

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, October 9, 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	Present
2	Geary, Ralph	Present
3	Pierce, David	Present
4	Freedland, Maureen	Present
5	Poley, Justin	Sworn in at 6:05 PM
6	Plesha, Roger	Present
7	Padesky, Gary	Present
8	Isola, Peg	Present
9	Wacek, Dawn	Present
10	Cable, Kim	Excused
11	Scheller, Patrick	Excused
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	Present
29	Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30	Mader, Dillon	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse

APPOINTMENT

Motion by T. Tryggestad/R. Erickson to appoint Justin Poley as County Board Supervisor for District 5 for a term to begin immediately and to expire April 15, 2024 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Grant Mathu passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 4 excused - K. Cable, R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer, and P. Scheller, 1 Vacant – District 5.

Justin Poley was sworn in by the Honorable Judge Scott Horne.

PROCLAMATION OCTOBER 2023 - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly affecting individuals and society as a whole in this community, throughout the United States and the world; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County joins with other counties and cities across Wisconsin and the nation in supporting victims of domestic violence, as well as local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide who are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and sending a clear message to abusers that domestic violence is not tolerated in La Crosse County; and, **WHEREAS**, domestic violence impacts millions of people each year, but it can be prevented. Preventing domestic violence requires the collective voice and power of individuals, families, institutions, and systems – adding a valuable and powerful component to transforming our communities. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim October 2023 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Motion by J. Pogreba/D. Ferries to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - K. Cable, R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and P. Scheller.

- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Chair Kruse noted that on October 4, 2023 a request for proposals went out for vendors for the Strategic Planning with a deadline on November 8, 2023 and approval by Executive Committee and County Board in December. The Quarterly Planning Meeting is scheduled for tonight after the Planning Meeting. The topic will be the Budget. A Special Executive Committee meeting will be scheduled towards the end of October.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION OCTOBER 2023 - SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING MONTH

WHEREAS, La Crosse County helps to minimize the environmental impact of waste disposal in our region through management of award-winning programs including waste-to-energy, landfill operations, gas to energy recovery and household hazardous materials collection; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County has helped to facilitate the successful implementation of single-stream recycling collection in the cities of La Crosse and Onalaska that has resulted in a 137 percent increase in recycling; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County enhances regional solid waste and recycling efforts through expanding sustainability practices and collaboration on all aspects of solid waste and recycling, processing, and beneficial reuse of by-products. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of October 2023 as La Crosse County Solid Waste and Recycling Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to operating one of the most environmentally sustainable solid waste disposal systems in the nation.

Motion by P. Isola/P. Viner to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - K. Cable, R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer and P. Scheller.

- 2024 Administrator's Budget Highlights
 - The County's finances are audited annually and Moody's has assigned the County an Aa1 bond rating based on the strong financial position and solid fiscal management. The budget is balanced and relies on diverse revenue sources and maintains a healthy fund balance. There will be no reduction in services, lower tax rate, reduced county debt, 3% pay increase, and no increase in health insurance premiums for the 7th year in a row. The total revenue is \$199,553,034 and that comes from property taxes, federal and state funding, public charges, ARPA, sales tax, fund balance and some miscellaneous. Expenses include human services, general government, long term care, highway, ARPA, solid waste, debt service, health and library. La Crosse County's diverse revenue base allows for minimal use of levy to fund County programs. The 2024 recommended budget has an operating

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levy of \$28.978 million, Library \$2.392 million, Debt \$6.650 million and a mill rate of \$2.70 per \$1,000 which is down 7% from last year. The total levy is up 1.5% from last year to \$38,020,642. County debt is down \$17.8 million since 2020. In 2024, \$1 million from Human Services fund balance will be used for highway. Uses of the General Fund Balance include Facilities Capital equipment and improvements, UW Extensions, 911 Radio System upgrade, Onalaska Community Center, IT Capital and software, and Village of Holmen All Abilities Park. Highlights of the 2024 budget include adding two deputies to the sheriff's department and new flooring and noise suppression at the jail, final tower in West Salem to enhance Emergency Service, implementing the Hillview plan, DEI roadmap and County Board strategic plan, developing a long term plan for juvenile detention and a city/county housing plan, replace vault toilets in parks to be more accessible, and multiple elections in 2024. The budget maintains our strong financial position while making key investments in our people and programs.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Hundt asked for the Ag Society to present to the Board.

ADJOURN

Motion by J. Pogreba/A. Richmond to adjourn at 6:30 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - K. Cable, R. Cornforth, K. Hoyer 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 Planning Meeting held Monday, October 9, 2023 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 13 OF OCTOBER 2023.