

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, March 10, 2025 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 30 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	Present
17	Pogreba, Jack	Present - Remote
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	Tweed, Kristie	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**

PROCLAMATION MARCH 2025 - WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, Women's History Month is a time to honor the remarkable achievements and enduring contributions of women throughout history, as well as to recognize the challenges they have overcome in the pursuit of equality; and **WHEREAS**, women have played a vital role in shaping our nation, making significant contributions in education, science, business, government, the arts, and countless other fields;

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and **WHEREAS**, through resilience and determination, women have led the fight for fundamental rights, securing victories such as the right to vote, equal access to education and employment, and protections against discrimination; and **WHEREAS**, despite these advancements, women continue to face systemic barriers, including disparities in pay, underrepresentation in leadership, and ongoing issues of discrimination, harassment, and violence; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County is committed to supporting the health, well-being, and empowerment of women through initiatives such as the Wisconsin Well Woman Program and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program; and **WHEREAS**, Women's History Month serves as a powerful reminder to reflect on past progress, celebrate present achievements, and renew our collective efforts toward true gender equity. **NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims March 2025 as Women's History Month and encourages all residents to recognize, honor, and celebrate the invaluable contributions of women in our community and beyond.

Motion by K. Cable/M. Kruse to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 30 ayes.

- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Chair Tryggestad noted a Greater La Crosse Area Diversity Council Annual Meeting on March 18th from 7:45am – 9:00am.
 - Supervisor Kruse attended the groundbreaking for the Workforce Readiness Center at the Boys and Girls Club.
 - Supervisor Scheller attended the WCA Conference and noted one highlight he took away was the need to differentiate ourselves to get people to come work and live here.
 - Supervisor Isola attended the WCA Conference attended the Unfunded Mandate Session.
 - Supervisor Leibold also attended the WCA Conference and noted it helped connect the dots on the important work we do at the County.
 - Supervisor Cornforth attended the groundbreaking for the Skilled Workforce Center and noted just over \$10 million has been raised with a goal of \$14 million.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION MARCH 2025 - HUMAN SERVICES AND FAMILY COURT MONTH

WHEREAS, the dedicated professionals in La Crosse County's Human Services Department and Family Court provide essential support to thousands of individuals and families each day, offering both temporary and long-term assistance to help meet basic needs and navigate life's transitions; and **WHEREAS**, the individuals served by these programs span all ages, from before birth to over 100 years old, reflecting the broad and critical impact of these services within our community; and **WHEREAS**, county human services programs are designed to protect and empower our most vulnerable populations, including children, individuals with disabilities, older adults, and those experiencing mental health challenges; and **WHEREAS**, human services professionals frequently enter homes and community spaces, often facing volatile situations and personal safety risks, to ensure that those in need receive compassionate and effective support; and **WHEREAS**, Family Court, along with Mediation and Family Court Services, plays a vital role in upholding the dignity, safety, and security of families undergoing difficult transitions; and **WHEREAS**, the dedication and commitment of human services and family court professionals not only transform individual lives but also strengthen the well-being and resilience of the entire community. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board hereby proclaims March 2025 as Human Services and Family Court Month and encourages all residents to recognize and appreciate the invaluable contributions of these professionals in building a stronger, more supportive community.

Motion by P. Scheller/D. Mader to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 30 ayes.

- *I Am Not Invisible Project Presentation*
 - Veterans Service Officer Jane Brannan Tamboli presented the *I Am Not Invisible Project*. During the presentation, photos of the women veterans who participated were shown. Woman veterans comprise about 10% of the veteran population and many encounter obstacles in being acknowledged for their service. This campaign started as a program that include 20 photos of woman veterans from Oregon. The VA started a nationwide campaign in 2017. This is the first *I Am Not Invisible* campaign in Wisconsin. The

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campaign partnered with WTC Photography program to take the photos. The unveiling ceremony reception of this campaign will be held on Thursday at 5:15pm at Western in the Coleman Center.

- Economic Development Plan Overview presented by Community Development Specialist Sam Bachmeier.
 - The purpose of the plan is to develop an understanding of La Crosse County's current economic position; to ensure a clear and consistent understanding of the role of all economic development partners; and to provide La Crosse County staff and leadership with an understanding of which economic development needs to be prioritized through annual workplans and budgeting. The planning process included gathering data, gathering stakeholder input, and internal/external analysis. Within the plan are four key pillars: business climate; education, talent and workforce; economic infrastructure; and quality of life. The next steps will be to prioritize, develop a workplan, align county programming, and develop a budget.
- County Farm Planning Update presented by the Director of Zoning, Planning and Land Information Kathleen Stewart.
 - The first sale of the County Farm was a patent in 1863 to a veteran who came home from the civil war. Twenty years later in 1886 it was transferred to the County for \$8100. Another parcel was transferred in 1900 for \$9300. The school district then was gifted or bought 97 acres. That left 224 acres to develop but with slopes, there is only 115 developable acres. The farm was initially in the Town of Hamilton but was annexed by the Village of West Salem. Ideas will be coming forward for the development of the remaining 111 acres.
- General Update
 - Administrator Klekamp announced that the Finance Department received the Government Finance Officers Association Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the 10th year; weight restrictions signs are up on County Highways; the Health Department distributed over 1,000 doses of Narcon, concluded almost 1300 inspections of licensed facilities, supported over 2400 individuals on WIC, and provided dental care to 730 students through the Seal a Smile Program; and the Parks teams are busy getting Vets and Goose Island ready which will open on April 15th.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Schlinggen asked for an update on how the strategic plan is being rolled out to the departments.

ADJOURN

Motion by G. Mathu/E. Anderson to adjourn at 6:57 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 30 ayes.

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, March 10, 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 MARCH 2025.