

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, September 18, 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	Present
17	Pogreba, Jack	Present
18	Baroni, Mike	Present
19	Cornforth, Rick	Present - Remote
20	Doyle, Steve	Present
21	Balduzzi, Dave	Excused
22	Kovacevich, Joe	Present
23	Elam, Travis	Present
24	Tweed, Kristie	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**

- Chair Tryggestad reminded Supervisors about the WCA Conference coming up Monday and Tuesday, Supervisors need to take the Harassment Training in the TLC Center, there is a thank you note from a veteran on the bulletin board.
- Supervisor Conference Reports

(94-25/26)

- Supervisor Mader attended the Beyond the Bridge event on September 10th and in Western's last newsletter there was an article about our Veteran's Service Officer Jane Brannon Tamboli and how she supported digital media students.
- Supervisor Cable volunteered for the Mini Donut Half Marathon last weekend that raises money for suicide prevention.
- Supervisor Wacek announced at the La Crosse Public Library on the 5th of October there will be a showing of Under the Bridge at 1:30pm and then on 14th of October at the Weber Center will be Beyond the Bridge.
- Supervisor Freedland and Kruse went to the Haven on Main groundbreaking.

Administrator Report – Jane Klekamp

- General Update
 - Administrator Klekamp noted the Health Department and Veterans Service Office will partner with Western Technical College in November to host a free dental clinic for veterans; DA Gruenke will be offering a 3 part educational series in October on prosecutors and our justice system; La Crosse hosted the American Planning Association Wisconsin 2025 Conference where the County was honored with an award for Economic Development Planning; rural EMS providers have been invited to EMS Commission meeting next week to share their needs and concerns; the Boys & Girls Club sent a note to share construction is moving along and the workforce center space is turning to reality quickly with a projected completion date by the end of the year and programming to launch by early spring; and Emergency Services Director David Steinberg has retired from the County after being hired in 1990.
- 2026 Budget Preview
 - The 2026 budget has a total revenue/expense of \$208,809,400. Some key facts about the 2026 budget include a \$208.8 million balanced spending plan, lower debt and solid fund balance, increased state funding for land conservation and courts, adding a Sheriff Deputy to cover the Town of Shelby, significant increase in jail medical costs, \$100,000 for a bike trail to connect Goose Island to La Crosse, and discontinuing SMRT bus service. The overall debt continues to decline with our debt below the \$539 average for Wisconsin counties. There is \$815,000 in proposed borrowing in November to maintain debt levy. These funds will support highway projects. The 5-year Capital Improvement Plan includes a new Solid Waste cell construction, 911 dispatch console upgrades, 58 miles of county highway paving, long term care facility improvements, and implement recommendations of the jail study. Budget presentations to committees will happen in October with a detailed budget presentation at the October board meeting. The public hearing and vote on the budget will be on November 10th.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion by G. Mathu/E. Anderson to appoint Joe Kovacevich to the Aging & Disability Resource Center Advisory Committee for the remainder of a term to expire July 31, 2027; appoint Kris Padesky to the Aging & Disability Resource Center Advisory Committee for the remainder of a term to expire July 31, 2028; reappoint Peg Isola to the CDBG-Southwest Wisconsin Housing Region for a two year term to expire September 30, 2027 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by R. Geary/D. Ferries to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held August 11, 2025 and the Monthly Meeting held August 21, 2025 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-9/25 RE: APPROVAL OF LA CROSSE COUNTY OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN 2025-2029

WHEREAS, outdoor recreation is an integral part of the human environment; and, **WHEREAS**, the first outdoor recreation plan for La Crosse County was developed in 1970 and subsequent outdoor recreation

plans were developed in 1972, 1978, 1992, 1998, 2006, 2013 and 2019; and, **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Outdoor Recreation Plan has been developed and will be utilized to improve, enhance and expand the outdoor recreational opportunities available in La Crosse County; and, **WHEREAS**, this plan makes local units of government eligible for the state's stewardship local assistance grant program known as the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program and the federal Land and Water Conservation (LWCF) grant program; and, **WHEREAS**, this plan has been developed to be consistent with Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law and aid La Crosse County in meeting several of the state requirements in the Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Element of the County's Comprehensive Plan; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby authorizes the La Crosse County Outdoor Recreation Plan 2025-2029; **FISCAL NOTE**: Any steps to implement this plan will be considered in the Facilities Budget for fiscal years 2026 through 2029.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by J. Kovacevich/R. Erickson to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-9/25 RE: TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO CITY OF ONALASKA (OLD CTH OS)

WHEREAS, between 1999 and 2001, La Crosse County transferred jurisdiction of Old County Highway OS and SS to the City of Onalaska; and, **WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of the County and the City that a parcel of land that was part of Old County Highway OS and is now part of the City's East Main Street was missed in the transfer of land and is still recorded as being owned by the County; and **WHEREAS**, this property is more specifically described as:

Outlot 1, Volume 3 CSM, page 22 at document number 958093 as recorded in the La Crosse County Register of Deeds Office, being part of the NW1/4, Section 10, T16N, R7W, Town of Medary, La Crosse County, Wisconsin excepting therefrom that portion of said Outlot 1 lying North of the North right-of-way line of CTH OS as shown on said Volume 3, CSM, Page 22

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board hereby authorizes the transfer of property as identified above to the City of Onalaska; **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, following approval by Corporation Counsel, the County Board Chair and County Clerk are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents to effectuate such transfer. **FISCAL NOTE**: Any recording fees (approximately \$30) or other costs to effectuate this resolution will be paid from Corporation Counsel's Budget.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by J. Kovacevich/M. Kruse to approve. Discussion ensued. Highway Commissioner Joe Langeberg responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

ORDINANCE NO. 221-9/25 TO AMEND S. 7.04 OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN REGARDING SPEED LIMITS

The County Board of supervisors of the County of La Crosse does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1.

7.04 SPEED LIMITS.

7.04 SPEED LIMITS.

(3) 35 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portions of streets shall be 35 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "B" from Fanta Reed to a point .04 miles North of Bainbridge St
- (b) County Trunk "B" from a point .03 miles East of Washburn St to La Crosse City Limits
- (c) County Trunk "B" from La Crosse City limits to a point .04 miles West of Wolf Ridge Ct
- (d) County Trunk "B" from CTH "M" to a point .04 miles East of Vera Ln
- (e) County Trunk "B" from a point .15 miles East of Mill St to a point .73 miles East of Mill St
- (f) County Trunk "BW" from a point .06 miles South of Breezy Point Rd to Nelson Park

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- (g) County Trunk "C" from a point .18 miles West of Linden Ln to a point .08 miles North of Industrial Rd
- (h) County Trunk "DD" from a point .07 miles South of CTH "T" to CTH "T"
- (i) County Trunk "F" from Briarwood Ave to a point .07 miles East of Trailer Park
- (j) County Trunk "F" from a point .22 miles West of Nolop Rd to STH 33
- (k) County Trunk "K" from CTH 35 to a point .03 miles west of County Line
- (l) County Trunk "M" from a point .14 miles South of CTH "O" to CTH "O"
- (m) County Trunk "M" from a point .02 miles North of W. Elm St to Village of West Salem limits
- (n) County Trunk "MH" from CTH "XX" to CTH "HD"
- (o) County Trunk "MM" from STH 14 to a point .59 miles East of Trailer Park
- (p) County Trunk "O" from a point .02 miles West of Fox Hollow Dr to CTH "M"
- (q) County Trunk "OT" from a point .10 miles South of Corporate Dr to CTH "XX"
- (r) County Trunk "S" from a point .08 miles North of Koss Rd CTH "SN"
- (s) County Trunk "SN" from CTH "S" to a point .03 miles Southeast of Pinecrest Avenue
- (t) County Trunk "T" from a point .55 miles East of CTH "DD" to a point .29 miles West of CTH "DD"
- (u) County Trunk "U" from a point .30 miles West of Manke Hesselberg Rd. to a point .09 miles East of Huhn Rd
- (v) County Trunk "Z" from CTH "ZB" to a point .18 miles East of Northshore Ln
- (w) County Trunk "ZB" from CTH "Z" to CTH "Z"
- (x) County Trunk "ZN" from CTH "ZB" to CTH "Z"
- (y) County Trunk "ZN" from a point .16 miles West of Lumber Pl to CTH "OT"
- (z) County Trunk "ZZ" from CTH "ZN" to CTH "Z"
- (aa) Fanta Reed Rd. from a point .11 miles East of Western Ave to CTH "B"/Dawson Ave
- (bb) County Trunk "FA" from a County Trunk "F" to a point 1.69 miles north at the termini.

(4) 40 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portions of streets shall be 40 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "B" from Gillette St at La Crosse City Limit to STH 16
- (b) County Trunk "OT" from CTH "XX" to STH 35
- (c) County Trunk "C" from a point 0.2 miles south of CTH "Q" to .01 miles west of McIntosh Road

(5) 45 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portion of streets shall be 45 m.p.h.:

- (a) County Trunk "B" from a point .04 miles West of Wolf Ridge Ct to CTH M
- (b) County Trunk "D" from a point .17 miles East of 2nd Ave to a point .04 miles East of Granum St
- (c) County Trunk "F" from a point .07 miles East of Trailer Park to a point .22 miles West of Nolop Rd
- (d) County Trunk "M" from a point .48 miles West of Russlan Coulee Rd to a point .14 miles East of CTH "O"
- (e) County Trunk "M" from CTH "O" to a point .02 miles North of Logging Rd
- (f) County Trunk "M" from Village of West Salem limits North to Gills Coulee Road
- (g) County Trunk "MM" from a point .59 miles East of Trailer Park to STH 14
- (h) County Trunk "O" from CTH "B" to a point .02 miles West of Fox Hollow Dr
- (i) County Trunk "OA" from a point .14 miles South of Drectrah Rd to CTH "O"
- (j) County Trunk "OT" from CTH "SN" to a point .10 miles South of Corporate Dr

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- (k) County Trunk "V" from a point .21 miles North of Juniper Ln to a point .27 miles North of Keppel Rd
- (l) County Trunk "XX" from a point .22 miles North of old NA to STH 35
- (m) County Trunk "YY" from a point 1.35 miles South of CTH "M" to CTH "M"
- (n) County Trunk "Z" from Dump Turnaround to a point .20 miles West of Forest Dr
- (o) County Trunk "Z" from CTH "ZM" to a point .08 miles West of CTH "ZM"
- (p) County Trunk "Z" from CTH "ZB" to a point .20 miles east of Elm Drive
- (q) County Trunk "NN" from CTH "M" to STH 162
- (6) 50 MILES PER HOUR. The speed limit on the following streets or portions of streets shall be 50 m.p.h.:
 - (a) County Trunk "XX" from CHT "OT" to a point 0.04 miles North of Remus Rd
 - (b) County Trunk "ZN" from CTH "Z" to 0.9 miles east of CTH "Z"

Section 2.

This Ordinance shall take effect the day after passage and publication as required by law.

TINA TRYGGESTAD, COUNTY BOARD CHAIR;
GINNY DANKMEYER, COUNTY CLERK.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by J. Kovacevich/D. Hundt to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-9/25 RE: SUPPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE KNOWLES-NELSON STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin State Legislature created the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program in 1989 to preserve valuable natural areas and wildlife habitat, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand opportunities for outdoor recreation, and **WHEREAS**, the program has supported land acquisition and capital development projects by local units of governments including La Crosse County, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and nonprofit conservation organizations to preserve valuable natural areas, wildlife habitat, water quality and outdoor recreation for public benefit around the state, and **WHEREAS**, per Ch. 23.0915(2c)(d), Wis. Stats., the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program is set to expire in 2026, and **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors considers the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program a valuable tool to preserve and restore natural areas, wildlife habitat and water quality while supporting the development of public nature-based outdoor recreation opportunities that promote economic development and enhance quality of life, and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County has been a direct beneficiary of this program through receiving approximately 130 grants protecting 3800+ acres and creating a \$9,581,474 investment. This includes \$100,375 to La Crosse County for campground addition, landscaping, well system and trail construction at Veteran's Memorial Park, and additionally grants to Four Corners Snowmobile Trail Rehabilitation, Mississippi Channel Dredging, and Lake Koshong South Access Development; \$2.67 million to Mississippi Valley Conservancy to protect 1,100+ acres of land and habitat protection for La Crosse bluff lands; \$417,000 to the City of La Crosse for renovation and development at Granddadd Bluff, and; \$183,365 to the City of Onalaska for greenspace and trail development at Green Coulee Community Park, and additionally grants for Great River Landing Trailhead Development Phase 1, Onalaska Feasibility Study, Holiday Heights Canoe Launch Development, Van Riper Park, Zone Two Development; and \$133,775 to the Town of Onalaska for improvements at Fred Funk Boat Landing; Town of Barre for Town Park Acquisition; Village of West Salem for Hwy 16 Bike Development; Town of Campbell for Lower Spillway Public Boat Access; Village of Rockland for Gaylord Memorial Park Development; Village of Holmen for Recreation Area Development; and Lake Koshong Protection and Rehabilitation District for Channels Dredging Feasibility Study and Rehabilitation Project. **WHEREAS**, these numerous grants and partnerships that have enhanced local parks, protected vital natural areas, expanded trail systems, and improved water quality, contribute to the well-being, health, and enjoyment of our residents and visitors; and align directly with the La Crosse County strategic direction of Environmental Stewardship including its vision and mission that our natural environment is accessible and protected, for present and future generations, and **WHEREAS**, continued investment in

the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program is vital for La Crosse County to meet its vision of building a resilient, sustainable, and connected park and trail system that contributes to the overall quality of life and environmental health of our communities, and **WHEREAS**, local governments, nonprofit partners, and citizens rely on the stability and availability of Stewardship Program funds to match local investments and maximize community-driven conservation and recreation initiatives. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors supports long term funding authorization for the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to each of our elected State legislators, the Wisconsin Governor, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary, and the Wisconsin Counties Association. **FISCAL NOTE:** No fiscal impact.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/P. Isola to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-9/25 RE: FUNDING FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

WHEREAS La Crosse County residents are served by nine Emergency Medical Services (EMS) or joint EMS-Fire departments; and **WHEREAS** these nine local agencies are in need of training regarding Naloxone and other FDA-approved drugs to reverse opioid overdoses; and **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Sheriff's Department, La Crosse County Health Department, and La Crosse County Human Services Department have the ability to apply for Naloxone, Narcan, or any training to reverse opioid overdoses; and **WHEREAS**, depending on the needs/request of each agency some of these funds may be allocated out of the opioid litigation settlement money; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County has received approximately \$2.4 million in opioid settlement monies; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that \$5,000 (\$45,000 total) shall be set aside for distribution to each of nine EMS units for Naloxone or other FDA-approved drug to reverse opioid overdoses and other needs approved under the terms of the opioid litigation settlement. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that EMS agencies can seek reimbursement of up to \$5,000 so long as the EMS agencies provide a request for reimbursement of funds; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** prior to reimbursement, EMS agencies shall seek assistance from the County Health Department and Sheriff's Department; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that these funds shall be set aside for six months and if unallocated after six months be returned to the county's opioid settlement fund. **FISCAL NOTE:** If the use is allowed under the terms of the opioid settlement agreement funds, funds will be allocated out of the County's Opioid Settlement dollars which are tracked under division 296.220.1000 in the County financial system.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/G. Padesky to approve. Discussion ensued. Motion by D. Jacobsen/J. Pogreba to amend by changing the last Be It Further Resolved from 6 months to December 31, 2027. Discussion ensued. Deputy Corporation Counsel Amy Flottmeyer responded to questions from the Board. The motion to amend failed on a roll call vote with 16 nays, 12 ayes - M. Baroni, S. Doyle, T. Elam, D. Ferries, R. Geary, D. Hundt, D. Jacobsen, G. Padesky, J. Pogreba, R. Rothering, P. Scheller and K. Schlimgen, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed. The motion to approve passed on a roll call vote with 20 ayes, 8 nays - E. Anderson, K. Cable, R. Cornforth, M. Kruse, K. Leibold, T. Tryggestad and D. Wacek, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 224 TO CREATE S. 1.251 "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE" OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/P. Scheller 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.lacrossecounty.org. Upon adoption and publication, it will be incorporated into the La Crosse County General Code of Ordinances.

FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 225 TO AMEND S. 2.01(2) ENTITLED "SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS" OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/J. Kovacevich 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.lacrossecounty.org. Upon adoption and publication, it will be incorporated into the La Crosse County General Code of Ordinances.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-9/25 RE: SUPPORT OF STATE INVESTMENT FOR INCOME MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS, the federal budget reconciliation package enacted in July of 2025, makes changes to the SNAP (FoodShare) program that would reduce federal costs and significantly impact county-administered services; and **WHEREAS**, these changes extend SNAP work requirements to individuals up to age 64, lower the child age threshold for parent exemptions, and eliminate waivers for areas with high unemployment, thereby increasing referrals to the FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) program and workload for county human service departments; and **WHEREAS**, the legislation requires states to contribute a minimum of 5% toward the cost of SNAP benefits if their error rate is 6% or higher, facing penalty funding of between 5% and 15% of total SNAP costs; and; **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's current SNAP payment error rate is 4.47%, but without additional investment in eligibility and administrative systems, heightened workloads could push the state above the 6% threshold, triggering significant penalties; and **WHEREAS**, if Wisconsin's error rate reaches 6% on or after October 1, 2027, the state's 5% cost share would be approximately \$69 million annually, with potential penalty payments increasing the state's financial burden—costs that could ultimately cascade down to counties; and **WHEREAS**, the SNAP administrative match rate for Income Maintenance (IM) activities has been reduced from the previous 50% federal / 50% state-local to 25% federal / 75% state-local, substantially reducing federal revenue available to counties to administer SNAP; and **WHEREAS**, the reduction in administrative funds could lead to a reduction in IM staff, which could result in an increased payment error rate; and **WHEREAS**, county IM administrative costs are approximately \$123 million annually, with SNAP-related workload accounting for about \$49 million of those costs; and **WHEREAS**, the new administrative match rate results in an estimated \$17 million annual loss in SNAP administrative funding to counties; and **WHEREAS**, these federal cuts result from shifting the benefit and administrative costs to states and counties (reducing resources available for local administration), tightening work requirements (increasing county workload), and penalizing minor payment errors (resulting in more cost to the states); and **WHEREAS**, counties operate under state-imposed property tax levy limits, restricting their ability to offset such funding losses without additional state or federal relief; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors urges the State of Wisconsin to provide funding to offset the county fiscal impact caused by the enacted federal SNAP changes, and to work with counties to ensure adequate resources for the administration of FoodShare and related programs; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, Wisconsin State Legislators with a constituency within La Crosse County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin County Human Service Association. **FISCAL NOTE:** La Crosse County's income maintenance administration costs are tracked in the 230.300.1000 division within the County financial system.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Motion by D. Mader/P. Isola to approve. Discussion ensued. Human Services Director Jason Witt responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-9/25 RE: ACCEPTING MATCHING FUNDS TO MITIGATE THE OPIOID CRISIS IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

WHEREAS, Opioids are a main contributor to drug overdoses, which in La Crosse County increased one thousand percent (from 5 to 55) from 2008 to 2023; and **WHEREAS**, Opioid settlement funds provide an important opportunity to mitigate the opioid crisis, and La Crosse County is using its settlement funds to invest in evidence-based strategies, including the two strategies of (1) creating the ability to start

medication assisted treatment for inmates while they reside in the La Crosse County jail and (2) enhancing jail-to-community reentry services; and **WHEREAS**, Vital Strategies, a global health organization which has an overdose prevention program supported by funding from the Bloomberg Philanthropies Overdose Prevention Initiative, has awarded La Crosse County \$63,776 in grant funding (available from July 21, 2025 through July 20, 2026) to match its use of opioid settlement funds on the two strategies identified above. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the \$63,776 in grant funding from Vital Strategies and commits to using an equal amount of opioid settlement funding toward jail-to-community re-entry and jail-based medication assisted treatment services; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that La Crosse County is obligated to contract for all services that are necessary to meet the terms of the Vital Strategies grant as long as they can be supported with the related funding; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair is authorized to execute any contracts or documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution, after approval by Corporation Counsel; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board of Supervisors authorizes the creation and hiring of a 1.0 FTE Human Services Social Worker position, effective immediately, to fulfill the authorized outreach and case management activities under this grant; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate account transfers relating to accepting this additional funding. **FISCAL NOTE:** Award funds of a total \$63,776 with a \$63,776 match from the Opioid Settlement Funds, and the award period ending July 20, 2026. The operating costs will be tracked under the 210.500.5270 division within the County financial system under the Justice Support Services section.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by D. Mader/K. Cable to approve. Discussion ensued. Human Services Director Jason Witt responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

ORDINANCE NO. 222-9/25 TO AMEND S. 11.31 ENTITLED "ANIMAL REGULATIONS" OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

The County Board of Supervisors of the County of La Crosse does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Section 11.31(2) is amended to read:

(1) **DEFINITIONS.**

- (a) *Altered Male.* Any male animal that has been operated on to prevent it from procreating.
- (b) *Animal.* Any living vertebrate, domestic or wild, except a human being.
- (c) *Animal Control Facility.* Any facility for the care of animals operated under a contract with a political subdivision under s. 173.15(1).
- (d) *Animal Shelter.* Any facility operated by a humane society, municipal agency or its authorized agents, for the purpose of impounding or caring for animals held under the authority of this subchapter or State law.
- (e) *Auctions.* Any place or facility where animals are regularly bought, sold or traded, except for those facilities otherwise defined in this subchapter. This section does not apply to individual sales of animals by owners.
- (f) *Circus.* A commercial variety show featuring live animal acts for public entertainment.
- (g) *Commercial Animal Establishment.* Includes: Animal Day Care Facility, Animal Training Facility, Boarding Facility, Breeder, and Commercial Kennel. An establishment wherein any person is engaged in the business of boarding, breeding, buying, letting for hire, training for a fee or selling dogs, cats, birds or other animals. A person shall be engaged in the business under this definition if the business involves the breeding and selling of more than 2 litters of pups or kittens, 2 clutches of birds, or 2 or more dogs, cats, or other animals in a 12 month period of time. Every reference to "kennel" in s. 11.31, shall mean "commercial animal establishment" as herein defined.
- (h) *Community Cat.* A cat that is free roaming and may be cared for by one or more persons who is/are known or unknown. There is a range in the level of sociability of community cats.

- (i) *Community Cat Caregiver*. Any person other than an owner, who in accordance with a good faith effort to trap, sterilize, vaccinate and return any community cat, provides voluntary care, including, but not limited to food, water and shelter to a community cat or community cat colony.
- (j) *Community Cat Colony or Colony*. A group of cats that congregates, more or less, together as a unit and shares a common food source.
- (k) *Confined for Quarantine*. Restriction of an animal at all times by the owner, or his agency, to an escape proof building away from other animals and the public.
- (l) *Disinfectant*. An agent, usually a chemical, that kills growing forms but not necessarily resistant spore forms, of the disease producing microorganisms.
- (m) *Disinfection*. The act of destroying infectious agents.
- (n) *Ear Tipping*. A straight-line cutting of the tip of the left ear of a cat while the cat is anesthetized and has been sterilized and given a rabies shot.
- (o) *Exotic Animals*. An animal that is not normally domesticated in the United States or that is wild by nature as further defined by s. 11.31(2)(bb) and including any live animal from any of the following scientific classifications: artiodactyla, crocodilian, elephantidae, felidae, marsupialia, non-human primates, perissodactyla, pinnipedia, ursidae, elasmobranchii.
- (p) *Free Roaming*. Not restrained by leash, cord, chain or enclosure.
- (q) *Grooming Shop*. A commercial establishment where animals are bathed, clipped, plucked or otherwise groomed.
- (r) *Has Been Bitten*. Has been seized with the teeth or jaws so that the person or animal seized has been nipped, gripped, wounded or pierced, and further includes contact of saliva with any break or abrasion of the skin, including scratches.
- (s) *Humane Officer*. Any person certified by the State, designated by the County and the Humane Society as a Humane Officer who is qualified to perform such duties under the laws of this State.
- (t) *Humane Society*. Any organization for the prevention of cruelty to animals incorporated under the laws of the State.
- (u) *Isolation Facility*. A humane society shelter, veterinary hospital, municipal pound or other place specified by an officer which is equipped with a pen or a cage which isolates the animal from contact with other animals.
- (v) *Leash*. A cord, rope, strap, chain or training lead which shall be securely fastened to a dog, cat or other animal and shall be of sufficient strength to keep such dog, cat or other animal under control.
- (w) *Nuisance Cat*. A cat or community cat whose behavior disturbs the peace by:
 - 1. Habitually or continually howling or fighting; or
 - 2. Habitually and significantly destroying, damaging or soiling property against the wishes of the owner of the property
- (x) *Owner*. Any adult person owning, keeping or harboring 1 or more animals. An animal shall be deemed to be harbored if it is fed or sheltered for 7 consecutive days or more.
- (y) *Pet*. Any animal kept for pleasure rather than utility.
- (z) *Pet Shop*. Any person, whether operated separately or in connection with another business enterprise, except for a licensed kennel or cattery that buys, sells, or boards any species of animals.
- (aa) *Provoked Bites*. Provoked bite incidents occur when an animal responds viciously to circumstances including, but not limited to, the following:
 - 1. The bite victim was unlawfully on the property of the owner of the biting animal. This does not include individuals lawfully present for legitimate purposes, such as postal or delivery personnel, utility workers, youth engaged in school or charitable fundraising, or others conducting business with the occupant. Casual passage by the property on a sidewalk or public right-of-way is also not considered provocation;
 - 2. The bite victim teased, tormented, abused, assaulted, or attacked the biting animal at the time of the bite or at any time in the past;
 - 3. The bite victim was disturbing the biting animal's natural functions, such as sleeping or eating, while on its owner's property;

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4. The biting animal was protecting or defending its owner or a member of its owner's household from an attack or assault;
 5. The biting animal was protecting itself, its kennels, or its offspring from the bite victim while on its owner's property;
 6. The bite victim was committing a crime or offense while on the property of the owner of the biting animal;
 7. The biting animal was responding to a command or encouragement to attack the bite victim; or
 8. The biting animal was responding to pain or injury inflicted by the bite victim.
- (bb) *Public Nuisance*. Any animal or animals which:
1. Molests passersby or passing vehicles.
 2. Attacks other animals.
 3. Trespasses on school grounds.
 4. Is repeatedly at large.
 5. Damages private or public property.
 6. Barks, whines, howls or makes other sounds common to its species in an excessive, continuous or untimely fashion.
- (cc) *Rabies Vaccination Certificate*. A certificate describing the animal, age and breed, owner, vaccination tag number, dated and signed by a licensed veterinarian, which indicates that the described animal has been immunized against rabies.
- (dd) *Regulated Cat*. A cat that is under ownership per 11.31(2)(w) that is located in a municipality that requires the cat to be licensed.
- (ee) *Restraint*. An animal shall be deemed to be under restraint if confined on the premises of its owner, or if accompanied by a responsible person capable of controlling such animal, and under that person's direct control via a leash no more than 6 feet in length held securely by the person.
- (ff) *Commercial Riding School or Livery Stable*. Any place which has available for hire, boarding and/or riding instructions, any horse, pony, donkey, mule or burro. An establishment wherein a person is engaged in the business of boarding, breeding, buying, letting for hire, training for a fee or selling horses. A person shall not be engaged in the business under this definition if the business involves such insolated or sporadic sales purchases or practices that the infrequency of such occurrences, including the sale price and gross profit, support the inference that the person is not pursuing a business or a part-time business of a commercial riding school or livery stable.
- (gg) *Severe Injury*. Any physical injury that results in broken bones or disfiguring lacerations requiring multiple sutures or cosmetic surgery.
- (hh) *Spayed Female*. Any female animal which has been operated upon to prevent conception
- (ii) *Theatrical Exhibit*. Any live or recorded performance open to the general public whether or not admission is charged.
- (jj) *Trained Rabies Observer*. A natural person certified by the department as meeting the qualifications to observe quarantined animals in an isolation facility to determine if the animal exhibits any signs of rabies.
- (kk) *Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate and Return (TNVR)*. To humanely trap a cat and sterilize, vaccinate against rabies, ear tip and return the cat to the location where it was trapped.
- (ll) *TNVR Program*. A program in which community cats are humanely trapped, sterilized, vaccinated against rabies, ear tipped and returned to the location where the cats were trapped.
- (mm) *Vaccination Against Rabies*. The vaccination of a dog or cat by a licensed veterinarian with a rabies vaccine licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- (nn) *Veterinary Hospital*. Any establishment maintained and operated by a licensed veterinarian for the boarding of animals or the diagnosis and treatment of disease and injuries of animals.
- (oo) *Vicious Animals*. Any animal or animals that constitute an imminent threat to public

health or safety. Any animal or animals meeting one or more of the following criteria shall be deemed an imminent threat to public health and safety:

1. Any animal involved in 3 unprovoked attacks on persons or other animals within a 12 month period;
2. Any animal who bites 2 persons or 2 other animals without provocation within a 12 month period;
3. Any animal who inflicts severe injury on a human being without provocation; or
4. Any animal who kills a domestic animal without provocation while the attacking animal is off the owner's property.

No canine or canine crossbreed shall be found to be a vicious dog solely because it is a particular breed, nor is the ownership of a particular breed of canine or canine crossbreed prohibited. No animal shall be found to be a vicious dog if the threat, injury, or damage was sustained by a person who was provoking the animal per 11.31(aa)1-8:

No police dog that was engaged in the performance of its duties as such at the time of the acts complained of shall be found to be a vicious dog. No animal that, at the time of the acts complained of, was responding to pain or injury or was protecting itself, its kennel, its offspring, a person, or its owner's or custodian's property, shall be found to be a vicious dog.

- (pp) *Wild Animal*. Any live animal which can normally be found in the wild state. For the purpose of this Code, wolf dog hybrids are considered wild animals.
- (qq) *Zoological Park or Zoo*. Any facility, other than a pet shop or kennel, displaying or exhibiting 1 or more species operated by a person, partnership, corporation or government agency.

Section 2. Section 11.31(3)(g) is amended to read:

- (g) Reimbursement to Officials. Collecting and listing officials under the jurisdiction of this section may retain a portion of each dog license issued as determined by the County Board pursuant to s. 13.05(4)(a)1, or 2, or 3 of this Code.

Section 3. Section 11.31(7) is amended to read:

(7) **COMMERCIAL ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENT PERMIT.** Includes: Animal Day Care Facility, Animal Training Facility, Boarding Facility, Breeder, and Commercial Kennel.

- (a) Fees. The fees for this permit shall be determined by the County Board.
- (b) Compliance to Minimum Standards. Each permit holder shall, in addition to the other requirements of this subchapter, comply with the minimum standards of this section. Failure to meet these standards shall be grounds for denial or a permit or revocation of a permit. Any person who keeps or operates a kennel may, instead of license tax for each dog required by this subchapter, apply to the collection official for a kennel license for the keeping or operating of the kennel. Upon payment of the required kennel license tax and upon presentation of evidence that all dogs over 5 months of age are currently immunized against rabies, the collecting official shall issue a kennel license and a number of tags equal to the number of dogs authorized to be kept in the kennel.
- (c) Standards.
1. Enclosures must be provided which shall allow adequate protection against weather extremes.
 2. Building temperature shall be maintained at a comfortable level for the animals kept therein. Adequate ventilation shall be maintained to promote health and odor control. Commercial animal establishments housing small breed dogs must house those dogs in indoor facilities minimally heated to 55 degrees F. Any questions concerning definition of breeds that are considered small breed in this procedure will be defined by the County Health Department Veterinary Advisor.
 3. Each animal shall have sufficient space to stand up, lie down and turn around without touching the sides or top of the cage or enclosure.
 4. Cages, floors of buildings, runs and walls constructed using impervious materials to permit cleaning and sanitizing. Wood which animals can bite, chew, claw or

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anyway have contact with is not considered impervious. Unsealed wood or rusted metal is not considered impervious.

5. Runs shall provide an adequate exercise area and protection from the weather. Runs and side walls to a height of 4 feet shall have an impervious surface to allow for cleaning, disinfecting and odor control. Minimal exercise area of 10 feet by 15 feet must be provided for all breeds. Any questions concerning exercise area requirement for specific breeds will be reviewed by the Veterinary Advisor.
6. Cleaning and sanitizing of cages and runs must be done at a minimum once per day.
7. Persons wishing to operate a commercial kennel must meet the requirements of Health Codes concerned with the sale and care of dogs.
8. Air exchange at a minimum 4-12 times per hour, depending on condition of structure and breed of dogs, is needed to provide adequate ventilation. Any questions concerning adequate ventilation will be reviewed by the Veterinary Advisor.
9. Cages shall contain no more than 2 dogs with the exception of females with puppies or a litter of puppies up to 4 months of age.
10. Dog runs require solid floors with impervious surface. Side walls require impervious surface to 4 feet.
11. The food shall be free from contamination, wholesome, palatable and sufficient quantity and nutritive value to meet the normal daily requirements for the condition and size of animal.
12. All animals shall have potable water available at all times.
13. Every dog and regulated cat owned or kept in the County that is 5 months of age or older shall be vaccinated against rabies. Unvaccinated dogs and unvaccinated regulated cats acquired or moved into the County shall be vaccinated within 30 days after arrival, unless under 5 months of age as specified above. Every dog and regulated cat shall be revaccinated according to the recommendations of the vaccine used by the veterinarian administering such vaccinations. The certificate of vaccination shall bear the expected duration of the immunity of the vaccine used. No dog or cat license shall be issued unless evidence is presented that the dog or cat has a current rabies vaccination.
14. No dog or cat shall be accepted for boarding, grooming or training unless it has been vaccinated for distemper and rabies, and proof of such vaccination has been furnished to the kennel operation (exemption to distemper or rabies vaccinations requirement upon written recommendation from owner's veterinarian). Any dog or cat accepted shall be in compliance with the rabies vaccination requirements of this chapter.
15. Any animal that appears to be ill shall be promptly examined by a veterinarian of the owner's choice, if known, or by the veterinarian employed by the licensee and a record kept of the examination and treatment.
16. If the animal dies while being boarded or while in training, the body shall be handled in 1 of the following ways:
 - Preserved by refrigeration or freezing until examined or returned to the owner. The body is to be held for at least 1 week after the time the owners are scheduled to return, after which time the body may be disposed of in compliance with this subchapter.
 - Submitted to a licensed veterinarian and a necropsy performed at kennel operator's expense, unless prior agreement for payment of such services by the owner. A copy of the necropsy report is to be given to the owner.
17. Animals shall not be group housed at any time, unless they are owned by the same person and are compatible.\
18. If the owners of animals do not appear or contact the kennel or cattery operator within 7 days of their stated return time, the operator has the right to relocate the animal.

Section 4. Section 11.31(10) is amended to read:

- (10) ANIMAL BITES. The owner of any dog, cat, ferret, or other animal which has bitten any person shall, upon demand of the Humane Officer or Health Department, produce and surrender up such dog, cat or other animal to such department to be held in quarantine for a minimum of 10 days or humanely euthanized pursuant to s. 11.31(15)(b), and, if appropriate, sent to the State Laboratory of Hygiene for rabies testing. During quarantine, the animal shall be securely confined and kept from contact with any other animal. The animal shall be examined by a licensed veterinarian or a trained rabies observer with veterinarian involvement at least 2 times during a 10-day isolation period: at least once within 24 hours of bite incident and before being released from the 10th day following the bite. All dog, cat, or other animal bites of humans shall be immediately reported to the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction in the location where the bite takes place, and to the County Health Department.

- (a) If, at the time of the bite, the owner cannot show proof of the animal's current rabies vaccination, the animal is considered not to have a current rabies vaccination and must be ordered quarantined at a veterinary hospital or isolation facility of the owner's choice for a period of 10 days. When proof is provided that the animal is current on rabies vaccination, the animal may be granted a home quarantine. The animal which does not have a current anti-rabies vaccination must be quarantined at a veterinary hospital or isolation facility of the owner's choice for a period of 10 days. Charges for boarding of such animal during the quarantine period shall be assumed by the owner of such animal. If the owner is unwilling or unable to arrange a veterinary clinic or isolation facility quarantine, the animal will be ordered impounded by the reporting officer and will be held at the designated County holding facility. No owner shall fail to produce and surrender any animal pursuant to this section.
- (b) An animal which has a current anti-rabies vaccination may, at the discretion of the Humane Officer or Health Department, be held in quarantine on the premises of the owner for a period of 10 days. Trained Rabies Observers, including Humane Officers, may conduct observations in lieu of the vet. Failure on the part of the owner to obey all conditions and directions of the Humane Officer or Health Department pertaining to the quarantine period, shall result in the immediate impoundment of the animal in a veterinary hospital for the remainder of the quarantine period. Charges for boarding such animal shall be paid by the owner prior to the animal's release. The owner shall return proof of release from quarantine within 7 days of end of quarantine to the Health Department.
- (c) The owner of any dog, cat or other animal which has contracted rabies, been subjected to same or is suspected of having rabies, shall immediately notify the Humane Officer, a law enforcement agency or Health Department. The owner shall produce and surrender such animal to such Department, to be held in quarantine at a veterinary hospital for a period needed by the veterinarian to determine if it is rabid or not. The owner shall assume the charge for boarding such animal during the quarantine period.
- (d) No person shall knowingly harbor or keep any animal infected with rabies, or any animal known to have been bitten by a rabid animal, or fail to report to the Humane Officer, law enforcement agency or Health Department the existence of an animal which they know to be so infected.
- (e) No person shall fail to produce and surrender any animal pursuant to this section. The Health Department shall have the authority to impound such animal.
- (f) No person, other than the Humane Officer, a law enforcement agency or licensed veterinarian, shall kill or cause to be killed, any animal suspected of being rabid. The animal suspected of being rabid shall be placed in quarantine and the diagnosis of rabies made by a licensed veterinarian. If a veterinarian does diagnose rabies in an animal in quarantine, then the animal shall be humanely euthanized, and the head of such animal sent to a laboratory for pathological examination and confirmation of the diagnosis.
- (g) No person shall own or have in his or her possession in the County any vicious animal. A determination of viciousness by another governmental body with regards to a specific animal also constitutes a determination of viciousness within

La Crosse County.

Section 5. Section 11.31(26) is amended to read:

(26) ENFORCEMENT.

- (a) Health Department to Enforce all regulations pertaining to dog licensing and rabies control. Inhumane treatment of animals shall be enforced by Humane Officers or law enforcement officers. Health Department and the Humane Officers shall be aided in the discharge of their duties by the Sheriff's Department and all law enforcement agencies. Records available in the County Clerk's office showing names and addresses of owners delinquent in paying the dog license tax shall be utilized in the enforcement of this section.
- (b) Duties. The Health Department shall enforce the provisions of this section and:
 - 1. Investigate all complaints made relative to dogs, cats and rabies.
 - 2. Seize and confine unlicensed and unvaccinated dogs and regulated cats. Enforce municipal animal license and rabies vaccination requirement.
 - 3. Be responsible for operation of a pound.
 - 4. Arrange for and oversee the humane euthanasia of all unwanted dogs and cats pursuant to Chapter 174, Wis. Stats.
 - 5. Maintain a record of all their official actions.
 - 6. Investigate and resolve complaints pertaining to dead animals.
 - 7. Humane Officers or law enforcement officers shall investigate complaints of inhumane treatment to animals under the supervision of the Health Department.
- (c) Inspection and Removal Authority. The Humane Officer, Health Officer, or Officer's designee shall have authority to obtain inspection warrants for residences or other locations where vicious animals are believed to be kept or harbored and shall further have authority to remove and impound such animals. A vicious animal within the meaning of this ordinance is hereby determined to be a human health hazard within the meaning of s. 254.59, Wis. Stats., or any amendments or changes to said statute.
- (d) The provision of ss. 173.23(3) and (4), Wis. Stats., and any amendments thereto, shall apply to the payment for cost and care and the euthanizing of animals in the custody of the County or the Humane Officer. For purposes of this section, an animal is deemed an imminent threat to public health if the animal is a vicious animal. The County Health Department or its designee shall have authority to order an owner of a vicious animal to euthanize said animal or rehome to an isolation facility in La Crosse County. Proof of euthanasia or rehoming to an isolation facility must be provided to the County Health Department or its designee.

Section 6. Section 11.31(28) is created to read:

(28)

COMMUNITY CAT MANAGEMENT. La Crosse County recognizes the need for addressing issues presented by free roaming cats with no discernable owner. It is recognized that there are community care givers of cats and acknowledges that properly managed community cat colonies utilizing Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate and Return (TNVR) can humanely decrease numbers of free roaming cats in a defined area, along with nuisance behaviors, wildlife predation and public health concerns associated with them. Provisions under 11.31(28) do not apply to owned cats. Owned cat policies as outlined 11.31 shall remain in effect and be enforced.

- (a) Except as provided in Section 11.31(28)(f) and (g), community cat colonies may be permitted, and community cat caregivers may maintain and care for community cats by providing food, water, shelter, medical care and other forms of sustenance. Individuals, community cat caregivers, rescue organization, shelters and the animal control office shall be permitted to carry out TNVR and TNVR programs. A cat released in accordance with 11.31(28) shall not be considered abandoned per 11.31(17)(f). Likewise an ear tipped community cat is not required to meet cat licensing requirements of the township in which the

colony may exist, if those ordinances differ from La Crosse County's.

1. All cats that are part of a community cat program must be sterilized, vaccinated against rabies and ear tipped; if these requirements are met, the community cat is exempt from licensing, stray, at-large and other provisions in 11.31 that apply to owned animals.
- (b) Community cat colony caregiver duties
 1. Community cat colony caregivers shall take all appropriate and available steps to trap each community cat in the colony in order to have the cat sterilized, vaccinated for rabies, and ear tipped. The caregiver will monitor for new community cats that may join the colony. Caregivers may work as individuals or in collaboration with the TNVR programs or other animal care organizations.
 2. If medical care is needed, but unavailable or too expensive, the caregiver must not allow the cat to suffer.
 3. Food, if provided, must be in the proper quantity for the number of cats being managed and is to be supplied no less than once per day. Food must be maintained in proper feeding containers. Excess food must be removed so as to not attract other animals. Feeding is to be done during daylight hours.
 4. Water, if supplied, must be clean, potable and free from debris and algae.
 5. If shelter is provided, it shall be unobtrusive, safe and of proper size for the cat(s).
- (c) Except as provided in 11.31(28)(d), if a cat with a tipped ear is admitted into any animal shelter, the animal shelter staff or volunteers may immediately return the cat to the location where it was trapped if the cat is otherwise healthy.
- (d) If a cat that has a microchip or identification tag is admitted to any animal shelter, the cat must be held in accordance with 11.31(15) to allow for possible reunification with the owner. After the mandatory hold, they may proceed through the regular adoption process or animal shelter staff or volunteers may return the cat to the location where it was trapped after it has been sterilized, vaccinated for rabies and ear tipped if it is otherwise healthy.
- (e) If a cat that does not have a tipped ear or a microchip or identification tag is impounded into any animal shelter, that cat shall be exempt from a mandatory hold period per 11.31(15) and if otherwise healthy may proceed through the regular adoption process or animal shelter staff or volunteers may return the cat to the location where it was trapped after it has been sterilized, vaccinated for rabies and ear tipped.
- (f) The animal control office shall have the right to trap in a humane manner any cat that is deemed to be a threat to public health or safety. If a cat has bitten a human being, the cat shall be confined pursuant to 11.31(10). If a licensed veterinarian decides that the cat is too ill or injured or that it has an illness that presents a danger to the public health or safety or to itself, the cat may be humanely euthanized. After the mandatory quarantine, if the cat is found to be healthy and no other issues of public health or safety exist, the animal shelter staff or volunteers may return the cat to the location where it was trapped after it has been sterilized, vaccinated for rabies and ear tipped.
- (g) The director of animal control shall have the right to declare that a colony is in a location that is hazardous to the health and safety of the public or the colony, or that the colony is a nuisance. Once a colony is declared a hazard or nuisance, any cat impounded shall not be released to the location where it was trapped unless the hazard or nuisance is remedied, and the cats have been approved for return by the director of animal control. Cats impounded pursuant to this section are subject to the disposition regulations listed in 11.31(28)(c), (d) and (e).

Section 7. This Ordinance shall take effect the day after passage and publication as required by law.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Motion by D. Mader/K. Cable to approve. Discussion ensued. Motion by D. Mader/D. Pierce to amend by changing section 6(b)(3) to read "Food, if provided, must be". Deputy Corporation Counsel Flottmeyer responded to questions from the Board. The motion to amend passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed. The motion to approve as amended passed on a voice vote with 27 ayes, 1 nay - K. Schlimgen, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 223 TO AMEND S. 9.20 AND S. 25.04(2)(C) OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN RELATED TO THE PENALTY FOR THE POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

Motion by D. Wacek/M. Kruse to move the first reading. Discussion ensued. Captain Marte Peterson and Deputy Corporation Counsel Flottmeyer responded to questions from the Board. 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.lacrossecounty.org. Upon adoption and publication, it will be incorporated into the La Crosse County General Code of Ordinances.

ZONING ORDINANCE NO. Z462-9/25 RE: PETITION NO. 2085 FILED BY LDM SOLUTIONS LLC O/B/O OLD TIMERS PROPERTY LLC, TO REZONE FROM THE GENERAL AGRICULTURE DISTRICT TO INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT FOR MANUFACTURING AND OUTSIDE STORAGE OF FINISHED PRODUCT IN THE TOWN OF HAMILTON

The La Crosse County Planning, Resources and Development Committee, having considered Petition No. 2085 to amend the La Crosse County Zoning Ordinance filed by: LDM Solutions LLC o/b/o Old Timers Property LLC, W5177 Knobloch Rd, La Crosse, WI 54601 and having held a public hearing on Tuesday, September 2, 2025 for a ZONING PETITION to rezone from the General Agriculture District to Industrial District for manufacturing and outside storage of finished product in the Town of Hamilton and described as follows: PRT SE-NW, Sec. 2, T.16N, R.6W. Tax parcel 7-38-0. Property address: W3144 County Road B, Town of Hamilton. And pursuant to s. 59.69(5)(e)2. Wis. Stats. and s. 17.10 Zoning Code: the Committee did publish and receive proof of a Class II notice of the hearing; did receive receipts of mailing of the notices to the affected Town Clerk(s); did hold a public hearing to hear testimony or correspondence from the people; and did receive and consider action from the affected Town Board(s). The Committee, under s. 59.69(5)(e)4., Wis. Stats., along with the affected Town Board(s), under s.59.69(5)(e)3., Wis. Stats., have the authority to approve or to disapprove of the application. Having considered the entire record, the Committee's recommendation is to: By a vote of SIX (6) in favor (Scheller, Isola, Tweed, Rothering, Pierce, Jacobson), ZERO (0) in opposition, and ONE (1) excused (Schlimgen) the committee recommended Approval of ZONING PETITION No. 2085 subject to two conditions.

1. The applicant shall construct a noise screen wall 6 to 12' high along the western property line of the existing residence at W3106 County Road B.
2. Vehicle traffic shall access the property from the existing driveway unless the County Highway Commissioner deems that additional accesses are necessary.

THE COUNTY BOARD took the following action this 18th day of September 2025. Approved subject to conditions as outlined.

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Schlimgen/P. Wuensch to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve as recommended by the Committee passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Baroni asked for an update on the Thriving Families Program.

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ADJOURN

Motion by E. Anderson/G. Mathu to adjourn at 7:54 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 28 ayes, 2 excused - D. Balduzzi and K. Tweed.

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, September 18, 2025 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 19 OF SEPTEMBER 2025.