

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, January 15, 2026 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 26 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	Excused
12	Erickson, Randy	Present
13	Tryggestad, Tina	Present
14	Larson, Margaret	Present
15	Kruse, Monica	Excused
16	Ferries, Dan	Present
17	Pogreba, Jack	Present
18	Baroni, Mike	Present
19	Cornforth, Rick	Present
20	Doyle, Steve	Excused
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	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Tina Tryggestad

- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Geary and Jacobsen attended the Wisconsin Counties Highway Association Conference that was held in La Crosse for the first time and was well attended.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

- Recognition of Jacqueline and Shawn Harper as an "Outstanding Family Award"
 - The Harper family was one of ten families selected by Governor Evers from across the State of Wisconsin for the Outstanding Family Award based on powerful stories that highlight what is possible when children are surrounded by support and meaningful relationships.
- General Update
 - January is Radon Awareness month and the Health Department will be offering discounted radon test kits at all county libraries this month; the woman's veteran photo shoot "I am not Invisible" will be held again next month; the La Crosse Community Foundation created a fund for the Pathways Home for the surge shelter; Hillview Life Center and Intergenerational Center will be holding open houses for older adults and their caregivers on Jan 20th, 26th and Feb 11th; La Crosse County's Foodshare error rate was .67% as compared to the statewide average of 5.7% and in 2028 an error rate over 6% could reduce funding; on Tuesday the Federal Government sent funding termination letters to organizations serving individuals with mental health and substance abuse disorders to begin immediately and by yesterday afternoon a message was sent that the funding was restored.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion by D. Pierce/D. Wacek to reappoint Patrick Scheller to the Coulee Region Business Center Board for a two year term to expire January 31, 2028; appoint Tina Tryggstad, Angie Martin, and Leonardo Silva to the Economic Development Advisory Committee for a three year term to expire January 31, 2029; appoint Peg Isola and Alex Wasieleski to the Economic Development Advisory Committee for a two year term to expire January 31, 2028; appoint Joe Kovacevich, Cassandra Douglas, and Jeremy Novak to the Economic Development Advisory Committee for a one year term to expire January 31, 2027 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by G. Padesky/J. Pogreba to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held December 8, 2025 and the Monthly Meeting held December 18, 2025 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 227 TO AMEND CHAPTER 17, ZONING CODE, OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Schlimgen/P. Isola to move the first reading. Discussion ensued. 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. Z466-1/26 RE: PETITION NO. 2090 FILED BY RYAN WESSEL O/B/O JIM BEEBE OF J AND J LIVING TRUST TO REZONE FROM COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT FOR STORAGE UNITS IN THE TOWN OF HAMILTON

The La Crosse County Planning, Resources and Development Committee, having considered Petition No. 2090 to amend the La Crosse County Zoning Ordinance filed by: Ryan Wessel o/b/o Jim Beebe of J and J Living Trust, 1844 Main St E, Onalaska, WI 54650 and having held a public hearing on Monday, December 29, 2025 for a ZONING PETITION to rezone from the Commercial District to the Light Industrial District for storage units in accordance with La Crosse County Ordinance Ch. 17.21 Ordinance text amendments and zoning map amendments in the Town of Hamilton and described as follows: CSM NO. 97 VOL 9 LOT2, Sec. 2, T.16N, R.6W. Tax parcel 7-35-5. Property address: County Road B, Town of Hamilton. And pursuant to s. 59.69(5)(e)2. Wis. Stats. and s. 17.21 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 SEVEN (7) in favor (Schlimgen, Scheller, Isola, Tweed, Rothering, Pierce, Jacobson), ZERO (0) in opposition, and ZERO (0) excused, the committee recommended Approval of ZONING PETITION No. 2090 subject to no conditions. THE COUNTY BOARD took the following action this 15th day of January 2026. Approved subject to conditions as outlined.

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Schlimgen/K. Leibold to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve as recommended by the Committee passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

ORDINANCE NO. 226-1/26 TO AMEND S.7.08(5) OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN REGARDING ALL TERRAIN VEHICLES

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

Section 1. Section 7.08(5) entitled "Approved ATV routes" is amended to read:

(5) APPROVED ATV ROUTES

The following routes have been approved as ATV routes:

1. CTH A entire length from CTH C to STH 162
2. CTH AE entire length from CTH A to CTH TA
3. CTH B from Bangor Village Limit to CTH J & West Salem Village Limit to STH 162 & CTH M to CTH O
4. CTH C entire length from STH 108 north to south and West Salem Village Limit to CTH M
5. CTH D from CTH C to the Village of Holmen
6. CTH DD entire length from CTH T to CTH D
7. CTH DE entire length from STH 16 to CTH C
8. CTH E entire length from STH 16 to CTH DE
9. CTH EE entire length from STH 162 to CTH T
10. CTH FO entire length from CTH OA to CTH F
11. CTH G entire length from STH 33 to CTH P
12. CTH H entire length from STH 33 to County Line
13. CTH I entire length from CTH M to STH 33
14. CTH II entire length from STH 162 to CTH I
15. CTH J from Rockland Village Limits to Monroe County Line
16. CTH JB entire length from STH 162 to STH 33
17. CTH JJ entire length from STH 162 to CTH J
18. CTH M from CTH Q to West Salem Village Limit and (south end) West Salem Village Limit to STH 14
19. CTH MH from CTH XX east to Holmen Village Limit
20. CTH N entire length from 162 to STH 14
21. CTH NN entire length from CTH M to STH 162
22. CTH O entire length from CTH B to CTH M
23. CTH OA entire length from CTH O to STH 33
24. CTH P entire length south and east to County Lines
25. CTH PI entire length STH 162 to County Line
26. CTH Q entire length from CTH V to STH 108
27. CTH T entire length from STH 162 to STH 53
28. CTH TA entire length from CTH T to CTH A
29. CTH TT entire length from CTH T to CTH V
30. CTH U from the eastern Bangor Village Limit to the western Rockland Village Limit
31. CTH V from CTH T to Holmen Village Limit
32. CTH VV entire length from CTH T to Jackson County Line

33. CTH X entire length CTH P to County Line
34. CTH XX from CTH OT north to STH 35
35. CTH Y entire length from CTH J to the Monroe County Line
36. CTH YY entire length from CTH M to STH 33 and STH 33 to STH 14.
37. CTH OT from STH 35 west through Midway to STH 35
38. CTH S from City of Onalaska limits to CTH M
39. CTH W from CTH D east to CTH D
40. CTH Z – All
41. CTH ZB – All
42. CTH ZM – All
43. CTH ZN – All
44. CTH ZZ - All

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/J. Pogreba to approve. Motion by M. Freedland/K. Cable to amend by eliminating County Highways Z and ZN. Discussion ensued. Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore responded to questions from the Board. The motion to amend failed on a roll call vote with 14 nays, 12 ayes - E. Anderson, K. Cable, R. Cornforth, M. Freedland, P. Isola, M. Larson, K. Leibold, D. Mader, G. Mathu, D. Pierce, K. Schlimgen and K. Tweed, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller. Motion by K. Schlimgen/J. Pogreba to amend by adding all remaining County Highway Roads. Discussion ensued. Highway Commissioner Joe Langeberg and Corporation Counsel DeVore responded to question from the Board. The motion to amend failed on a roll call vote with 23 nays, 3 ayes - D. Jacobsen, J. Pogreba and K. Schlimgen, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller. The motion to approve passed on a roll call vote with 18 ayes, 8 nays - E. Anderson, K. Cable, M. Freedland, P. Isola, M. Larson, K. Leibold, D. Mader and G. Mathu, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-1/26 RE: APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO THE RURAL FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

WHEREAS, functional classification is the method by which roads and streets are categorized based on the levels of mobility and access they provide; and **WHEREAS**, functional classification categories are separate for Urban and Rural areas; and **WHEREAS**, geographic areas not within a designated Urban Area (UA) as designated as Rural; and **WHEREAS**, rural areas, for the purposes of functional classification, are defined by county; and **WHEREAS**, functional classification of a road or street has a bearing on federal transportation funding eligibility, and **WHEREAS**, FHWA and WisDOT have developed guidance for functional classification of roads and streets; and **WHEREAS**, WisDOT periodically reviews and updates to the functional classification system of roads and streets throughout the state; and **WHEREAS**, these recommended functional classification changes were developed through joint review by County officials and WisDOT planning staff; and **WHEREAS**, these recommended changes have been reviewed by the La Crosse County; and **WHEREAS**, documents showing the recommended FC changes are attached; and **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation will, after local approval of the recommended FC changes, approve the changes and submit them to FHWA for final approval; and **WHEREAS**, the approved final FC map will be made available to La Crosse County after FHWA final approval; and **WHEREAS**, the new functional classifications will supersede the existing functional classifications in La Crosse County; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that La Crosse County hereby approves all recommended functional classifications. **FISCAL NOTE:** No fiscal impact.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by J. Kovacevich/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 35-1/26 RE: ACKNOWLEDGE "THE BEST OF PUBLIC SERVICE"

WHEREAS, the following employees have been a faithful part in providing "The Best of Public Service" to La Crosse County:

(157-25/26)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
Jenelle Oldenburg	Lakeview Health Center	38+
Paula Silha	Health	36+
David Steinberg	Emergency Services	35+
Nancy Smith-Quall	Lakeview Health Center	34+
Frederick Leinfelder	Sheriff	32+
Laura Matti-Jore	Human Services	32+
Jacqueline Sander	Human Services	29+
Nancy Gilligan	Lakeview Health Center	29+
Mike Valencia	Sheriff	28+
Jim Verse	Sheriff	27+
Donald Mollway	Emergency Services	26+
Sidney Moen	Highway	25+
Paul Rogge	Highway	25+
Timothy Hammes	Highway	23+
Sandra Valentine	Hillview Healthcare Center	23+
Robert Speicher	Highway	11+

WHEREAS, it is the wish of the County Board of Supervisors to acknowledge long and faithful service on behalf of the citizens of La Crosse County; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that a resolution extending our congratulations be recorded in La Crosse County Board Proceedings and a certificate of our actions be presented as an expression of our gratitude.

TINA TRYGGESTAD, COUNTY BOARD CHAIR
GINNY DANKEMYER, COUNTY CLERK

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/D. Ferries to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-1/26 RE: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 716 VINE STREET

WHEREAS, Associated Bank owns a storage building located at 716 Vine Street; and **WHEREAS**, when the County purchased the current Administrative Building (212 6th St. N) from the Associated Bank ten years ago the County was interested in also acquiring the 716 Vine Street property but the Bank was still using it for storage at that time; and **WHEREAS**, Associated Bank is now interested in selling the property to La Crosse County for \$135,000; and **WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the County to purchase the property not only for storage needs but also because all the power and controls for County Parking Lot F are located in the building and there would be significant cost to removal and replacement; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors approves the acquisition of the property located at 716 Vine Street for the purchase price of \$135,000; **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Board Chair is authorized to sign all necessary documents to complete the purchase of 716 Vine Street, after approval by Corporation Counsel. **FISCAL NOTE:** This building purchase will be tracked in division 100.170.2080 within the County financial system. The cost will be funded from the available General Fund balance.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/K. Schlimgen to approve. Discussion ensued. Administrator Jane Klekamp responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 37-1/26 RE: COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT RENEWAL, 2026-2028

WHEREAS, the County Administrator's current employment contract has been in effect since January of 2024 and is set to expire on January 19, 2026; and **WHEREAS**, with input and approval of the Executive Committee it is in the County's best interest to renew the contract to provide for continuity of leadership for the next two years; and **WHEREAS**, the Executive Committee approved the terms of the contract which would extend the current County Administrator's position until January 31, 2028; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the contract terms of the attached contract be approved as the

terms and conditions of employment between La Crosse County and County Administrator Jane Klekamp for a period of two years commencing on January 19, 2026; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Effective January 19, 2026 annual base salary will be \$196,009. This is a continuation of the 2025 base salary. This compensation and benefit section of the contract is subject to negotiation following the conclusion of the compensation study and no later than May 1, 2026; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair and the County Clerk are directed to sign the contract after review by Corporation Counsel. **FISCAL NOTE:** County Administrator wages and benefits costs are tracked under the 100.130.1000 division within the County financial system.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/G. Padesky to approve. Discussion ensued. Corporation Counsel DeVore responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a voice vote with 22 ayes, 4 nays - M. Baroni, D. Hundt, D. Jacobsen and J. Pogreba, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 38-1/26 RE: APPROVING 2026 PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, pursuant to §1.251 of La Crosse County Code, the Executive Committee must review and recommend to the Board for approval the guidelines for programs under the purview of the Economic Development Advisory Committee; and **WHEREAS**, Economic Development Advisory Committee will oversee the following grant programs: Acquisition and Demolition Grant Program; Innovation and Diversification Grant; Start-up Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Grant and Arts and Culture Grant; and **WHEREAS**, the Executive Committee reviews the grant amount that the Economic Development Advisory Committee is authorized to approve without additional approval by the Executive Committee or full Board ("maximum award size"); and **WHEREAS**, the Executive Committee also reviews the program guidelines which are attached and incorporated; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors approves the following maximum award size for each grant:

Acquisition and Demolition Grant (A&D)	Single Family Project - \$50,000 Multi-Family Project - \$100,000 Publicly-owned - \$10,000
Innovation and Diversification Grant (I&D)	\$10,000
Start-up Enterprise and Entrepreneur Development Grant (SEED)	\$20,000
Arts and Culture Grant (A&C)	\$5,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attached program guidelines for the following grant programs are approved for the calendar year of 2026: Acquisition and Demolition Grant Program; Innovation and Diversification Grant; Start-up Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Grant and Arts and Culture Grant. **FISCAL NOTE:** Dollars for these grant programs were included in the 2026 budget and are tracked under division 100.130.1180 within the County financial system.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/G. Mathu to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 228 TO REPEAL S. 1.25 "LA CROSSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND, INC." OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Cable/K. Schlimgen to move the first reading. Discussion ensued. 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.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Hundt asked for an update from the childcare centers.

ADJOURN

Motion by E. Anderson/G. Mathu to adjourn at 7:43 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - S. Doyle, M. Kruse, R. Rothering and P. Scheller.

STATE OF WISCONSIN)

COUNTY OF LA CROSSE)

I, Ginny Dankmeyer , La Crosse County Clerk, in and for the County of La Crosse, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of Proceedings of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors at the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting held Thursday, January 15, 2026 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 16 OF JANUARY 2026.