

(5-24/25)

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, May 6, 2024 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 28 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:

<b>District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
1	Leibold, Kelly	Present
2	Geary, Ralph	Present
3	Pierce, David	Present
4	Freedland, Maureen	Present
5	Anderson, Emily	Absent
6	Mathu, Grant	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	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 - PROFESSIONAL MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK MAY 5-11, 2024**

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world, and, **WHEREAS**, the Office of the Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants, and, **WHEREAS**, the Office of the Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels, and, **WHEREAS**, the

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professional Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community, and, **WHEREAS**, professional Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, provincial, county and international professional organizations. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board recognizes the week of May 5 through 11, 2024, as Professional Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to the Municipal Clerks of La Crosse County for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

Motion by K. Cable/D. Ferries to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 absent - E. Anderson, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

#### **PROCLAMATION - MAY 14 HMONG AMERICAN DAY**

**WHEREAS**, beginning in the 1970s, Hmong families immigrated to the United States as refugees to escape persecution and poverty in the aftermath of the Secret War in Laos; and, **WHEREAS**, on arrival in this country many Hmong refugees were greeted with racism and hatred despite their support of the United States war effort in Vietnam; and, **WHEREAS**, the Hmong community in Wisconsin, including La Crosse County, resisted attempts to marginalize and eliminate their identities, language and traditions; and, **WHEREAS**, Hmong people in La Crosse County and throughout the United States continue to make remarkable economic, cultural and political contributions to our society and have made our country immeasurably stronger and richer; and, **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin has the third largest Hmong population of any state in the nation and La Crosse County is among the Top 20 counties nationwide with the highest Hmong populations; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County is home to three successful Hmong-led nonprofit agencies (Vang Council of La Crosse, Hmong Cultural and Community Agency, and Cia Siab, Inc.) and countless Hmong-owned small businesses. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim May 14, 2024, Hmong American Day, and calls on the public to join us in celebrating the history, culture and immense contributions Hmong people have made to our county, state and nation starting at 10 a.m. at the Onalaska Omni Center on Saturday, May 18.

Motion by G. Padesky/G. Mathu to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 absent - E. Anderson, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

- Supervisor Conference Reports
  - Supervisor Hundt noted the Lake Neshonoc District elected their new officials and in 2027 the Lake District will pay off their debt of \$3 million.
  - Supervisor Pogreba attended the Mayoral Prayer Breakfast on May 2, 2024.

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

Motion by G. Mathu/P. Scheller to appoint Amanda Strosahl and Paul Wuensch to the Health & Human Services Board for a three year term to expire April 30, 2027; reappoint Mike Baroni and Maureen Freedland to the Health & Human Services Board for a three year term to expire April 30, 2027; appoint Monica Kruse and Rick Cornforth to the Health & Human Services Board for the remainder of a term to expire April 30, 2026 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 absent - E. Anderson, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

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

#### **PROCLAMATION MAY 2024 - LAW ENFORCEMENT / PUBLIC SAFETY & COURTS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, in a free society, law enforcement is entrusted and expected to protect the civil rights of its residents and visitors to our community; and, **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County employees serve to enhance public safety through the Courts, District Attorney, Sheriff, Emergency Management Coordination, Medical Examiner and Public Safety Communications; and, **WHEREAS**, thousands of residents and visitors are helped each year in La Crosse County by the professionals who respond to emergencies and assist those in need. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of May as Law Enforcement, Public Safety & Courts Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of the workers dedicated to ensuring the safety of our community.

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Motion by R. Cornforth/J. Pogreba to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 absent - E. Anderson, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

- Board Decorum – Andy Phillips, Attolles Law
  - Attorney Phillips reviewed the decorum and relationships between Board members. There is not a one-size fits all solution. Each County is different, each County Board Supervisor is different, so the potential variations in scenarios are endless. Not all bad behavior is an ethics issue. Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 19.59 and La Crosse County Ordinance Chapter 2.23 regarding the Code of Ethics were reviewed by Attorney Phillips along with the enforcement of the Ethics Code. County Board rules set expectations for the Board meetings. Concepts of decorum, debate on the questions, addressing the chair, avoiding using member’s names, and duties of the chair were all reviewed and discussed.
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Report – Chanin Kelly-Rae Consulting
  - A review of the internal and external assessment of staff and La Crosse County community was presented. The top 5 key driver statements and bottom 5 key driver statements were discussed. The 7 major themes from staff listening sessions include management and leadership concerns, equity and fair compensation, job classification and growth opportunities, workplace culture and psychological safety, DEI initiatives, work-life balance and flexibility, and training and development. Recommendations were made for the internal improvement plan strategic areas. Community listening sessions were reviewed and recommendation by community members were discussed. There will now be the publication of the 5-year roadmap of the strategic plan.
- General Update
  - Administrator Klekamp gave an update on the Mental Health Walk on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon, the Crisis Program is receiving the Shing Star Award from the Mental Health Coalition, La Crosse County was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the WI Public Service Commissions Energy Innovation Grant Program, the Family Bridge Housing partnership have purchased 11 units and 4 families have been housed, Amtrak will expand its service between St. Paul and Milwaukee and Chicago, and there will be open houses for the Community Sustainability Grant through the Zoning Department.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS – none offered.**

**ADJOURN**

Motion by G. Mathu/P. Isola to adjourn at 7:54 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 absent - E. Anderson, 1 excused - K. Hoyer.

**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, May 6, 2024 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 MAY 2024.**