

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

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, October 15, 2026 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 29 supervisors were present when Chair Tina Tryggstad 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	Present
11	Scheller, Patrick	Excused
12	Erickson, Randy	Present
13	Tryggstad, 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	Present
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 Tryggstad

- November Meeting Schedule – Supervisor are reminded that next month committee week is during November 2nd and the monthly meeting will be held on Monday November 9th starting at 5pm with the public hearing and going right into the annual meeting following that.

- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Isola attended the Economic Indicators that highlighted the hidden infrastructure of the economy for nonprofit capacity, community need, and resilience in the coulee region.
 - Supervisor Fimreite attended the ADRC event on the La Crosse Queen for caregivers.

Administrator Report - Jane Klekamp

- General Update
 - La Crosse County hosted Senator Tammy Baldwin and a team from WI Department of Human Services for tours of Hillview; there was a ribbon cutting for the new Goose Island Connector Trail; Emplify has awarded \$100,000 to Pathways Home; on Tuesday, October 20th there will be a Veteran's Expo at Stoney Creek; Senator Tammy Baldwin hosted a round table with the County Clerk and local election officials on how secure our elections are in La Crosse County.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by G. Mathu/D. Ferries to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting held September 17, 2026 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-10/26 RE: APPROVAL OF BLUFFLANDS FUNDING FOR BUTTERFLY TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS, TOWN OF SHELBY

WHEREAS, the County approved the "Blufflands Plan" in 2016 to guide a regional approach to the conservation and recreational use of area blufflands; and, **WHEREAS**, the County signed a Memorandum of Understanding in September of 2021 to join the Blufflands Coalition to facilitate the implementation of the "Blufflands Plan"; and, **WHEREAS**, County staff has developed "Guidelines for Requesting Blufflands Funding" to provide a consistent way for community organizations and municipalities within La Crosse County to request funding assistance for blufflands projects from the County; and, **WHEREAS**, the County has received a request from the Town of Shelby for \$17,500.00 to help them complete the Butterfly Trail Improvements, including signage, and invasive species removal, and that the request follows the guidelines for requesting funding and meets all the requirements that the County has set for providing funding. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby approves the contribution of \$17,500.00 to the Town of Shelby to assist in the construction of the Butterfly Trail Improvements project; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair, after approval by Corporation Counsel is hereby authorized to execute a grant agreement with the Town of Shelby to ensure that funds will be used to complete the Butterfly Trail Improvements project. **FISCAL NOTE:** This \$17,500.00 contribution will be paid from Account 100.130.1190.63100.00 Economic Development Bluffland Protection. That account currently has \$79,847.50 which has been budgeted in previous years and carried forward in 2026.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by D. Pierce/K. Allen to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-10/26 RE: APPROVAL OF BLUFFLANDS FUNDING FOR RESTORATION OF DOBSON HILL PRAIRIE WHICH IS PART OF THE DOBSON TRACT, TO THE FRIENDS OF THE BLUFFLANDS

WHEREAS, the County approved the "Blufflands Plan" in 2016 to guide a regional approach to the conservation and recreational use of area blufflands; and, **WHEREAS**, the County signed a Memorandum of Understanding in September of 2021 to join the Blufflands Coalition to facilitate the implementation of the "Blufflands Plan"; and, **WHEREAS**, County staff has developed "Guidelines for Requesting Blufflands Funding" to provide a consistent way for community organizations and municipalities within La Crosse County to request funding assistance for blufflands projects from the County; and, **WHEREAS**, the County has received a request from the Friends of Blufflands for \$2,000.00 to help them restoration of Dobson Hill Prairie, which is part of the Dobson Tract also enhances the beauty and provides recreational

opportunities for area residents and visitors, and that the request follows the guidelines for requesting funding and meets all the requirements that the County has set for providing funding. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby approves the contribution of \$2,000.00 to the Friends of Blufflands to assist in the restoration of Dobson Hill Prairie part of the Dobson Tract; and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Board Chair, after approval by Corporation Counsel is hereby authorized to execute a grant agreement with the Friends of the Blufflands to ensure that funds will be used to assist in the restoration of the Dobson Hill Prairie, Dobson Tract project. **FISCAL NOTE:** This \$2,000.00 contribution will be paid from Account 100.130.1190.63100.00 Economic Development Bluffland Protection. That account currently has \$79,847.50 which has been budgeted in previous years and carried forward in 2026.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by D. Pierce/P. Isola to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-10/26 RE: AUTHORIZING 1.0 FTE ECONOMIC SUPPORT SPECIALIST (ESS) POSITION FOR EMPLIFY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

WHEREAS, Emplify Health has proposed funding one (1.0 FTE) dedicated Economic Support Specialist to assist Emplify patients with Medicaid/BadgerCare Plus and other Economic Support programs; and **WHEREAS**, Emplify Health System (Emplify) and La Crosse County (County) have agreed to a partnership whereby the County will create and dedicate one (1.0 FTE) Economic Support Specialist position to assist Emplify patients with Medicaid/BadgerCare Plus and other Economic Support programs through the County-led Western Region for Economic Assistance (WREA) consortium; and **WHEREAS**, this partnership, modeled on an existing collaboration between Dane County and UW Health, recognizes the mutual benefit to counties and health systems of ensuring individuals are able to access and maintain health insurance and other public benefits, thereby improving continuity of care and reducing administrative barriers; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the creation of one (1.0 FTE) Economic Support Specialist position within the Human Services Department to support the County-Emplify partnership; **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that hiring and maintaining the position shall remain contingent upon execution and continuation of a contract between the County and Emplify under which the County is fully reimbursed for the non-state/federal share of the position's costs. **FISCAL NOTE:** Emplify Health will provide approximately \$54,063 annually to support County costs associated with the Economic Support Specialist position that are not otherwise supported through federal funding. There is no impact on County tax levy. Personnel and operating costs will be tracked under the 210.480.5260 division within the County financial system under the Economic Support section.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by D. Mader/M. Kruse to approve. Discussion ensued. Administrator Klekamp responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - P. Scheller.

ZONING ORDINANCE NO. Z478-10/26 RE: PETITION NO. 2102 FILED BY STEVEN RISBERG O/B/O RISBERG COULEE PROPERTIES LLC TO REZONE FROM THE GENERAL AGRICULTURE DISTRICT TO THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT FOR CONTINUED COMMERCIAL USE IN THE TOWN OF ONALASKA

The La Crosse County Planning, Resources and Development Committee, having considered Petition No. 2102 to amend the La Crosse County Zoning Ordinance filed by: Steven Risberg o/b/o Risberg Coulee Properties LLC, W6139 County Rd S, Onalaska, WI 54650 and having held a public hearing on Monday, September 28, 2026 for a ZONING PETITION to rezone from the General Agriculture District to the Light Industrial District for continued commercial use in accordance with La Crosse County Ch. 17.21. Ordinance text amendments and zoning map amendments in the Town of Onalaska and described as follows: PRT NE-NE, Sec. 33, T.17N, R.7W. Tax parcel 10-1263-1. Property address: W6139 County Rd S, Town of Onalaska. 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 FOUR (4) in favor (Isola, Allen, Cable, Wuensch), ONE (1) in opposition (Schlimgen), and TWO (2) excused (Scheller, Duffrin), the committee recommended Approval of ZONING PETITION No. 2102 subject to no conditions. THE COUNTY BOARD took the following action this 15th day of October, 2026. Approved subject to conditions as outlined.

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion by K. Schlimgen/K. Cable to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve as recommended by the Committee passed on a voice vote with 28 ayes, 1 abstention - S. Doyle, 1 excused - P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-10/26 RE: APPROVAL OF FIVE YEAR DEER MITIGATION AND ACCESSIBLE HUNT AT LA CROSSE COUNTY LANDFILL

WHEREAS, there has been growing concern at the La Crosse County Landfill site regarding the concentration of deer in the area; and, **WHEREAS**, a managed deer hunt at the La Crosse County Landfill site will reduce excessive browsing and destruction of newly planted trees and native habitat for landfill restoration; and, **WHEREAS**, a managed deer hunt will also help control the risk of spreading disease and help reduce erosion on trails caused by continuous deer use; and, **WHEREAS**, a managed deer hunt coordinated with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the North American Squirrel Association (NASA), and the city of Onalaska will also help physically challenged and elderly persons enjoy the hunting experience; and, **WHEREAS**, all hunters will be accompanied by a mentor appointed by NASA during the hunt and will participate in a safety meeting each day of hunt; and, **WHEREAS**, hunts are tentatively proposed for up to 5 weekends from September through December until 2030, with a maximum of 5 hunters and 5 mentors for each day of the hunt. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby authorize NASA to conduct a managed and accessible deer hunt at the landfill in accordance with the terms outlined in this resolution and with approval of the Wisconsin DNR and the City of Onalaska. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the County Board Chair is authorized to sign any permits or other documents required by the state and federal agencies in order to hold this hunt, after review and approval by Corporation Counsel. **FISCAL NOTE:** No cost to La Crosse County.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by J. Kovacevich/D. Ferries to approve. Discussion ensued. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - P. Scheller.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-10/26 RE: PURCHASE OF "LAWTON TOWER" IN HOKAH, MINNESOTA

WHEREAS, for the purposes of emergency and public safety communication equipment, the County has leased space on a broadcasting tower located in Hokah, Minnesota for over 20 years; and **WHEREAS**, this tower, historically owned by the Lawton family and periodically referred to as the "Lawton Tower" is located on Welke Hill in Hokah, Minnesota with a legal description of the E ½ of the SE ¼ of the NW ¼ of section # laying south of an East/West road in the County of Houston, State of Minnesota; and **WHEREAS**, the location of equipment on the tower is an important part of the coverage for emergency and public safety communications for the Western side of the County, particularly along the Mississippi River; and **WHEREAS**, the individuals that own the property and the broadcasting tower would like to sell the property and the tower and have offered to sell it to the County for the sum of \$1,900.00; and **WHEREAS**, in addition to saving the County the expense of leasing space on the tower, which is approximately \$1,900 a quarter, there are other entities that lease space of the tower and the income from their rent would assist in offsetting maintenance of the tower; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County Board authorizes the purchase of the property and tower described above and referred to as the "Lawton Tower" for the sum of \$1,900.00; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, after approval by Corporation Counsel, the La Crosse County Board Chair and County Administrator are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purchase of the property and equipment. **FISCAL NOTE:** This purchase will be recorded in division 100.190.1000 within the County financial system. The acquisition cost will be funded from 2026 department budget savings.

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by J. Kovacevich/L. Manock to approve. Discussion ensued. Corporation Counsel Megan DeVore responded to questions from the Board. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - P. Scheller.

ORDINANCE NO. 234-10/26 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:

(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 South of CTH "O"
- (e) County Trunk "HD" from .26 miles north of Main Street to USH 53 NB off ramp
- (f) County Trunk "M" from CTH "O" to a point .13 miles North of Logging Rd
- (g) County Trunk "M" from Village of West Salem limits North to Gills Coulee Road
- (h) County Trunk "MM" from a point .62 miles East of Creekside Place to South intersection with STH 14
- (i) County Trunk "O" from CTH "B" to a point .02 miles West of Fox Hollow Dr
- (j) County Trunk "OA" from a point .14 miles South of Drectrah Rd to CTH "O"
- (k) County Trunk "OT" from CTH "SN" to a point .10 miles East of Corporate Dr
- (l) County Trunk "V" from a point .21 miles North of Juniper Ln to a point .27 miles North of Keppel Rd
- (m) County Trunk "XX" from a point .22 miles North of old NA to STH 35
- (n) County Trunk "YY" from a point 1.35 miles South of CTH "M" to CTH "M"
- (o) County Trunk "Z" from Dump Turnaround to a point .20 miles West of Forest Dr
- (p) County Trunk "Z" from STH 35 to a point .18 miles East of Northshore Ln.
- (q) County Trunk "Z" from CTH "ZB" to a point .20 miles east of Elm St.
- (r) County Trunk "NN" from CTH "M" to STH 162

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. Fimreite to move the first reading. Motion by J. Kovacevich/G. Mathu to waive the rules to act on an ordinance at its' first consideration passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - P. Scheller. The motion to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - P. Scheller.

FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 235 TO AMEND CHAPTER 15 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN REGARDING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT CODE

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion by J. Kovacevich/S. Duffrin 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.

(63-26/27)

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Supervisor Jacobsen asked for a discussion on e-bikes.

ADJOURN

Motion by G. Mathu/E. Anderson to adjourn at 6:30 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 29 ayes, 1 excused - 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, October 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 OCTOBER 2026.