

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, January 16, 2025 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:

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	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	Excused
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
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

- Chair Tryggestad noted that the District 24 interviews will be moved to the County Board Room.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Hundt announced the La Crosse County Ag Society met and have accepted a building structure and hopes the bids come in under \$500,000.
 - Supervisor Padesky announced a Blood Drive on February 6th and 7th in the basement of the HHS building.

(96-24/25)

- Supervisor Jacobsen attended the Wisconsin Counties Highway Association conference and noted the legislators may be taking up ATV issue and funding is available for bridges or culverts that are 6 feet to 20 feet that need to be replaced.
- Supervisor Geary also attended the Wisconsin Counties Highway Association conference and noted the next three conferences will be in La Crosse, WCHA has done a 10 year strategic plan with more on line options and State and Federal regulations were discussed.
- Supervisor Cornforth shared info on the progress for Pathways Home.
- Supervisor Pogreba took the airport tour and was happy to see the behind the doors as to how it operates.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

- General Update
 - Administrator Klekamp noted La Crosse County was chosen as a pilot project with a grant from the State Courts to help with mapping for Mental Health in the criminal justice system; the Finance Department was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting; Lindsey Schwartz Nichols and the Health Department organizes a For Goodness Sakes program and over 300 families in the community received gifts through that program; an RFP is being developed to hire and organization to determine what people should be paid so employees are paid at market rate or above by 2026; and an RFP is going out for a housing study to be completed by the end of 2026; both of these are part of the Strategic Plan.
- Review of Metropolitan Planning Organization – MPO Executive Director Bob Gollnik
 - MPOs are federally mandated regional entities responsible for coordinating transportation planning and investments in urbanized areas with populations over 50,000 and to ensure that federally transportation funds are allocated based on continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process to support regional priorities and long-term planning needs. LAPC pays the County \$20,000 for indirect costs in exchange for office space and administration. LAPC staff collaborates with a range of County staff on various planning efforts. The regional transportation planning process includes determining what future transportation system we want, what are the challenges and opportunities to get there, and how will we achieve the transportation system we want. A preview of 2025 includes adopting a Metropolitan Transportation Plan, contracting for a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and Regional Transit Authority feasibility study, continue grant strategy and support for our communities, and continue supporting a Joint Harbor Commission and Air Service Work Group among other projects.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by G. Mathu/G. Padesky to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held December 9, 2024 and the Monthly Meeting held December 19, 2024 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Ferries, 1 vacant – District 24.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion by R. Cornforth/G. Mathu to reappoint Paul Albrecht, Jeff Schott, Jim Krueger, and Margaret Larson to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a two year term to start January 21, 2025 and expire January 19, 2027; appoint Larry Wopat and Robert Meuer to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for a two year term to start January 21, 2025 and expire January 19, 2027 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Ferries, 1 vacant – District 24.

RESOLUTION NO. 37-1/25 RE: LA CROSSE REGIONAL AIRPORT FUNDING

WHEREAS, the La Crosse Regional Airport serves an important asset to La Crosse County and the surrounding areas by enhancing regional connectivity for business and leisure travelers and new or additional services could boost tourism and attract business travelers to the area, and **WHEREAS**, an Air Services Working Group has been formed by the Airport with three top goals of (1) adding additional flights and/or new destination, (2) regaining air service lost to Minneapolis and (3) attracting a low-cost

(97-24/25)

airline for leisure travel; and **WHEREAS**, as part of several incentives, the Air Services Working Group is seeking to fund a Minimum Revenue Guarantee (MRG) where the Airport and community partners share the risk of increased services with the airline for a 1 or 2-year period; and **WHEREAS**, although MRG Payment is made only if ticket revenues are insufficient to financially support the route, MRG's are especially helpful for smaller communities by further reducing an airline's financial risk by ensuring any airline revenue shortfalls are covered during the initial route start-up period; and **WHEREAS**, an MRG Fund target goal of \$1.5 million has been established and the Airport is seeking County commitment in the amount of up to \$250,000 to assist with the creation of the MRG Fund; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board authorizes the contribution of up to \$250,000 to the La Crosse Regional Airport's Minimum Revenue Guarantee (MRG) Fund; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that it will be a requirement of the body managing this fund to share a list of contributors before any funds are allocated from the county's general fund and that this 1 to 1 match excludes any federal money awarded to the MRG fund and is not to exceed \$250,000 based on other local funds raised by other counties, municipalities, non-profits and local businesses. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that existing contributions or in-kind contributions will not be considered as matching funds. **FISCAL NOTE:** The contribution will be funded from the General Fund's unassigned fund balance. Payments will be tracked in division 100.155.1450 within the County financial system.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/R. Cornforth to approve. Discussion ensued. Motion by D. Mader/R. Cornforth to amend by adding a Be It Further Resolved clause "that existing contributions or in-kind contribution will not be considered as matching funds". Discussion ensued. The motion to amend passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Ferries, 1 vacant - District 24. Motion by P. Scheller/G. Mathu to defer this resolution to the February Monthly meeting. Unanimous consent was given to have Airport Director Jeffrey Tripp respond to questions from the Board. The motion to defer failed on a voice vote with 21 nays, 7 ayes - R. Geary, D. Jacobsen, M. Kruse, D. Mader, G. Mathu, D. Pierce and P. Scheller, 1 excused - D. Ferries, 1 vacant - District 24. The motion to approve as amended passed on a voice vote with 24 ayes, 4 nays - T. Elam, M. Larson, D. Pierce and P. Wuensch, 1 excused - D. Ferries, 1 vacant - District 24.

RESOLUTION NO. 38-1/25 RE: ACCEPTING \$280,000 OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Planning Organization has received \$280,000 through the Federal Highway Administration, and **WHEREAS**, using SS4A funds, the La Crosse Area Planning Committee will collaborate with the City of La Crosse to create a comprehensive safety action plan for the region. Key components of Safety Action Plans include: leadership commitment, goal setting, planning structure, safety analysis, engagement and collaboration, equity, policy and process changes, project selections, and transparency. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board accepts the \$280,000 in grant funding from the Federal Highway Administration; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the county board chair is authorized to execute any documents or contracts necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution after approval by Corporation Counsel; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate budget adjustments relating to accepting this additional federal funding. **FISCAL NOTE:** The total project cost is \$350,000, with matching dollars from the City of La Crosse and the Metropolitan Planning Organization Budget. There are sufficient funds in the budget to cover the match. Operating costs will be tracked under the 100.210.1000 division within the County financial system.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/D. Hundt to approve. Discussion ensued. Administrator Klekamp responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Ferries, 1 vacant - District 24.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Hundt asked for an update on childcare.
- Supervisor Baroni asked for an update on the Hillview project.

(98-24/25)

ADJOURN

Motion by J. Pogreba/G. Mathu to adjourn at 7:00 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 excused - D. Ferries, 1 vacant – District 24.

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 16, 2025 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 17 OF JANUARY 2025.