

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, December 21, 2023 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 24 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	Pierce, David	Present
4	Freedland, Maureen	Excused
5	Poley, Justin	Present
6	Plesha, Roger	Excused
7	Padesky, Gary	Present
8	Isola, Peg	Present
9	Wacek, Dawn	Present
10	Cable, Kim	Present
11	Scheller, Patrick	Present
12	Erickson, Randy	Present
13	Tryggestad, Tina	Present
14	Larson, Margaret	Present
15	Kruse, Monica	Excused
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	Excused
23	Nikolay, Matt	Present
24	Hoyer, Kevin	Present
25	Jacobsen, Dennis	Present
26	Hundt, David	Absent
27	Hesse, Dan	Present
28	Silva, Leonardo	Present
29	Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30	Mader, Dillon	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Vice-Chair Report – Kim Cable

- Supervisor Conference Reports – none offered.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

- Administrator Klekamp acknowledged retiring MPO Director Pete Fletcher for his years of service to La Crosse County.

(110-23/24)

APPOINTMENTS

Motion by G. Padesky/J. Pogreba to reappoint Dan Hesse to the Agricultural Society for a one year term to expire December 31, 2024; appoint Emily Meyer to the Criminal Justice Management Council for the remainder of a three year term to expire April 16, 2024 to Replace Blythe McConaughy; appoint Gary Padesky to the Historic Sites Preservation Commission for a three year term to expire December 31, 2026; reappoint Dan Hesse to the La Crosse County Housing Authority for a five year term to expire December 31, 2028; reappoint Sally King to the La Crosse County Library Board for a three year to expire December 31, 2026; reappoint Bob Ritger, Adam Jacobson, David Steinberg, Dan Smith, Carol Engle-Drury, Mike Horstman, Marc Shultz, Tracy Hameau and Kelly Wilde to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a two year term to expire January 20, 2026; reappoint Bradly Heller to the Veterans Service Commission for a three year term to expire December 31, 2026; appoint Ryan Westpfahl to the Veterans Service Commission as an Alternate for a one year term to expire December 31, 2024 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by D. Pierce/P. Scheller to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held November 6, 2023 and the Public Hearing and Annual Meeting held November 13, 2023 and the claims list for \$1,590,038.64 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-12/23 RE: DIRECTING HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE EDUCATION RELATED TO DRILLING INTO THE MT. SIMON AQUIFER

WHEREAS, there are two aquifers beneath French Island/Town of Campbell and for decades citizens of the Town of Campbell have depended on private wells which have been drilled into the upper sand and gravel aquifer; and **WHEREAS**, it is now known that PFAS (**per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances**) contamination is widespread in the upper sand and gravel aquifer; and **WHEREAS**, Town of Campbell residents are currently under a Wisconsin Department of Health advisory which recommends that residents do not ingest water from the contaminated upper aquifer; and **WHEREAS**, it has been determined that the lower sandstone aquifer, named Mt. Simon, is free of PFAS. The Town of Campbell has drilled a "test" well into the Mt. Simon aquifer. State required water quality tests show it could be a safe long-term water source when municipal treatment filtration is applied. **WHEREAS**, This "test" well is planned to become part of a Town municipal water system serving all residents with municipal treatment that reduces the levels of other compounds (iron, manganese, radium, etc.) to bring the water quality into compliance with Wisconsin safe water standards; and **WHEREAS**, because the Mt. Simon aquifer is currently the only groundwater source in the region known to be PFAS-free, the risk of pulling contamination from the upper sand and gravel aquifer into the deeper sandstone, uncontaminated aquifer is a very serious concern; and **WHEREAS**, The County of La Crosse is a Level 1 county which means its Health Department issues well permits for the drilling of private water wells; **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that, in an effort to protect the Mt. Simon water source from being contaminated with PFAS, the La Crosse County Board hereby requires the Health Department to advise anyone who wishes to drill into the sandstone aquifer (from approximately 125-500 feet) on French Island to take precautions identified by the DNR for the Town of Campbell to drill the test well (including casing depth and grouting the well) when drilling through the upper aquifer to reach the Mt. Simon aquifer. **FISCAL NOTE:** Any educational materials are expected to be de minimis and will be covered by the Health Department budget in division 200.280.1000.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Motion by T. Tryggestad/R. Cornforth to approve. Discussion ensued. Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore and Environmental Health and Lab Manager Carol Engle-Drury responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

RESOLUTION NO. 35-12/23 RE: APPROVAL OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR LA CROSSE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

(111-23/24)

WHEREAS, Wis. Stats. s. 66.1001(4)(a) requires that the County adopt written procedures that are designed to foster public participation, including open discussion, communication programs, information services, and public meetings for which advance notice has been provided, in every stage of the preparation of a comprehensive plan; and **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to use a wide variety of tools to effectively engage the public, communicate the recommendations of the Planning Resources and Development Committee, and gather broad public feedback throughout the Comprehensive Plan Process. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Board approves the attached Public Participation Plan for the Comprehensive Plan Update; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Planning Resources and Development Committee is tasked with the implementation of the attached Public Participation Plan. **FISCAL NOTE:** There are sufficient dollars in budget line 100.180.1000-66540.03 to cover any costs associated with the public participation plan.

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Hoyer/G. Padesky to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-12/23 RE: APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR THE SALE OF PROPERTY TAKEN BY TAX FORECLOSURE

WHEREAS, La Crosse County has advertised for the sale of 2 separate parcels of property which were the subject of a prior tax foreclosure action; and, **WHEREAS**, sealed bids were received for 2 parcels no later than 12:00 PM on Friday, November 17, 2023 and opened by the County Treasurer on the same date at 3:00 PM, which bid results are attached hereto; and, **WHEREAS**, the sale and appraised value of the real estate was advertised by publication as required by law pursuant to s. 75.69, Wis. Stats.; and, **WHEREAS**, the highest responsive bids were accepted by the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee for both of the parcels; and, **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board approves the sale of the parcels for which responsive bids were accepted by the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair and County Clerk are hereby authorized to execute any legal documents necessary to accomplish the sale of said properties, after approval of Corporation Counsel. **FISCAL NOTE:** the revenue from the sale of tax delinquent property will be applied toward satisfying outstanding taxes, interest, penalty, and fees. Any surplus funds will be distributed pursuant to state statutes.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by M. Nikolay/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

APPROVAL OF ATV ROUTE #1 – CTH B from West Salem limits – STH 162: 4 miles.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by M. Nikolay/J. Pogreba to approve. Discussion ensued. Highway Commissioner Joe Langeberg and Corporation Counsel DeVore responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 24 ayes, 1 nay - K. Schlimgen, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

APPROVAL OF ATV ROUTE #2 – CTH C from HWY 16 – CTH DE: 8 miles.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by M. Nikolay/J. Pogreba to approve. Discussion ensued. Highway Commissioner Langeberg responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 22 ayes, 3 nays - R. Cornforth, P. Isola and D. Mader, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

APPROVAL OF ATV ROUTE #3 – CTH C from West of West Salem Limits – CTH M: 1 mile.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by M. Nikolay/D. Hesse to approve. Discussion ensued. Highway Commissioner Langeberg responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 24 ayes, 1 nay - K. Schlimgen, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

APPROVAL OF ATV ROUTE #4 – CTH M from South Onalaska limits – North Barre Limits: 8 miles

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by M. Nikolay/K. Hoyer to approve. Discussion ensued. Highway Commissioner Langeberg responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 18 ayes, 7 nays - R. Cornforth, R. Erickson, P. Isola, D. Mader, K. Schlimgen, L. Silva and D. Wacek, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

RESOLUTION NO. 37-12/23 RE: ACKNOWLEDGE "THE BEST OF PUBLIC SERVICE"

WHEREAS, the following employees have been a faithful part in providing "The Best of Public Service" to La Crosse County:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
Ann Thill	Human Services	6+
Craig Peterson	Lakeview Health Care	7+
Elizabeth Wright	Family Court Commissioner	8+
Lori Olson	Corporation Counsel	9+
Gregory Smith	Solid Waste	10+
John Beseler	Hillview Health Care	11+
Charlotte Eilertson	Hillview Health Care	11+
Lisa Perry	Health Department	13+
Lori Peterson	Human Services – ADRC	13+
Julie Dietz-Boen	Health Department	15+
David Walters	Sheriff Department	18+
Judi Zabel	Health Department	18+
Karen Adell	Lakeview Health Care	20+
Annette Christianson	District Attorney Department	20+
Anthony Buchada	Hillview Health Care	21+
Steven Benusa	Sheriff Department	22+
Delores Ehram	Library	23+
Mike Devine	Sheriff Department	26+
Nor Moua	Health Department	27+
Michael Kirschbaum	Human Services – JDF	28+
Kristi Mikkelson	Lakeview Health Care	28+
Jay Wooden	Highway Department	28+
Cheryl Neubauer	Human Services – ADRC	29+
Michael Weinberger	Sheriff Department	30+
Greg Hoesley	Sheriff Department	30+
Leif Nelson	Highway Department	31+
Margie Taylor	Finance Department	31+
Kimberly Olson	Sheriff Department	32+
Glenn Schmocker	Human Services – JDF	33+
Jeffrey Wolf	Sheriff Department	34+
Mary Kaufmann	Facilities Department	35+
Ronald Roth	Zoning	37+
Karla Ristow	Hillview Health Care	38+
Susan Sayner	Human Services – ES	38+

WHEREAS, it is the wish of the County Board of Supervisors to acknowledge long and faithful service on behalf of the citizens of La Crosse County; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that a resolution extending our congratulations be recorded in La Crosse County Board Proceedings and a certificate of our actions be presented as an expression of our gratitude.

MONICA KRUSE, COUNTY BOARD CHAIR
GINNY DANKMEYER, COUNTY CLERK

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by R. Erickson/A. Richmond to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

RESOLUTION NO. 38-12/23 RE: AUTHORIZATION OF DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES

WHEREAS, per WI. Statutes Chapter 34 and 59, the County Board shall designate one or more depositories; and, **WHEREAS**, the Executive Committee has met and they have designated depositories which meet the state statutes requirements. The following financial institutions have been designated as official depositories for La Crosse County funds:

Wells Fargo Bank NA, Onalaska	Wells Fargo Securities
State Bank Financial, La Crosse & Onalaska	Firefighters Credit Union, La Crosse, Onalaska & Holmen
WNB Financial, Holmen	U. S. Bank, La Crosse & Onalaska
Coulee Bank, La Crosse, Onalaska & Holmen	Union State Bank of West Salem, West Salem
Farmers State Bank of Bangor	First National Bank of Bangor & La Crosse
Park Bank, La Crosse & Holmen	Altra Federal Credit Union, La Crosse, Onalaska & Holmen
Associated Bank, La Crosse, Onalaska & Holmen	Verve a Credit Union, La Crosse, Onalaska & Holmen
Dana Investment Advisors, Waukesha	Bremer Bank, Onalaska
River Bank, La Crosse & Holmen	State of Wisconsin Investment Pool, Madison
MBIA Municipal Investors Corp.	American Deposits Management, Delafield WI
Trust Point, La Crosse	Institutional Capital Management, Milwaukee
Governmental Employees Credit Union, La Crosse	Citizens State Bank, La Crosse & Onalaska
Co-Op Credit Union, Onalaska	Merchants Bank, Onalaska
Marine Credit Union, La Crosse & Onalaska	1 st Community Credit Union, West Salem
BMO Harris Bank, La Crosse & Onalaska	CCF Bank, La Crosse
PMA Asset Management, LLC Naperville IL	
Bluff View Bank, Holmen	

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board appoint the financial institutions designated above as official depositories for La Crosse County funds. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the aforementioned depositories are officially designated until there is a change in state statutes or they are amended by the La Crosse County Board. **FISCAL NOTE**: No Fiscal Impact

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by R. Erickson/T. Tryggstad to approve. Discussion ensued. Treasurer Amy Twitchell responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

RESOLUTION NO. 40-12/23 NO. 39-12/23 RE: COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT RENEWAL, 2024-2025

WHEREAS, the County Administrator's current employment contract has been in effect since January of 2023 and is set to expire on January 19, 2024; and **WHEREAS**, with input and approval of the Executive Committee it is in the County's best interest to renew the contract to provide for continuity of leadership for the next two years; and **WHEREAS**, the Executive Committee approved the terms of the contract which would extend the current County Administrator's position until January 19, 2026; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the contract terms of the attached contract be approved as the terms and conditions of employment between La Crosse County and County Administrator Jane Klekamp for a period of two years commencing on January 19, 2024; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair and the County Clerk are directed to sign the contract after review by Corporation

(114-23/24)

Counsel. **FISCAL NOTE:** County Administrator wages and benefits costs are tracked under the 100.130.1000 division within the County financial system.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by R. Erickson/P. Scheller to approve. Discussion ensued. Chair Cable and Corporation Counsel DeVore responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Mader asked for a presentation on AI.
- Supervisor Abraham asked for Administrator Klekamp to review her goals and accomplishments in November 2024.

ADJOURN

Motion by R. Abraham/J. Pogreba to adjourn at 7:20 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - D. Hundt, 4 excused - M. Freedland, M. Kruse, R. Plesha and P. Viner.

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 Monthly Meeting held Thursday, December 21, 2023 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 26 OF DECEMBER 2023.