

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, January 8, 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:

District	Name	Attendance
1	Richmond, Andrea	Present
2	Geary, Ralph	Present
3	Pierce, David	Present
4	Freedland, Maureen	Present
5	Poley, Justin	Excused
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	Excused
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	Present
29	Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30	Mader, Dillon	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Monica Kruse

PROCLAMATION NO. 196-1/24 FEBRUARY 4, 2024 - LA CROSSE COUNTY TRANSIT EQUITY DAY
WHEREAS, Transit Equity Day is a national day of action to commemorate the February 4 birthday of Rosa Parks and highlight her brave and determined advocacy for safe and reliable public transportation for all people; and, **WHEREAS**, Transit Equity Day is a day of action to elevate the message that public transit is a critical strategy to combat climate change and promotes affordable, accessible, and safe

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transportation alternatives; and, **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors is committed to addressing inequities throughout the county, has adopted the goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, and supports funding for the SMRT bus system, which provides affordable rural public transit to our region. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim Saturday, February 4, 2024 as "Transit Equity Day" and urges everyone to celebrate the legacy of Rosa Parks and continue to work together to build a sustainable and equitable future for our county.

Motion by R. Erickson/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - R. Abraham and J. Poley.

- A moment of silence was held for the passing of former Supervisor James Ehram who served on the County Board from 1986-2008 and was chair from 1990-2002.
- Supervisor Mileage Reimbursements – Supervisors were reminded to turn in any 2023 mileage reimbursements no later than Friday, January 12, 2024.
- Cybersecurity Reminder – La Crosse County has seen many hacking attempts and are reminding everyone to never enter your credentials from an email link or share your log in information.
- Administer Evaluation – Comments from the Supervisor evaluations were shared with Administrator Klekamp. Responses were mostly positive, and a report is available for anyone who is interested.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Freedland noted the MLK Celebration will be held at Viterbo University on Monday, January 15, 2024, at 7pm.
 - Supervisor Hundt announced that the Lake Neshonoc Protection and Rehabilitation District had their annual meeting and in 2027 the debt will be paid off for the dredging project.
 - Supervisor Schlimgen announced that the Coon Creek and West Fork public meeting on the Kickapoo River where they are looking at decommissioning the dams on that facility, will be held in Coon Valley at the American Legion on January 18th from 12-2:30pm and the Cashton Community Hall from 4-6:30pm on January 18th.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION NO. 197-1/24 JANUARY 2024 - HIGHWAY SAFETY / TRANSPORTATION MONTH

WHEREAS, staff works diligently 24 hours per day and 365 days per year to build safe roads for the residents of La Crosse County and visitors to travel upon; and, **WHEREAS**, maintenance such as snow plowing; salting; grading shoulders; mowing; repairing, sealing, sweeping, and paving roads and many other duties that keep La Crosse County highways clean and safe; and, **WHEREAS**, in 2023, the Highway Department replaced 22 failing culverts, paved 8 miles of roadway, and upgraded about 11,700 feet of flex beam guardrail, along with managing 280 miles of county highways, 157 miles of state trunk highways, and 72 county bridges; and, **WHEREAS**, the safety of all traveling persons is ensured by the hardworking staff of the Highway Department. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of January 2024 as La Crosse County Highway Safety Month and recognizes the valuable contribution of all who work to keep our roads safe.

Motion by J. Pogreba/D. Ferries to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - R. Abraham and J. Poley.

- General Update – Administrator Klekamp reported that solar installations have begun at the Highway Shop, behind Lakeview and at Goose Island and HHS, LEC and Administrative Building will start after winter; on December 6th a meeting was held with West Salem School District and Village of West Salem to discuss the County Farm; many meetings on the Hillview Project have been held and RFPs will be placed later this year; and many meetings have been held regarding the City/County Homeless Plan.
- Pathways Home – City/County Housing Plan: Human Services Director Jason Witt and City of La Crosse Homeless Services Coordinator Brian Sampson presented.

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- Transitioning from stakeholder to leadership roles means the City/County infrastructure will be used for planning, performance monitoring, coordination of activities, and ensuring transparency and accountability. It does not mean the City/County are taking over all mainline functions or all funding responsibilities. The project phases will include phase 1 – planning, phase 2 – implementation and phase 3 – maintenance. The planning scope will include all phases and domains of homelessness response and is much more complex than just adding shelter or housing. The planning process will include scope, process, and stakeholder voice. Per the July 2023 point in time count, there are 220 homeless individuals and 114 unsheltered. Pathways Home is an integrated and compassionate approach addressing homelessness in La Crosse. The underlying principles and approaches will include housing first, maximizing state and federal programs, consistently enforcing laws and regulations, motivational case management and integrating caring connections. The “Great Eight” Action Pathways: building the system, close the housing gap, provide necessary case management, re-imagine outreach, infuse caring connections, shore-up prevention, calibrate justice response, and end the encampments. Key dates are April 1st – implementation of by-name list, command-center team and case conferencing, human services specialized behavioral health unit, outreach plan to faith community. July 1st – dynamic data platform. Immediate key activities are project development; adding specialized housing capacity, temporary shelter surge, and coordinated campaign and enforcement.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Hundt requested a presentation from the DNR regarding the cost of the pond at Vets Park.

ADJOURN

Motion by D. Pierce/K. Schlimgen to adjourn at 7:16 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - R. Abraham and J. Poley.

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, January 8, 2024 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 JANUARY 2024.