

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, October 19, 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	Excused
4	Freedland, Maureen	Present
5	Poley, Justin	Present
6	Plesha, Roger	Present
7	Padesky, Gary	Present
8	Isola, Peg	Present
9	Wacek, Dawn	Present
10	Cable, Kim	Present
11	Scheller, Patrick	Excused
12	Erickson, Randy	Present
13	Tryggestad, Tina	Present
14	Larson, Margaret	Excused
15	Kruse, Monica	Present
16	Ferries, Dan	Present
17	Pogreba, Jack	Present
18	Baroni, Mike	Present
19	Cornforth, Rick	Present
20	Doyle, Steve	Excused
21	Abraham, Rob	Excused
22	Viner, Pamela	Present
23	Nikolay, Matt	Present
24	Hoyer, Kevin	Present
25	Jacobsen, Dennis	Present
26	Hundt, David	Excused
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

- Brewer Stadium Legislation – Chair Kruse announced the Assembly passed a \$550 million financing bill to keep the Brewers in Milwaukee until 2050 and reduced the administrative fee that the DOR charges counties which would be \$170,000 to La Crosse County if it had been in effect last year. It now needs to pass the Senate.

- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Jacobsen noted the Broadband Consultant will be here to speak to the Board on November 6th and have meetings in the rural areas on November 8th or 9th.
 - Supervisor Tryggestad reminded Supervisors of the blood drive on November 1st and 2nd.
 - Supervisor Mader attended the installation of the Barre Badger 4H Officers.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

- General Update
 - Finance Director Lanae Nickelotti received the Rising Stars Under 40 Award; Childcare application have been approved and \$500,000 went to 37 childcare providers outside the City of La Crosse; a new personnel management system is going into place and will be live on December 25; she met with the new City of Onalaska Administrator Rick Niemeier; the first family and staff meeting was held at Hillview about the new vision; Chanin Kelly-Rae continues to have listening sessions throughout the County; a new permitting and inspection program for Zoning, Land Conservation and Health Department; Veteran's Bonanza on November 4th at the La Crosse Center; over \$250,000 of Neighborhood Revitalization Funds were awarded last week; and there is now an online newsletter for the public.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion by A. Richmond/R. Geary to appoint David Pierce and Greg Reichert to the Economic Development Fund Board passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Scheller.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by R. Plesha/D. Ferries to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held September 11, 2023 and the Monthly Meeting held September 21, 2023 and the claims list for \$3,097,656.50 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-10/23 RE AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR STATE FUNDING FOR THE COUNTY-WIDE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEARS 2026 THROUGH 2028

WHEREAS, national youth obesity rates have increased to 42% and adult obesity rates have increased to 37%* and obesity contributes to increased development of chronic disease and lowered life expectancy; and, **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Safe Routes to School Program increases physical activity among K-8th grade children & families by encouraging safe and active commuting to and from school; and the program is expanding active transportation to and from school with students K-12th grade, and **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Safe Routes to School Program and partner organizations including public and private school districts and communities, (La Crosse, Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem and Bangor), Gundersen Health System, Urban Connections, the Wisconsin Bike Fed, seven law enforcement agencies and community groups such as the Safe Kids Coalition of the Coulee Region, the Holmen Safe Routes to School Task Force, positively impacted approximately 8,000 students and their families prior to pandemic program interruption; and, **WHEREAS**, from 2007 to 2023, approximately \$1,100,000 in grant funding was awarded to La Crosse County from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School grant program for implementation of Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure activities, and **WHEREAS**, current grant funding for Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure activities will sustain the program from 2023 through mid 2026 in the amount of \$447,299 through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternative Program (TAP), with a required 20% match; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the La Crosse County Transportation Alternatives Program's application for state funding in the amount of \$402,598 (with a required 20% match of \$100,649) for state fiscal years 2026, 2027, and 2028 in order to continue providing this service to schools, children and families in La Crosse County. **FISCAL NOTE:** Acceptance of this grant will require a 20% total match of \$100,649 to be levied across the 2026, 2027 and 2028 budgets. The personnel and operating costs related to this ongoing grant are tracked under division 200.300.3583 within the County financial system under the Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention section of the Health Department.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Motion by T. Tryggstad/K. Cable to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Scheller.

ZONING ORDINANCE NO. Z450-10/23 RE: PETITION NO. 2073 FILED BY JONATHAN AND LAURA BUEHLER TO REZONE FROM GENERAL AGRICULTURE DISTRICT TO RURAL DISTRICT IN THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD

The La Crosse County Planning, Resources and Development Committee, having considered Petition No. 2073 to amend the La Crosse County Zoning Ordinance filed by: JONATHAN AND LAURA BUEHLER, 1103 CARDINAL ST, BANGOR, WI 54614 and having held a public hearing on Monday, October 2, 2023, for a ZONING PETITION to/for 17.10 Map Amendments, to Rezone from GENERAL AGRICULTURE DISTRICT to RURAL DISTRICT for future residential use in the Town of GREENFIELD and described as follows: PRT SW-SW & SE-SW & NE-SW BEG S1/4 COR SEC 34, Sec. 34, T.15N, R.6W. Tax parcel 6-778-1. Property address: Charlies Lane, Town of Greenfield. 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 (Cornforth, Erickson, Hoyer, Hundt, Scheller, Schlimgen, Silva), ZERO (0) no, and ZERO (0) abstentions, and ZERO (0) excused, the committee recommended Approval of ZONING PETITION No. 2073 subject to the following ONE (1) condition:

1. Not more than one single-family residence shall be permitted on the parcel.

The County Board, under s.59.69(5)(e)5 Wis. Stats., has the authority to effectuate the petition by ordinance or to disapprove it. The County Board took the following action this 19th day of October 2023. Approved the petition as submitted, becomes an ordinance.

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Hoyer/R. Erickson to approve as recommended by the Committee passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-10/23 RE: APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR THE SALE OF PROPERTY TAKEN BY TAX FORECLOSURE

WHEREAS, La Crosse County has advertised for the sale of 7 separate parcels of property which were the subject of a prior tax foreclosure action; and, **WHEREAS**, sealed bids were received for 7 parcels no later than 12:00 PM on Friday, September 22, 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 5 of the parcels; and, **WHEREAS**, the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee accepted less than the highest responsive bid for parcel #11-79-7, in order to allow the adjoining property owner of that parcel to purchase the parcel; and, **WHEREAS**, the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee accepted a bid for less than the assessed value for parcel #11-1318-0, in order to allow the adjoining property owner of that parcel to purchase it, thereby returning the parcel to the tax rolls; 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 P. Viner/M. Nikolay to approve. Discussion ensued. Treasurer Amy Twitchell responded to question from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Scheller.

FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 210 TO AMEND S. 7.04 ENTITLED "SPEED LIMITS" OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by P. Viner/J. Pogreba to move the first reading. Motion by P. Viner/A. Richmond to waive the rules to act on an ordinance at its' first consideration. Discussion ensued. Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore and Highway Commissioner Joe Langeberg responded to questions from the Board. The motion to waive the rules failed on a roll call vote with 13 nays, 11 ayes - M. Baroni, R. Cornforth, R. Erickson, D. Ferries, R. Geary, D. Jacobsen, M. Kruse, M. Nikolay, R. Plesha, T. Tryggestad and P. Viner, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Scheller. The ordinance will be held over for 30 days and is on file and open for public inspection in the office of the County Clerk and on the La Crosse County web site at: www.co.la-crosse.wi.us. Upon adoption and publication, it will be incorporated into the La Crosse County General Code of Ordinances.

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 24-10/23 REFERRED RESOLUTION RE: INCREASING FUNDS FOR HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION IN THE 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

WHEREAS, La Crosse County is responsible for 281 miles of county highway and 72 bridges and over the last 11 years has completed 62 (5.6 miles per year) miles of highway construction projects; and **WHEREAS**, state funding has failed to keep up with rising material and labor costs for highway projects, which have increased by 140% since 2018 and close to 250% since 1999; and **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County roadway work funding the last 11 years totaled \$31,511.120 (2,864,644 per year); and **WHEREAS**, levy limits make it increasingly difficult for local governments to make up for the shortfall in state funding; and **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin's cost sharing funding the county road work is sharply increased for the next three years; and **WHEREAS**, 44% (124 miles) of La Crosse County highways have a pavement condition rating index of "good," 37% (104 miles) are in "fair" condition," and 19% (53 miles) are in "poor" condition; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County's local businesses, farms, emergency responders and communities are dependent on safe county highways; and **WHEREAS**, the 2023 budget \$7 million to highway and bridge construction; and **WHEREAS**, increasing the highway department's budget, from reallocation of unspent American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds or other sources, for highway and bridge construction would allow the Highway Department to complete additional miles of highway construction project; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board recommends the County Administrator to prepare the 2024 Administrator's proposed budget with \$10 million allocated to the Highway Department for highway and bridge construction with \$3 million coming from the General Fund Balance. **FISCAL NOTE:** The fiscal impact to add \$3 million of project costs to the Highway Department in 2024 is dependent on the funding source identified. Funding options include: 1.) Borrowing \$3 million of general obligation debt, 2.) Utilizing general fund balance which would reduce the fund balance by 8% to \$14 million unassigned, 3.) Reserving American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds if not allocated to other projects, or 4.) Directing the county administrator to reduce other departmental funding which could negatively impact other county services.

Motion by G. Padesky to amend the Now Therefore Be It Resolved clause by indicating the borrowing of \$3 million of General Obligation Debt failed for a lack of a second. Motion by R. Geary/D. Ferries to amend the Now Therefore It Be Resolved clause by taking \$3 million from the General Fund Balance. Highway Commissioner Joe Langeberg and Administrator Jane Klekamp responded to questions from the Board. The motion to amend passed on a roll call vote with 13 ayes, 11 nays - K. Cable, R. Cornforth, M. Freedland, D. Hesse, M. Kruse, D. Mader, R. Plesha, J. Pogreba, K. Schlimgen, L. Silva and T. Tryggestad, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Scheller. The motion to approve as amended passed on a roll call vote with 17 ayes, 7 nays - K. Cable, R. Erickson, P. Isola,

(91-23/24)

M. Kruse, D. Mader, J. Poley and D. Wacek, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Scheller.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS – none offered.

ADJOURN

Motion by J. Pogreba/M. Nikolay to adjourn at 7:17 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Abraham, S. Doyle, D. Hundt, M. Larson, D. Pierce, and P. Scheller.

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, October 19, 2023 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 20 OF OCTOBER 2023.