

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING  
PROCEEDINGS; THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, January 17, 2019 in the Administrative Center, Room 1700. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 27 supervisors were present when Chair Tara Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and those otherwise present, excused or absent are noted in the roll call detail:

<b>District Name</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
1 Richmond, Andrea	Present
2 Geary, Ralph	Present
3 Weidenbach, Doug	Present
4 Freedland, Maureen	Present
5 Tahiri, Isaac	Present
6 Plesha, Roger	Present
7 Hampson, Sharon	Present
8 Isola, Peg	Present
9 Gundersen, Jerome	Present
10 Cable, Kim	Present
11 Scheller, Patrick	Present
12 Holtze, Dave	Present
13 Tryggestad, Tina	Present
14 Larson, Margaret	Present
15 Kruse, Monica	Present
16 Ferries, Dan	Excused
17 Giese, Mike	Present
18 Berg, Laurence	Present
19 Cornforth, Rick	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Burke, Vicki	Present
22 Barlow, Patrick	Present
23 Nikolay, Matt	Present
24 Hoyer, Kevin	Present
25 Ebert, Ray	Excused
26 Hesse, Dan	Present
27 Jacobs, Thomas	Present
28 Keil-Arellano, Karen	Present
29 Johnson, Tara	Present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson**

- Supervisor Conference Reports
  - Supervisor Weidenbach noted that two students were acknowledged Elizabeth Gotz and Ava Timm for their work in the Administrative Center. A new show is now being displayed.

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- Supervisor Geary attended the Wisconsin Counties Highway Association Conference and noted they lost one of the main speakers due to the government shutdown and heard from the Secretary of Transportation, Craig Thompson.
- Supervisor Freedland sent notices to Supervisors about the MLK event on Monday night and encouraged all Supervisors to attend. David Dennis will be the speaker.
- Supervisor Kruse, Weidenbach, Jason Witt, and David Steinberg went to Madison to lobby legislators as part of the WCA County Ambassador Program. They specifically lobbied on children and family aid allocation increase, secured residential care center for children and youth, court appointed attorney compensation, and grants for public safety answering points.
- Supervisor Hampson attended the Alliance to Heal which is a federally financed project for three years and it is working.

### **Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley**

- Review of County Tax Impact on Personal Property Tax Shift
  - County taxes paid by individual properties are impacted by changes in: total tax base compared to previous year, total county tax levy compared to previous years, apportionment among the 18 municipalities including equalized value, assessed value of individual property, and tax shift between types of real estate as share of total tax base. There has been a \$99,735,200 tax base reduction in business taxes (personal property).
  - What changed with personal property taxes was the elimination of tax assessment on machinery, tools, patterns, dies, jigs, shop equipment, and forklifts. There was no change to watercraft, furniture and fixtures. This has caused a loss of \$2.2 million of property tax revenue. This was the largest decrease in tax base since the impact of recession in 2010/2011. New personal property aids of about \$2.2 million were included in budget but did not address the shift of remaining taxes between property categories, mainly residential properties. Most businesses received no savings.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### **CHAIR CHANGE**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Kruse took the chair.

Motion by T. Johnson/T. Tryggestad to appoint Doug Weidenbach to the Winding Rivers Library System Board as a County Board Representative for a three year term to expire December 31, 2022; reappoint Sue Adams to the Winding River Library System Board for a three year term to expire December 31, 2021; and appoint Sue Paudler to the Board of Adjustment as a 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate for a three year term to expire June 30, 2021 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 2 excused - R. Ebert and D. Ferries.

#### **CHAIR CHANGE**

Chair T. Johnson resumed the chair.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by R. Plesha/K. Keil-Arellano to approve the minutes of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Monthly meeting held December 20, 2018 and the claims list for \$1,540,367.89 passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 2 excused - R. Ebert and D. Ferries.

#### **FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE**

ORDINANCE NO. 172 TO AMEND S. 7.04 ENTITLED "SPEED LIMITS" OF THE GENERAL CODE OF LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN - **PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Motion by P. Barlow/V. Burke 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

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County Clerk and on the La Crosse County web site at: [www.co.la-crosse.wi.us](http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us). Upon adoption and publication it will be incorporated into the La Crosse County General Code of Ordinances.

**RESOLUTION NO. 59-1/19 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:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
Monica J. Chapiewsky	Lakeview Health Center	41+
James O. Smith	Human Services	39+
Diane Pintz	Human Services	36+
John C. Hollis	Highway	35+
Arlin K. Severson	Human Services	35+
Steven J. Helgeson	Sheriff	32+
Judy L. Nederloe	Hillview Health Care Center	30+
Denise L. Furlong	Human Services	27+
Marueen E. Hickey	Human Services	23+
Brian L. Buckmaster	Sheriff	17+
Thomas F. Faella	MPO	15+

**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.

**TARA JOHNSON, COUNTY BOARD CHAIR**  
**GINNY DANKMEYER, COUNTY CLERK**

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by M. Kruse/V. Burke to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 2 excused - R. Ebert and D. Ferries.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 60-1/19 RE: TO CONDUCT COUNTYWIDE ADVISORY REFERENDUM ON CREATION OF NONPARTISAN PROCEDURE FOR THE PREPARATION OF LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING PLANS AND MAPS**

**WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors on August 17, 2017 passed a resolution calling for nonpartisan legislative and congressional redistricting maps; and **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article IV, Section 3 of the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Legislature is directed to redistrict state legislative districts "according to the number of inhabitants" at its next session following the decennial federal census. The legislature also reapportions congressional districts at the same interval pursuant to federal law; and **WHEREAS**, the practice of redistricting by the majority party stifles political participation and competition, discourages collaboration and compromise, ensures continued control by the party in power, and lacks the fairness necessary to our democratic process, by undermining the principle of one-person-one vote. **WHEREAS**, the current procedure allows the legislature of the majority party to prepare redistricting plans and maps that may result in unfair partisan plans and maps, allowing the legislature to choose its voters rather than the voters choosing their representatives, which is commonly called gerrymandering. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors, in legal session assembled, does hereby approve that the following question be placed on the April 2, 2019 Spring Election ballot as an advisory referendum question:

Question: Should the Wisconsin legislature create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of legislative and congressional district plans and maps?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Corporation Counsel prepare a Notice of Referendum to be published by the La Crosse County Clerk in accordance with statutory

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requirements; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the La Crosse County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the April 2, 2019 election at which the question will appear on the ballot. **FISCAL NOTE:** There will be minimal cost to the County depending on the size of the ballot.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by M. Kruse/M. Larson to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 2 excused - R. Ebert and D. Ferries.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS** – none offered.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by J. Gundersen/M. Giese to adjourn at 6:44 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 2 excused - R. Ebert and D. Ferries.

**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 17, 2019 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 18 OF JANUARY 2019.**