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LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, June 8, 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	Excused
3	Pierce, David	Excused
4	Allen, Kathy	Present
5	Anderson, Emily	Present
6	Mathu, Grant	Present
7	Piggush, Beth	Excused
8	Isola, Peg	Present
9	Manke, Angie	Present
10	Cable, Kim	Present
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
21	Fimreite, Jeff	Present
22	Kovacevich, Joe	Present
23	Carty, Joseph	Present
24	Tweed, Kristie	Present
25	Jacobsen, Dennis	Excused
26	Clements, Beth	Present
27	Wuensch, Paul	Present
28	Rothering, Ron	Present
29	Schlimgen, Ken	Present
30	Mader, Dillon	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: County Board Chair Report - Tina Tryggestad

PROCLAMATION JUNE 2026 - DAIRY MONTH

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin dairy industry generates an estimated \$52.8 billion in economic impact, over \$1 billion in state and local taxes, and supports approximately 128,000 jobs across the state annually; and **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin dairy farmers work in partnership with cheesemakers to craft over 600 varieties, types, and styles of Wisconsin cheese—nearly double that of any other state; and **WHEREAS**,

thanks to dairy farmers' commitment to sustainable practices, the carbon footprint of a glass of milk is two-thirds less than it was 70 years ago, while maintaining the same nutritional benefits and great taste; and **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin is home to approximately 5,200 dairy farms, the vast majority of which are family-owned, supporting a wide range of industries including feed mills, dairy equipment manufacturers and technicians, veterinarians, construction companies, genetics firms, milk haulers and dairy processors—creating a ripple effect of economic benefit statewide; and **WHEREAS**, dairy farmers in La Crosse County produce over \$30 million worth of milk annually, and local dairy processing plants in La Crosse, Mindoro, Onalaska, and Holmen provide jobs that benefit the entire county. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby proclaims June 2026 as Dairy Month in La Crosse County and encourages all residents to join in celebrating the vital contributions of our dairy farmers to the local economy, environment, and community.

Motion by K. Schlimgen/E. Anderson to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 25 ayes, 5 excused - J. Fimreite, R. Geary, D. Jacobsen, D. Pierce and B. Piggush.

- Chair Tryggestad noted the first Data Center Study Committee will be on Wednesday, the board photo will be taken this fall, there will be a reception before the board meeting next week to announce the winner of the artwork hanging in the hallway.
- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Wuensch announced the June Dairy Breakfast on June 20th at Creamery Cerek Farms in Bangor.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

PROCLAMATION JUNE 2026 - PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES MONTH

WHEREAS, the county parks system and our natural resources are an integral part of the La Crosse County community; and **WHEREAS**, our parks and natural resources are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all residents, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and **WHEREAS**, La Crosse County manages four parks and two forests, including Goose Island and Veterans Memorial Park, providing residents and visitors with opportunities for outdoor recreation, environmental education, and connection to nature; and **WHEREAS**, in 2025, La Crosse County's Department of Land Conservation completed 39 conservation projects in partnership with local landowners and farmers to protect soil health and improve water quality. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of June 2026 as La Crosse County Parks and Natural Resources Month and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contributions made by County employees to the preservation of our parks and natural resources for the benefit of all.

Motion by P. Isola/S. Duffrin to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - R. Geary, D. Jacobsen, D. Pierce and B. Piggush.

APPOINTMENT

Motion by G. Mathu/K. Schlimgen to appoint Kathleen Stewart as the Land Services Director passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - R. Geary, D. Jacobsen, D. Pierce and B. Piggush.

- Parks and Natural Resources Presentation – Facilities Director Ryan Westpfahl and Land Conservation Manager Matt Hanewall.
 - Over 2,000 acres of public land is managed including 4 county parks and 2 forests. The parks provide year-round recreation. Goose Island is owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers and managed by La Crosse County. It has 308 sites with 5 shelters. Veterans Memorial has 120 campsites with 4 shelters, a dog park, and connects to the La Crosse River State Trail. Other parks include Neshonoc Swarthout, Neshonoc South, Bice Forest, and Hoeth Forest. Recent improvements include accessibility, habitat restoration and capital repairs/upgrades. In 2026, there is \$425,000 budgeted for projects that include drain field replacement, vault toilet replacement, electrical upgrades, shelter refurbishment, kayak launch improvements, and annual work on roads and tree removal. There is \$5.1 million in unfunded major projects that include Goosey Golf replacement,

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playground/shelter upgrades, disc golf course, kayak rentals, and paving gravel roads. Total revenue in 2025 was \$860,450 with \$1.15 million in expenses.

- Land Conservation develops strategies, implements programs, and provides technical assistance to protect and enhance the soil and water resources of the county. Over 100 permits are issued each year for erosion control and land disturbance of 2,000 – 4,000 sq ft, 8-12 permits for 1 acre disturbance or .5 acre impervious, 1,000 acres per year with cover crops, and 25-30 dams/waterways/agricultural practices per year. 2026 Agricultural grants include \$400,000 environmental quality incentives, \$323,000 in soil and water resource management, \$600,000 in targeted runoff management, \$100,000 in environmental funds from the County.
- Lake Neshonoc Update – UW Extension Karl Green
 - Lake Neshonoc is approximately a 600 acre reservoir impoundment on the La Crosse River. Sediment deposit in the lake occurs naturally from changing flow rate and we see this flow change in the “delta” formed where La Crosse River enters Lake Neshonoc. There was a sediment removal project in 2021. Transportation of sediment happens as bedload where large sediments that travel along or on the bottom of the river-bed, suspended load where sediments that are smaller and carried in the water, and dissolved load where soluble chemicals in solution in the water (nitrate/phosphorus). Approximately 11% of Lake volume filled between 1954 and 1985. The annual sedimentation rates are between 7,800 C.Y. and 29,000 C.Y. with an annualized estimate of 12,000 CY/year. This is 1/5 of the estimated “bed material load” deposited upstream between Lake Neshonoc and Hwy 162 bridge. This amount will depend on frequency and intensity of storms and events. Options are to dredge sediments on regular basis, reduce nutrients and water sediments (more water quality improvements), or do nothing. If nothing is done, Lake Neshonoc will eventually fill with silt/sediment.
- County Board Decorum – WCA Director of Outreach & Member Engagement Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf
 - Wisconsin became a territory in 1836 with 15 new counties added. By 1901, 71 counties were created. Counties are a local unit of government, administrative arm of the state and service providers. Counties can only undertake a function that is expressly allowed for or mandated by state statute or constitution. They are required to carry out and enforce state laws that fall throughout statutes. Some mandated services are more prescriptive than others. County authority comes from Chapter 59 and are a corporate body that can sue and be sued. The powers are limited by state statutes and are governed by a board of supervisors. County Board serves in a legislative capacity, adopt policy and hold staff accountable for implementing policy. County administration/staff carry out policy direction of the board, make recommendations, and manage day to day operations. Decorum in county government comes from procedural rules in state statutes, local ordinances and Robert’s Rules of Order. The purpose of rules of order is to facilitate the smooth functioning of the assembly. Rules are based on regard for the rights of the majority, a strong minority, individual members, absentee, and all of these together. Expectations are set for board supervisor interaction with one another, interaction with staff, and visitors. RONR clearly places the burden on the chair (board, committee, etc) to maintain order and enforce standards of decorum. All persons at a meeting have an obligation to obey the presiding officer and not use parliamentary procedures for obstructive purposes. The chair enforces the rules relating to debate, order and decorum, recognizes members, and responds to requests and rules on points of order.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS – none offered.

ADJOURN

Motion by E. Anderson/G. Mathu to adjourn at 7:54 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 4 excused - R. Geary, D. Jacobsen, D. Pierce and B. Piggush.

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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, June 8, 2026 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 JUNE 2026.