOA; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair is authorized to execute any contracts or documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution, after approval by Corporation Counsel; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate budget adjustments relating to accepting this additional state funding. **FISCAL NOTE:** Total grant award is \$82,030, with no County match required, and the award period ending June 30th, 2023. The operating costs will be tracked under account 100.185.2140-66410.17 within the County financial system and overseen by the Sheriff's Department.

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

Motion by M. Larson/D. Pierce to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

ORDINANCE NO. 202-4/23 NO. 202 TO AMEND S.16.15(2)(B) ENTITLED "GENERAL PROVISIONS" OF CHAPTER 16 [FLOODPLAIN ZONING] OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

The County Board of Supervisors of the County of La Crosse does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Section 16.15(2)(b) section of the "GENERAL PROVISIONS" of Chapter 16 FLOODPLAIN ZONING is amended to read:

16.15 GENERAL PROVISIONS

(2)

(b) Official Maps based on other studies

Any maps referenced in this section must be approved by the DNR and be more restrictive than those based on the FIS at the site of the proposed development.

1. Hydrologic and Dam Failure Analyses and Hazard Rating Assessment for Coon Creek Structures, No. 29, dated May 1996, including the studies and maps concerning the hydraulic shadow extending into La Crosse County, and No. 53, dated April, 1996, including studies and maps concerning the hydraulic shadow extending into La Crosse County, prepared by Ayres Associates and approved by DNR.
2. Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analyses, including Dam Failure Analysis, and Hazard Rating Assessment for Coon Creek Structures, No. 33, dated March, 2006, revised July, 2007, and No. 35, dated May, 2005, prepared by USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Services and approved by DNR.
3. Floodplain study and maps: All other DNR-approved and FEMA-approved floodplain maps, flood profiles, floodway data tables, regional or base flood elevations and other information located on file in the La Crosse County Zoning, Planning and Land Information Office. The County shall provide the most up-to-date information to the DNR and FEMA regional offices.
4. Letter of Map Revision. LOMR #21-05-0431P (August 5, 2021).
5. Letter of Map Revision. LOMR #21-05-4567X-550217 (March 2, 2022).

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect the day after passage and publication as required by law.

MONICA KRUSE, COUNTY BOARD CHAIR
GINNY DANKMEYER, COUNTY CLERK

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by P. Scheller/R. Cornforth to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 1214 FILED BY MIKE ALESCH O/B/O HAWKEYE, LLC FOR CABINS FOR A TRANSIENT OR TEMPORARY RESIDENTIAL USES OF THE LANDOWNER FOR THE PLACEMENT OF ONE CABIN IN THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON

The La Crosse County Planning, Resources and Development Committee, having considered an application filed by: Mike Alesch o/b/o Hawkeye, LLC, N7068 Moonlight Ave, Holmen, WI 54636 and having held a public hearing on Monday, April 3, 2023 for a CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT for 17.05(5(d)1.k. Cabins for transient or temporary residential uses of the landowner, for the placement of one cabin in

(6-23/24)

the Town of Farmington and described as follows: Prt SE-NW, Sec. 33, T.18N, R.6W. Tax parcel 5-1258-0. Property address: Severson Coulee Rd, Town of Farmington. And pursuant to s. 59.69 Wis. Stats. and s. 17.36 Zoning Code: the Committee did publish and receive proof of a Class II notice of the hearing; did receive receipts of mailing of the notices to the affected Town Clerk(s); did hold a public hearing to hear testimony or correspondence from the people; and, did receive and consider action from the affected Town Board(s). The Committee, under s. 91.48(1), Wis. Stats., along with the affected Town Board(s), under s. 17.36(4), have the authority to approve the application with integral conditions or to disapprove of the application. Having considered the entire record, the Committee's recommendation is to: By a vote of Six (6) in favor (Hundt, Erickson, Silva, Scheller, Cornforth, Hoyer), Zero (0) no, and Zero (0) abstentions, the committee recommended Approval of CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT No. 1214 subject to the following FIVE (5) conditions:

1. The owner(s) of the property to which this conditional use permit is issued will abide by all representations and commitments made during the permitting process as well as before the Committee, in accordance with all conditions to the conditional use permit, taken as a whole, as approved by the Planning Resource and Development Committee and the County Board.
2. This conditional use permit is transferrable.
3. This approval does not preempt permittees' obligation to comply with all other applicable federal, state, and local regulations.
4. This approval is contingent upon approval by the Town of Farmington, and incorporates any additional conditions included by the Town.
5. Deed restrictions covering a minimum of 35 acres within the base farm tract shall be recorded with the La Crosse County Registrar of Deeds within 45 days of County Board approval providing for the following:
 - a. Only one cabin is permitted within the deed restricted area.
 - b. No residences or nonagricultural development are authorized within the deed restricted area, except that the cabin can be transitioned to a residence.
 - c. No further subdivision of the lot.
 - d. These deed restrictions can only be amended or lifted by La Crosse County.

THE COUNTY BOARD took the following action this 18th day of April, 2023. Approved subject to conditions as outlined.

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by P. Scheller/L. Silva to approve as recommended by the Committee passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 1 vacant – District 1.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Viner asked for an update on the DEI project.
- Supervisor Jacobsen has brochures on the ATV statutes.

ADJOURN

Motion by K. Schlimgen/D. Mader to adjourn at 7:30 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 22 ayes, 7 excused - M. Baroni, K. Cable, S. Doyle, D. Ferries, M. Freedland, K. Hoyer and G. Padesky, 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 Reorganizational Meeting held Tuesday, April 18, 2023 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 19 OF APRIL 2023.