

(16-25/26)

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, JULY 7, 2025**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, July 7, 2025 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 25 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	Excused
6	Mathu, Grant	Present
7	Padesky, Gary	Present
8	Isola, Peg	Present
9	Wacek, Dawn	Present
10	Cable, Kim	Present
11	Scheller, Patrick	Absent
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	Excused
19	Cornforth, Rick	Present
20	Doyle, Steve	Present
21	Balduzzi, Dave	Present
22	Kovacevich, Joe	Present
23	Elam, Travis	Present
24	Tweed, Kristie	Present
25	Jacobsen, Dennis	Present
26	Hundt, David	Present
27	Wuensch, Paul	Present
28	Rothering, Ron	Excused
29	Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30	Mader, Dillon	Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Tina Tryggestad

- Supervisors are reminded to call in if you will not be attending a meeting, the new directories are in your mailbox, and a reminder that correspondence like thank you cards and announcements will be posted on the bulletin board outside the board room.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Hundt announced the La Crosse Interstate Fair will be held July 16-20, 2025.

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- Supervisor Kruse attended a town hall sponsored by the La Crosse Chamber of Commerce with a speak on tariffs, inflation, and the role of the federal reserves.
- Supervisor Freedland noted a community forum on the budget impact bill was held and she attended the annual meeting of the Solid Waste Policy Board.
- Supervisor Schlimgen attended the La Crosse County Dairy Breakfast and noted it would be good to have it on a farm again.
- Supervisor Cable attended Juneteenth at Riverside Park and July 24th is the Summer Homeless Connect at English Lutheran Church from 11am-3pm.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION JULY 2025 - LONG TERM CARE & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES MONTH

WHEREAS, La Crosse County operates two long-term care campuses: Hillview Health Care Center and Lakeview Health Center & Assisted Living; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County provides residents and their families with affordable, high-quality long-term care services in a person-centered environment; and **WHEREAS**, dedicated staff are committed to excellence in delivering compassionate care and rehabilitation, upholding the dignity and rights of every individual, including those with physical, developmental, and mental health needs. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby proclaims the month of July 2025 as La Crosse County Long Term Care & Residential Services Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the invaluable contributions of those who are dedicated to providing quality care to members of our community in need.

Motion by R. Cornforth/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 4 excused - E. Anderson, M. Baroni, D. Mader and R. Rothering.

- Overview of Recommendations for Hemp Derived THC Ordinance Change – Presented by Health Education Kaycee pIrwin
 - Hemp derived THC products are similar to Delta-9 (traditional natural marijuana) with less intensity but still produces psychoactive effects and has potential health risks. It is chemically similar to Delta-9 except one double bond. Hemp derived THC products come from Hemp plants. Hemp products are made by starting with pure CBD isolate and mixing that with acids in a chemical reaction to rearrange molecular bonds to transform CBD into Delta-9 THC or Delta-10 THC. Filtration or distillation methods are used to remove unwanted byproducts. Manufacturers can test for purity and safety however there are no federal regulations for production or standardization for quality. Hemp plants and their products became federally legalized through the 2018 Farm Bill as long as when the plant is harvested it has under .3% Delta-9 THC. After that there is no regulation. This has made manufacturers believe that as long as it is hemp and not Delta-9 THC, it is legal to manufacture. Some states have banned Delta-8 outright or placing restrictions on its production and sale. These products remain legal by default in our State. There are no uniform Statewide age limits, sale restrictions or product testing standards. The City of Onalaska and Village of West Salem have passed local ordinances with age verification, minimum age of 21 to purchase and possess, and location based restrictions. Currently there is no countywide ordinance or regulations in other municipalities. Frequent cannabis use, especially under the age of 25, can affect your mental health. Delta-8 THC has serious health risks. Current prevention strategies include education community members, parents, caregivers at events and youth. Local municipality and county leaders are being contacted to advocate for policy change including age restrictions.
- Overview of Recommendations for Chapter 17 Ordinance Changes – presented by County Planner Dillon Constant
 - Zoning is defined by dimensions and use standards, where uses can occur by district, public discourse about land use, and balances public and individual interests. Zoning matters as it mitigates land use conflicts, manages growth, limits sprawl, supports community vision and plans, and health and environment. The Zoning Code covers 10 unincorporated towns. Updates to the Zoning Code came from the comprehensive plan recommendations, response to changing demands, modernizing policies and best practices, proactively

preventing land use conflicts, reducing the need for variances, increase flexibility, reducing nonconformities, and allowing re-investment. The update also removes administrative grey areas, balances urban town and rural town needs, complies with Wisconsin Statutes updates, incentivizes sanitary district development, and preserves farmland. Notable changes in the proposed code gives PRD the final approval of CUPs, side yard zero lot lines for duplexes, increase ag accessory building size on ag land 10-34.9 acres as CUP and reduced lot area and width minimum on public sewer. Other proposed changes include 30 new definitions, fixed errors/typos, standards for Conditional Use Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), flexible dimensional standards for mixed use in commercial, administrative conditional use standards for siting new residence in BFTs, clearer BOA standards and procedures, broader home occupation standards, detailed Planned Unit Development (PUD), purpose statements added to districts, adding unlisted uses to districts to aid interpretation, new standards for some CUPs, BFT land division loss of 3% rezoning eligibility. The proposed changes do not change the zoning map, add new or remove existing districts, remove uses already authorized in districts, remove town review authority, or increase staff discretion to interpret grey areas. A public hearing has already been held and the County Board will have two readings of the ordinance on July 17th and August 21st.

- Understanding DEIB: Moving from Commitment to Action – presented by Chanin Kelly-Rae
 - Executive Orders are issued by the president and enforced by federal agencies. Laws or legislation are issued by the House of Representatives or the Senate and is enforced by the EEOC and Courts. Executive Order 11246 was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1965. It prohibited federal contractors and subcontractors from discriminating in employment based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. It required these contractors to take affirmative action to ensure fair treatment and equal opportunity in hiring, promotion, training, and compensation and applied to contractors doing \$10,000 or more in business with the federal government. The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) under the US Department of Labor enforces EO 11246. President Trump issued Executive Order 14173, titled “Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity,” on January 21, 2025, effectively rescinding Executive Order 11246 and prohibiting of DEI programs. EO 14173 eliminated affirmative action requirements, rollback of non-discrimination protections, and reduced accountability. It also had wider implications by undermining civil rights enforcement mechanism, weakened DEIB initiatives across public and private sectors, and sent a national message that equity, inclusion, anti-discrimination were no longer priorities in federal contracting and across all sectors of employment in both public and private. Employers are still required to be in compliance with Title VII of Civil Rights Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Equal Pay Act, State and Local Laws, and adhere to Civil Rights Act of 1964. A County can not necessarily be denied federal funds for non-compliance with EO 14173. The Supreme Court has repeatedly held that the federal government cannot arbitrarily or coercively strip funding from states or local governments unless: congress explicitly conditions the funding on specific compliance terms; the condition is unambiguous, germane to the purpose of the funding; and the state or local entity voluntarily accepts those conditions. Executive Orders like EO 14173 are administrative tools, not legislation. They cannot override federal statutes that authorize and allocate funding to counties for health, education, housing, transportation, or criminal justice. Unless Congress modifies the law to add new conditions, federal agencies can’t legally withhold funds just because a county continues DEI practices that the EO disfavors.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Hundt asked for an update from the Childcare Providers.

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ADJOURN

Motion by G. Mathu/J. Pogreba to adjourn at 8:32 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 1 absent - P. Scheller, 4 excused - E. Anderson, M. Baroni, D. Mader, and R. Rothering.

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, July 7, 2025 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 8 OF JULY 2025.