

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, August 10, 2026 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 27 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	Allen, Kathy	Present
5	Anderson, Emily	Present
6	Mathu, Grant	Present
7	Piggush, Beth	Present
8	Isola, Peg	Present
9	Manke, Angie	Present
10	Cable, Kim	Excused
11	Scheller, Patrick	Present
12	Erickson, Randy	Present
13	Tryggestad, Tina	Present
14	Duffrin, Steven	Present
15	Kruse, Monica	Present
16	Ferries, Dan	Present
17	Manock, Lia	Present
18	Drazkowski, Joanna	Present
19	McBride, Anna	Present
20	Doyle, Steve	Present, Excused at 06:35 PM
21	Fimreite, Jeff	Present
22	Kovacevich, Joe	Present
23	Carty, Joseph	Present
24	Tweed, Kristie	Excused
25	Jacobsen, Dennis	Present
26	Clements, Beth	Excused
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 the meeting on Tuesday, September 8th at 6pm at City Hall for an update on the Pathways Home.
- Supervisor Conference Reports

- Supervisor Schlimgen attended the WI Counties Utility Tax Association meeting and toured the new Port Washington Data Center site which is currently under development and also attended the National Night Out in West Salem.
- Supervisor Isola attended the Chamber of Commerce event on the City Administrator topic.
- Supervisor Kruse attended the Explore La Crosse Annual Awards Banquet.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION AUGUST 2026 - CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, La Crosse County recognizes children as our greatest resource; and **WHEREAS**, children living in La Crosse County should always have the financial and emotional support they need in order to be successful; and **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's Child Support Program ensures that parents take responsibility for the care and well-being of their children, supports the involvement of parents in their children's lives, and provides important services to both custodial and noncustodial parents; and **WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Child Support agency collected nearly **\$16 million** in child support in FFY 2025; and **WHEREAS**, upholding the Child Support Program is an effective investment in Wisconsin's future as the program increases self-sufficiency, reduces child poverty, and has a positive effect on children's well-being; and **WHEREAS**, increased public awareness of the importance of providing children with the support they need and the services offered by the Child Support Program, through its county and tribal-child support agencies, benefits Wisconsin's children and families: **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of August as Child Support Enforcement Awareness Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to ensuring children receive the financial and emotional support they need to be successful.

Motion by J. Fimreite/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 3 excused - K. Cable, B. Clements and K. Tweed.

PROCLAMATION AUGUST 2026 - AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCES MONTH

WHEREAS, the Aging and Disability Resources Center of La Crosse County (ADRC) provides information and assistance to seniors, people with disabilities, caregivers, and family members to maintain the highest quality of life possible; and, **WHEREAS**, the ADRC provides congregate and home-delivered meal programs that allow residents to remain living independently in their own homes; and, **WHEREAS**, the ADRC works collaboratively to offer transportation services, caregiver support, organized activities, and educational options to assist persons in remaining as independent in the community as possible. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of August as Aging and Disability Resources Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to ensuring that all residents of La Crosse County live a healthy and productive life.

Motion by A. Manke/G. Mathu to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 3 excused - K. Cable, B. Clements and K. Tweed.

- Aging & Disability Resources Center (ADRC) Presentation – Presented by Carissa Pagel-Smith
 - The ADRC mission is to provide older adults and people with disabilities the resources to live with dignity and security and achieve maximum independence and quality of life. The ADRC pilot began in 1998 in La Crosse County and was one of the first. Today it is a fully integrated ADRC with a team of 35 staff and hundreds of volunteers. They serve adults aged 60 or older, adults with physical, developmental or intellectual disabilities, caregivers, families and friends, and community members and professionals seeking guidance. Some of the services offered include resource center services, aging services, transportation and adult protective services. The ADRC helps people make informed decisions, secure appropriate services, help caregivers receive support and respite, allow older adults to remain independent and engaged, and protect the vulnerable adults from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

- County Board Etiquette – Inside and Outside the Board Room – Presented by Andy Phillips, Attolles Law
 - Attorney Phillips reviewed decorum and relationships between board members and available options regarding concerns depend on three things: applicable law, facts and circumstance, how bad is it and how far the parties are willing to go for a solution. Not all bad behavior is an ethics issue and you need to know the difference. Wisconsin Statute Chapter 19.59 lists the code of ethics for local government officials, employees and candidates and Ordinance 2.23 lists the code of ethics for La Crosse County. Enforcing the ethics code can be done with an official complaint with the district attorney, advisory opinion from corporation counsel, complaint to the ethics board or committee, and ethics code violations do not result in removal from office. Expectations can be set with county board rules. Statutes provide counties with tremendous organization flexibility and one way counties can institutionalize expectations for meetings is to adopt board rules. Expectations can set how supervisors interact with each other, with staff and with visitors. All persons at a meeting have an obligation to obey the presiding officer. Members who use parliamentary procedures for obstructive purposes should not be recognized or ruled out of order. The chair enforces the rules relating to debate, order and decorum and remind members to confine marks to the merits of the question. A walking quorum is a series of gatherings among separate groups of members of a governmental body, each less than quorum size. The critical element of a walking quorum is an agreement to act uniformly and if there is not tacit or express agreement, exchanges among separate groups of members may take place without violating Open Meetings law. The danger is walking quorums produce a predetermined outcome. If board supervisors fail to adhere to established standards, the ultimate remedy is removal from office. A county board member may be removed by the county board for cause by a vote of two-thirds of all the supervisors entitled to seats on such board. Cause is defined as inefficiency, neglect of duty, official misconduct, or malfeasance in office. This is a lengthy and public process and expensive. The middle remedy is removal from a committee or committee chair position. The county board chair is authorized to make new appointments or reappoint members to the standing committees except the Health and Human Services Board. A less drastic remedy would be censure which is an official reprimand or condemnation.
- 2025 Annual Financial Report – Presented by Finance Director Lanae Nickelotti
 - The value of conducting an annual audit establishes credibility and trust, maintains compliance and accountability, strengthens internal controls, improves decision making, and mitigates fraud risk. Highlights from the ACFR include incurred losses from Hillview Nursing Home, Health Insurance Fund incurred a large loss of \$3.6 million, other Governmental and Enterprise fund balances showed positive financial results, \$815,000 of short-term debt to provide financing for road improvement projects was issued on December 1 and paid off on April 1, and on December 31, 2025 the General Fund unassigned/available fund balance was at 50.4%. The total equalized value of taxable property was \$16 billion, Highlights from the PAFR include the largest employment sector is education and health services, La Crosse area has maintained a lower unemployment rate than State and Federal rates, capital assets totaled \$226.9 million, the largest type of revenue is charges for services, and the largest portion of outstanding debt is for the downtown campus remodel. The County's credit rating was Aa1 and is the second highest debt rating. Of the \$53.3 million of outstanding debt, \$7.6 million will be paid off in 2026. The largest Federal Grant was \$5.3 million for Medicaid and largest State grant was \$2 million for basic county allocation. The 2026 allowable increase for the County's operating levy is \$478,535. Transitioning from ongoing long-term borrowing to short-term keeps interest costs low and maximizes resources for capital investments and strengthens long-term fiscal ability by reducing total debt each year, leveraging fund balance, and maintaining a stable property tax rate.
- Presentation of 2025 Audit – Presented by Andrea Jansen of Bakertilly.
 - The financial audit issued an unmodified opinion of the County's financial statements for the year ending in 12/31/2025 in accordance with auditing standards. The single audit

showed no findings and a low-risk auditee status. No deficiencies were identified considered to be material weakness. There were no uncorrected misstatements or material audit adjustments identified.

- Request for Proposal Overview of Jail Remodel
 - A RFI for design was released in March 2026 and four proposals were received in May 2026. The 2010 expansion included two direct supervision pods, nine indirect supervision pods, moved the woman to the main jail, and expanded receiving and medical area. The 2026 remodel request adds sub-dayrooms to a direct supervision pod, provides more services and flexibility for woman, modifies the current space that woman use to provide smaller pods for people with high needs, including access to programming and sunlight. It will also modify spaces in receiving/medical to alleviate overcrowding and provide better services to people with medical needs. The ground floor will include the sallyport, booking, receiving, medical and kitchen. The 2nd floor will have the direct supervision pods, traditional housing or indirect supervision. And the 3rd floor will be the upper levels of direct supervision and indirect supervision. The resolution coming to the board on Thursday will be for \$1.3 million for project design and a remodel estimate of \$10 million.
- County Ball Fields Presentation and Next Steps
 - The ball fields are located near the Hillview Campus on the southside of La Crosse and adjacent to the Trane site that was recently acquired by the La Crosse School District. The property is owned by La Crosse County and leased to the Town of Shelby. The entire site covers roughly 13 acres and includes two ball fields, bleachers, and a building with bathrooms and concessions. The original lease with Shelby was signed in 1982 with automatic renewals and was updated in 2013 that allowed Shelby to charge organizations to use the fields. The Town of Shelby is asking for the lease holder to be changed to the School District which agrees to be the lease holder if approved by County Board. La Crosse School District currently uses the ball fields for baseball/softball practice and competition. They will use the fields more for JV and varsity games, practices, open hit and pitch sessions and will collaborate with the Boys and Girls Club, UW La Crosse and WTC.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS – none offered.

ADJOURN

Motion by S. Duffrin/G. Mathu to adjourn at 8:17 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - K. Cable, B. Clements, S. Doyle 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 Planning Meeting held Monday, August 10, 2026 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 20 OF AUGUST 2026.