

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, January 18, 2024 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 28 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:

<b>District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
1	Vacant	
2	Geary, Ralph	Present
3	Pierce, David	Present
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	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	Present
21	Abraham, Rob	Present
22	Viner, Pamela	Present
23	Nikolay, Matt	Present
24	Hoyer, Kevin	Present
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**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse**

- Chair Kruse announced the resignation of Supervisor Andrea Richmond from District 1 effective January 12, 2024.
- The Executive Committee meeting in February will be moved from Wednesday to Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 8am.

(119-23/24)

- Transit Equity Day will be celebrated on January 29<sup>th</sup> at the Transit Center on Jay Street beginning at 11:15am. There will also be “office hour” on the bus where supervisors can ride the bus and speak with the riders.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
  - Supervisor Tryggestad reminded Supervisors of the Blood Drive at the County on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - Supervisor Cornforth noted that the Aviation Board appointed Lauren Koss as the interim director of the airport after the resignation of Ian Turner.

#### **Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp**

- 2023 ended with a \$19.6 million Hillview plan in place, \$22.9 million in ARPA fund allocated and a new long-term plan with the City of La Crosse on homelessness. The unassigned fund balance is expected to be \$16 million or 39% of expenses, outstanding debt reduced by 12.5% to \$59.3 million, the County is in a strong financial position, and a more developed capital improvement plan for the 2025 budget will better inform use of the fund balance. Sale tax revenue continues to increase over recent years with \$17.19 million expected for 2023. La Crosse County property tax is the 5<sup>th</sup> lowest in the State. 2024 looks to have Hillview break ground in the fall, a Strategic Plan in place to guide budget discussions, City-County homelessness plan implementation, 14.8 miles of highway construction projects, new county board members will be seated in April, there is a leadership development program being created for county staff and the local economy remains strong.

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

Motion by K. Hoyer/K. Cable to reappoint Patrick Scheller to the Coulee Region Business Center Board for a two year term to expire January 31, 2026; appoint Warren Pickar to the Wildlife Abatement Damage Committee; appoint Elizabeth (Betsy) Gilles to the La Crosse County Library Board for a term to expire December 31, 2026 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - L. Silva and 1 vacant – District 1.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by R. Plesha/R. Abraham to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held December 11, 2023 and the Monthly Meeting held December 21, 2023 and the claims list for \$2,757,874.61 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - L. Silva and 1 vacant – District 1.

#### **ATV ROUTE APPLICATION**

Route 1 – CTH M from South Hamilton Line to STH 14; Route 2 – CTH O from CTH M to CTH B; Route 3 – CTH OA from CTH O to STH 33; Route 4 – CTH B from CTH OA to CTH F; Route 5 – CTH FO from CTH OA to CTH F; Route 6 – CTH YY from CTHM to STH 33; Route 7 – CTH NN from CTH M to STH 162.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Motion by P. Viner/M. Nikolay to approve. Discussion ensued. Highway Commissioner Joe Langeberg, Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore and Sheriff John Siegel responded to questions from the Board. Motion by P. Scheller/D. Mader to refer to the March Monthly Meeting. Discussion ensued. The motion to refer to the March Monthly Meeting passed on a roll call vote with 19 ayes, 9 nays - M. Baroni, D. Ferries, D. Hesse, K. Hoyer, D. Hundt, D. Jacobsen, M. Nikolay, J. Pogreba and K. Schlimgen, 1 excused - L. Silva and 1 vacant – District 1.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 40-1/24 RE: FEDERAL “CONNECT AND PROTECT” GRANT**

**WHEREAS**, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), has awarded funding to the City of La Crosse Police department as part of a Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (Connect and Protect) to support a collaboration with La Crosse County Human Services Crisis Program; and, **WHEREAS**, the purpose of the funding is to increase positive outcomes and decrease law enforcement contact with individuals struggling with mental health and co-occurring substance use disorders; and, **WHEREAS**, The City of La Crosse has secured a three-year grant (10-1-22 to 9-30-25), amounting to a total funding of \$369,008.42., with La Crosse County Human Services set to receive \$156,331.49 of this amount as a

(120-23/24)

subrecipient spread out over the grant's duration, using the funding in accordance with the grant's following goals;

- Increase Mental Health Crisis co-response with the City of La Crosse police department through additional operational time,
- Support increased diversion from Hospital and Jail by meeting consumers with the appropriate interventions,
- Increase community connection to support the overall Human Services mission to provide equitable services to consumers; and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the additional funding from the Connect and Protect Grant as a subrecipient award of \$156,331.49; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that La Crosse County is permitted to contract for all services that are necessary to meet the terms of the Connect and Protect subrecipient agreement, so long as they can be supported with the related funding; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair is authorized to execute any contracts or documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution, after approval by Corporation Counsel; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate account transfers relating to accepting this additional federal funding. **FISCAL NOTE:** Additional supplemental award funds of \$156,331.49, with a 20% year 1 and 2 and a 40% county match required, and the award period of 10-1-22 to 10-30-23 at no cost due to a planning year, 11-1-23 year two start. The operating costs will be tracked under the 210.455.5235 division within the County financial system under the Integrated Support and Recovery Services section.

#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Motion by T. Tryggestad/K. Cable to approve. Discussion ensued. Human Services Supervisor Sam Seefeld, Administrator Klekamp, Avrie Schott, and ISRS Assistant Manager Anneliese Skoda responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - L. Silva and 1 vacant – District 1.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 41-1/24 RE: SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT SUPPLEMENTAL AWARD**

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) has made available supplemental funding to eligible counties as part of their regular Substance Abuse Block Grant allocations; and, **WHEREAS**, the purpose of the increased funding is to address unmet substance use disorder needs by supporting prevention, treatment, and recovery services; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County has been awarded a fourth-year of supplemental funding of \$79,357 (to be used beginning March 15, 2024 through March 14, 2025) and anticipates using the funds for the following:

- Facilitate access to treatment services for uninsured including outpatient, residential and detoxification funding.
- Provide recovery support and education through live and on-demand virtual platform (IGNTD).
- Increase support for primary prevention (subrecipient services through Coulee Recovery Center).

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the additional Substance Abuse Block Grant Supplemental Award funding of \$79,357; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that La Crosse County is permitted to contract for all services that are necessary to meet the terms of the Substance Abuse Block Grant Supplemental Award, so long as they can be supported with the related funding; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair is authorized to execute any contracts or documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution, after approval by Corporation Counsel; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate account transfers relating to accepting this additional federal funding. **FISCAL NOTE:** Additional supplemental award funds of \$79,357, with no County match required, and the award period of March 15, 2024 through March 14, 2025. The operating costs will be tracked under the 210.450.5235 division within the County financial system under the Integrated Support and Recovery Services section.

#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Motion by T. Tryggestad/G. Padesky to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - L. Silva and 1 vacant – District 1.

(121-23/24)

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

- Supervisor Isola asked for an update on the Opioid Settlement.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by R. Abraham/J. Pogreba to adjourn at 7:01 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - L. Silva and 1 vacant – District 1.

**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, January 18, 2024 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 19 OF JANUARY 2024.**