

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, February 20, 2025 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 24 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 Name</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
1 Leibold, Kelly	Present
2 Geary, Ralph	Present
3 Pierce, David	Excused
4 Freedland, Maureen	Present
5 Anderson, Emily	Present
6 Mathu, Grant	Present
7 Padesky, Gary	Present
8 Isola, Peg	Present
9 Wacek, Dawn	Present
10 Cable, Kim	Present
11 Scheller, Patrick	Excused
12 Erickson, Randy	Present
13 Tryggestad, Tina	Present
14 Larson, Margaret	Present
15 Kruse, Monica	Present
16 Ferries, Dan	Excused
17 Pogreba, Jack	Remote
18 Baroni, Mike	Present
19 Cornforth, Rick	Excused
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Balduzzi, Dave	Present
22 Kovacevich, Joe	Present
23 Elam, Travis	Excused
24 Tweed, Kristie	Present
25 Jacobsen, Dennis	Present
26 Hundt, David	Excused
27 Wuensch, Paul	Present
28 Rothering, Ron	Excused
29 Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30 Mader, Dillon	Present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

- Administrator Evaluation – Supervisors were reminded to fill out the Administrator’s evaluation that was emailed to them.
- Supervisor Conference Reports – none offered.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by G. Mathu/E. Anderson to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held January 6, 2025 and the Monthly Meeting held January 16, 2025 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Motion by K. Cable/G. Padesky to appoint Robert Schuldt to the Solid Waste Policy Board for the remainder of a three-year term to expire April 30, 2026 and appoint Ron Rothering to the Wildlife Abatement Damage Committee passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

**RESOLUTION NO. 39-2/25 RE: TO SUPPORT BRIGHTSPEED'S BEAD FUNDING APPLICATION FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, La Crosse County became certified through the Wisconsin Public Service Commission as a Broadband Forward! and Telecommuter Forward! Community; and **WHEREAS**, in 2023, the State of Wisconsin was allocated \$1,055,823,573.71 from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for the Broadband, Access, Equity, and Deployment (BEAD) Program; and **WHEREAS**, The Wisconsin Public Service Commission opened round 1 of BEAD funding for approved applicants on January 13th; and **WHEREAS**, BEAD applicants receive seven (7) points towards their BEAD application for county endorsement, which must be provided by February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County is committed to working with Brightspeed to support BEAD projects throughout La Crosse County. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors endorses Brightspeed's application for BEAD funding for all 52 BEAD Project Units in La Crosse County. **FISCAL NOTE:** There is no cost to La Crosse County. Any recommendations related to this initiative that will have a financial impact will be considered in future board action.

**PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Schlimgen/D. Jacobsen to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

**RESOLUTION NO. 40-2/25 RE: TO SUPPORT LYNXX'S BEAD FUNDING APPLICATION FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, La Crosse County became certified through the Wisconsin Public Service Commission as a Broadband Forward! and Telecommuter Forward! Community; and **WHEREAS**, in 2023, the State of Wisconsin was allocated \$1,055,823,573.71 from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for the Broadband, Access, Equity, and Deployment (BEAD) Program; and **WHEREAS**, The Wisconsin Public Service Commission opened round 1 of BEAD funding for approved applicants on January 13th; and **WHEREAS**, BEAD applicants receive seven (7) points towards their BEAD application for county endorsement, which must be provided by February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County is committed to working with Lynxx Networks to support BEAD projects throughout La Crosse County. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors endorses Lynxx Networks' application for BEAD funding for project units in the Towns of Barre, Burns, Farmington, Greenfield, Hamilton, and Onalaska in La Crosse County. **FISCAL NOTE:** There is no cost to La Crosse County. Any recommendations related to this initiative that will have a financial impact will be considered in future board action.

**PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Schlimgen/M. Kruse to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

**RESOLUTION NO. 41-2/25 RE: TO SUPPORT PIERCE PEPIN COOPERATIVE SERVICE BEAD FUNDING APPLICATION FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, La Crosse County became certified through the Wisconsin Public Service Commission as a Broadband Forward! and Telecommuter Forward! Community; and **WHEREAS**, in 2023, the State of Wisconsin was allocated \$1,055,823,573.71 from the National Telecommunications and Information

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Administration through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for the Broadband, Access, Equity, and Deployment (BEAD) Program; and **WHEREAS**, The Wisconsin Public Service Commission opened round 1 of BEAD funding for approved applicants on January 13th; and **WHEREAS**, BEAD applicants receive seven (7) points towards their BEAD application for county endorsement, which must be provided by February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County is committed to working with Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services to support BEAD projects throughout La Crosse County. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors endorses Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services' application for BEAD funding for project units in the Towns of Burns and Farmington in La Crosse County. **FISCAL NOTE:** There is no cost to La Crosse County. Any recommendations related to this initiative that will have a financial impact will be considered in future board action.

**PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Schlimgen/D. Jacobsen to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

**RESOLUTION NO. 42-2/25 RE: ACKNOWLEDGE "THE BEST OF PUBLIC SERVICE"**

**WHEREAS**, the following employees have been a faithful part in providing "The Best of Public Service" to La Crosse County:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
Diane Guertin	Information Technology Department	36+
Iris Parker	Hillview Nursing Home	35+
Jason Schwier	Highway Department	30+
Heather Werner	Justice Support	30+
Michelle Parshall	Library	23+
Rose Rosenbaum	Emergency Services	22+
Tracy Heighway	Economic Support	19+
Lynette Marcou	Aging & Disability Resource Center	11+
Mary Jacobson	Integrated Support & Recovery Services	8+
Juliann McMahon	Hillview Nursing Home	3+

**WHEREAS**, it is the wish of the County Board of Supervisors to acknowledge long and faithful service on behalf of the citizens of La Crosse County; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that a resolution extending our congratulations be recorded in La Crosse County Board Proceedings and a certificate of our actions be presented as an expression of our gratitude.

**TINA TRYGGESTAD, COUNTY BOARD CHAIR**  
**GINNY DANKEMYER, COUNTY CLERK**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/M. Baroni to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

**FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE**

ORDINANCE NO. 217 TO CREATE S. 2.195, "ANNUAL BUDGET PROCESS – OUTSIDE FUNDING REQUESTS" OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/G. Mathu to move the first reading. The ordinance will be held over for 30 days and is on file and open for public inspection in the office of the County Clerk and on the La Crosse County web site at: [www.co.la-crosse.wi.us](http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us). Upon adoption and publication, it will be incorporated into the La Crosse County General Code of Ordinances.

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**FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE**

ORDINANCE NO. 216 TO AMEND S. 4.06, "PURCHASING PROCEDURES" AND S. 4.08, "CONTRACT APPROVAL PROCEDURE" OF CHAPTER 4 ("FINANCE") OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by K. Cable/M. Kruse to move the first reading. The ordinance will be held over for 30 days and is on file and open for public inspection in the office of the County Clerk and on the La Crosse County web site at: [www.co.la-crosse.wi.us](http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us). Upon adoption and publication, it will be incorporated into the La Crosse County General Code of Ordinances.

**RESOLUTION NO. 43-2/25 RE: AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL STATE FUNDING FOR COVID-19 TEST KITS THROUGH JULY 31, 2026**

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services – Bureau of Communicable Diseases has received funding from the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, and **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services – Bureau of Communicable Diseases (BCD) is sub-awarding the La Crosse County Health Department's Access to Care, Communicable Disease Program, funding to support the purchase of COVID-19 test kits, and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County's sub-award funds are \$37,500 and the La Crosse County Health Department intends to utilize the available funding to purchase COVID-19 test kits, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the Health Department's receipt of \$37,500 from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services - Bureau of Communicable Diseases to purchase COVID-19 test kits through July 31, 2026. **FISCAL NOTE:** Acceptance of this grant will require no match. The operating costs related to this ongoing grant are tracked under division 200.340.1000 within the County financial system under the Operations section of the Health Department.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Motion by D. Mader/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

**RESOLUTION NO. 44-2/25 RE: ADVOCATING FOR EXPANDED INPATIENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FACILITIES IN WESTERN WISCONSIN**

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin has limited resources when it comes to in-patient crisis care for individuals with mental illness, including for those incarcerated in county jails; and **WHEREAS**, recent closures of facilities place a higher burden on the facilities that remain open; and **WHEREAS**, the lack of available public and private inpatient behavioral health beds is a significant issue both in emergency mental health placements as well as for individuals in the criminal justice system awaiting assessment and treatment; and **WHEREAS**, local law enforcement agencies are tasked with providing transportation of individuals experiencing a mental health crisis and they often spend hours waiting for facilities to respond to requests for in-patient beds; and **WHEREAS**, incarcerated individuals awaiting mental health assessment at State-run facilities often wait 6-9 months for availability; and **WHEREAS**, a significant number of individuals experiencing a mental health crisis end up being transported by law enforcement to the State facility in Winnebago (Winnebago Mental Health) and the State facility in Madison (Mendota Mental Health); and **WHEREAS**, the great distance traveled puts a financial strain on counties and local municipal law enforcement agencies, not to mention the emotional strain experienced by the individuals being transported for several hours; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County would like to work with other counties in the State to lobby for State funding to establish additional in-patient crisis facilities to serve the State of Wisconsin as well as lobby for the addition of a regional State-run hospital on the Western side of the State; and **NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors urges the State Legislature and the Governor to expand funding for an additional regional State-run facility and/or subsidies for private, not-for-profit organizations to establish an in-patient acute behavioral health unit to serve counties; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors encourages other counties in the State to join in the lobbying efforts and pass a similar resolution. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the County Clerk is directed to send this Resolution to the Governor, State Legislators, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and other County Clerks upon passage. **FISCAL NOTE:** This advisory resolution has no direct fiscal impact to La Crosse County.

**(107-24/25)**

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Motion by D. Mader/G. Padesky to approve. Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

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

**ADJOURN**

Motion by G. Mathu/E. Anderson to adjourn at 6:16 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 24 ayes, 6 excused - R. Cornforth, D. Ferries, D. Hundt, D. Pierce, R. Rothering 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 Monthly Meeting held Thursday, February 20, 2025 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 21 OF FEBRUARY 2025.**