

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, December 9, 2024 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 27 supervisors were present when Chair Tina Tryggestad 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 Leibold, Kelly	Present
2 Geary, Ralph	Present
3 Pierce, David	Present
4 Freedland, Maureen	Present
5 Anderson, Emily	Present
6 Mathu, Grant	Present
7 Padesky, Gary	Present
8 Isola, Peg	Present
9 Wacek, Dawn	Excused
10 Cable, Kim	Present
11 Scheller, Patrick	Present
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	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Excused
21 Balduzzi, Dave	Present
22 Kovacevich, Joe	Present
23 Elam, Travis	Present
24 Hoyer, Kevin	Excused
25 Jacobsen, Dennis	Present
26 Hundt, David	Present
27 Wuensch, Paul	Present
28 Rothering, Ron	Present
29 Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30 Mader, Dillon	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:
County Board Chair Report - Tina Tryggestad**

PROCLAMATION DECEMBER 2024 - ELECTION AND POLL WORKERS RECOGNITION MONTH
WHEREAS, the County Clerk and staff, municipal clerks and poll workers play a vital role in ensuring that La Crosse County voters can fully participate in the democratic process by registering voters, issuing ballots, monitoring voting equipment, and providing assistance to ensure every eligible voter can cast their ballot; and, **WHEREAS**, these individuals are the unsung heroes of our democracy, working

(87-24/25)

diligently to uphold the laws governing elections while maintaining transparency, fairness, and accuracy; and, **WHEREAS**, over the past year, these individuals successfully conducted three major elections, managed an audit, and implemented significant changes in voting laws, all with integrity and efficiency; and, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board extends gratitude and appreciation to the County Clerk and staff, the municipal clerks and poll workers, the Board of Canvassers, and election tabulators of La Crosse County for their hard work, integrity, and professionalism. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board proclaims the month of December 2024 as Election Clerk and Poll Workers Month and urges all residents to honor the invaluable contribution our election clerks and poll workers make to ensure elections in La Crosse County are secure, accurate, and accessible to all eligible voters.

Motion by K. Cable/K. Schlimgen to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 3 excused - S. Doyle, K. Hoyer and D. Wacek.

- WCA Legislative Exchange, February 25-26, 2025, Madison WI
 - Supervisors who want to attend should sign up with the County Clerk.
- The La Crosse County Blood Drive will be held December 11th and 12th.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Freedland attended the La Crosse Area Planning Committee Open House and encouraged supervisors to take the survey.
 - Supervisor Kruse noted the LADCO event will be held on January 13th at the Radisson and attended the State of our Ports presentation which focused on both ports in La Crosse and the airport.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION DECEMBER 2024 - ZONING, PLANNING AND LAND INFORMATION AND METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING MONTH

WHEREAS, the dedicated staff of these departments provide essential support and guidance to individuals, businesses, professionals, and governmental entities in administering zoning, floodplain, shoreland, subdivision, telecommunications, and nonmetallic mining ordinances; and, **WHEREAS**, they coordinate and maintain land information systems that support public and private sector needs in assessment, taxation, mapping, permitting, planning, and education, including through the comprehensive and accessible county land records website; and, **WHEREAS**, these departments play a critical role in transportation planning, working to develop and secure funding for safe, efficient, and sustainable transportation networks that serve the region. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby proclaims December 2024 as Zoning, Planning, Land Information, and Metropolitan Transportation Planning Month in recognition of the invaluable contributions of staff who tirelessly promote organized land use development and infrastructure planning for the benefit of all.

Motion by M. Freedland/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 3 excused - S. Doyle, K. Hoyer and D. Wacek.

- 2023 La Crosse County Sustainability Indicators Report
 - Anders Olson of Sustainability Analytics presented the 2023 Sustainability Indicators Report. La Crosse County Government used 188,539 gallons of fuel between diesel, gasoline, CNG and propane. 70% of that fuel was used by the Highway Department. The Natural Gas usage was at 297 thousand therms with 40% of that being used by the LEC building. Electricity usage was at 7.7 million kWh with 32% of that being used by the LEC building. The Solar PV Arrays will offset electricity usage by 13% in 2024. Annual CO2 emissions from energy use was below 2,000 metric tons. Emissions decreased more than usage. Excel Energy reduced their emission factor for electricity used by 56% with plans to be carbon free by 2050. Annual paper usage was 1.7 million sheets of paper which is down 64% since 2009. Cumulative savings from efficiency and conservation is \$3.98 million. La Crosse County has seen significant reductions in resource usage, significant benefits realized with smaller carbon footprint and cost savings, and significant progress is still needed to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

- Overview of 2025 Wage and Study Process
 - Human Resources Director Stephen Conrad presented the process for the wage study. The purpose and intent are to drive organizational strategic goals / direction approved by the Board, be a competitive and equitable employer of choice in compensation and establish and maintain consistency across the county in our compensation system and practices. Compensation includes base wage, shift differentials, and premium pay. Public and private sectors in 7 like size counties in Wisconsin, 4 contiguous counties, top 5 employers in La Crosse, local governments, schools and nursing homes will be compared with both exempt and non-exempt jobs. The plan is to deliver a competitive compensation system to source, attract, hire and to retain talent and deliver 1 scalable and sustainable compensation system that is equitable and defensible. This is to be implemented within 1 year.
- General Update
 - Administrator Klekamp reported that Emergency Services travels to all 11 towers in the County and one in Minnesota twice a year to either turn on heat or air conditioning and change the batteries in the smoke alarms; Land Conservation received a grant from DNR to target runoff management for \$600,000; a co-responder program in the City of La Crosse with mental health crisis responders that go out with police officers had 509 calls with 196 being diverted from the hospital; about 80 people have been housed through the Pathways Home Project; Civilian Review Board will have their 2nd meeting this month and are setting up policy and procedures; La Crosse County is 4th lowest property tax per capita in 2025.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Hundt asked for a special election for a supervisor vacancy.

ADJOURN

Motion by G. Mathu/R. Cornforth to adjourn at 7:07 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, K. Hoyer, P. Isola and D. Wacek.

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, December 9, 2024 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 12 OF DECEMBER 2024.