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**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, May 8, 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	Richmond, Andrea	Sworn in at 6:05 PM
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	Present
10	Cable, Kim	Present
11	Scheller, Patrick	Absent
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	Excused
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	Excused
29	Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30	Mader, Dillon	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was held for St. Croix County Deputy Leising who was killed in the line of duty.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse

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APPOINTMENT

Motion by M. Freedland/G. Padesky to appoint Anrea Richmond as County Board Supervisor for District 1 for a term to begin immediately and to expire April 15, 2024, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Pelli Lee passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 1 vacant – District 1, 3 excused - R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and L. Silva.

Andrea Richmond was sworn in by the Honorable Judge Scott Horne.

PROCLAMATION MAY 8 - MAY 12, 2023 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEEK

WHEREAS, communities rely on economic development professionals to promote economic well-being and quality of life; and, **WHEREAS**, for communities like La Crosse County that means coordinating activities to create, retain, and grow jobs that support families and provide a stable tax base; and, **WHEREAS**, collaboration across urban, local, state, tribal, and federal governments, businesses, chambers of commerce, universities, and a variety of other institutions is a key part of the work of economic development professionals; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County's Economic Development Fund supports start-ups and existing businesses through grant funding and loans, and the county's public services improve the infrastructure businesses need to thrive; and, **WHEREAS**, economic development professionals work in all municipalities in La Crosse County to foster a culture of entrepreneurialism that produces high-quality jobs and improves quality of life for all people.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board proclaims the second week of May as Economic Development Week and recognizes the importance of economic development professionals and the programs they administer across our region.

Motion by G. Mathu/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused - R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and L. Silva.

PROCLAMATION MAY 2023 - MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, it is vital that we raise awareness of the importance of mental health to strong, thriving communities; and, **WHEREAS**, many people still feel too ashamed to reach out for help or are stigmatized for seeking care; and, **WHEREAS**, we give thanks to La Crosse County's dedicated mental health providers who offer help to our friends, neighbors and colleagues; and, **WHEREAS**, we stand in solidarity with all people who are experiencing mental health conditions and renew our commitment to providing them with the support they need and deserve. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim May 2023 as Mental Health Awareness Month and invites all county residents to join us on the Mental Health Awareness Walk at 12 p.m. on Thursday, May 25, starting from the La Crosse County Health & Human Services Building.

Motion by R. Erickson/T. Tryggstad to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused - R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and L. Silva.

PROCLAMATION MAY 14 IS HMONG AMERICA DAY

WHEREAS, beginning in the 1970s, Hmong families immigrated to the United States as refugees to escape persecution and poverty in the aftermath of the Vietnam War; and, **WHEREAS**, on arrival in this country many Hmong immigrants were greeted with racism and hatred despite their support of the United States war effort in Vietnam; and, **WHEREAS**, the Hmong community in Wisconsin, including La Crosse County, resisted attempts to marginalize their identities, language and traditions; and, **WHEREAS**, Hmong people in La Crosse County and throughout the United States continue to make remarkable economic, cultural and political contributions to our society and have made our country immeasurably stronger and richer; and, **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin has the third largest Hmong population of any state in the nation; and, **WHEREAS**, we are proud that at least 3,400 Hmong people now live in La Crosse County and today we celebrate and recognize their history, culture and immeasurable contributions to our county, state and nation. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim May 14 Hmong American Day.

Motion by K. Cable/R. Geary to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused - R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and L. Silva.

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APPOINTMENT

Motion by J. Pogreba/G. Mathu to appoint Andrea Richmond to the Health & Human Services Board for the remainder of a three year term to expire April 30, 2026 passed on a voice vote with 25 ayes, A. Richmond, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused - R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and L. Silva.

- LADCO Economic Forum – Any Supervisor wanting to attend the LADCO Economic Forum on June 1st should sign up with Clerk Dankmeyer.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Mathu was recognized as the 2023 UWL Outstanding Graduate.
 - PSC of Wisconsin will have a listening tour, "Internet for All", at the La Crosse Library on May 15th from 1-3pm.
 - ORA sent a thank you note for the Community Events Grant they received.
 - Supervisor Pogreba attended the 27th Mayoral Breakfast.
 - Supervisor Baroni announced he chose not to meet with the DEI consultant.
 - Supervisor Tryggestad attended the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Walk that was on May 5th.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION MAY 2023 - LAW ENFORCEMENT / PUBLIC SAFETY & COURTS MONTH

WHEREAS, in a free society, law enforcement is entrusted and expected to protect the civil rights of its residents and visitors to our community; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County employees serve to enhance public safety through the Courts, District Attorney, Sheriff, Emergency Management Coordination, Medical Examiner and Public Safety Communications; and, **WHEREAS**, thousands of residents and visitors are helped each year in La Crosse County by the professionals who respond to emergencies and assist those in need. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of May as Law Enforcement, Public Safety & Courts Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to ensuring the safety of its county's residents and visitors to our community.

Motion by P. Isola/J. Pogreba to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused - R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and L. Silva.

- General Update
 - A sign up sheet was passed around for Supervisors to sign up for the table La Crosse County will have at Juneteenth; the first meeting of municipal leaders was held; a legal aid person was hired; the remainder of the Stormwater Infrastructure Grant has been distributed; the Hillview project is moving along and architects will be bring back a plan; Family Bridge Housing will be going to Executive Committee for approval of the agreement; Solid Waste was open 24/7 for 2-3 days from the train derailment and took in 3.2 million pounds of waste and recycling; and Sara Koopman was introduced as the new Associate Administrator.
- Recognition of Finance Department
 - The Finance Department, for the 17th year, received an award for the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, and for the 8th year, received the Public Annual Financial Report Award.
- American Rescue Plan ACT Presentation – Skilled Trades Training presented by Joan Parke and Jake Erickson of the Boys and Girls Club.
 - The Boys and Girls Club was established in 1966 and there are 8 club sites in La Crosse County. They serve over 4,000 youth annually with a \$4 million annual budget. The Boys and Girls Club can offer human collateral, significant resources from the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, partnership skills and longevity and stability. They can promise to expand current program, target skilled trades, provide exploration, provide workspace, provide classroom/training space, connect youth to existing resources, and teach and reinforce critical soft skills. Schools are currently doing skilled trades training, but funding is limited and there is a shortage of teachers. 91% of employees say that soft skills are as important

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or more important than hard skills or technical expertise. Students will be recruited from schools, members and member's parents, other youth organizations, social media, and offer incentives for participation. Examples of some academies are welding, construction, CAD/3D printing, carpentry, and HVAC. The full project budget is estimated at \$7,200,000 with that funding coming from ARPA - \$2,200,000, Federal Earmark - \$1,500,000, and Campaign - \$3,500,000.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOICS

- Supervisor Baroni asked for an updated on CouleeCap and Family Housing.

ADJOURN

Motion by J. Pogreba/D. Mader to adjourn at 7:14 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 3 excused - R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and L. Silva.

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, May 8, 2023 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 11 OF MAY 2023.