



*Office of County Administrator
County of La Crosse, Wisconsin*

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Memo To: La Crosse County Board of Supervisors
From: Steve O'Malley, County Administrator
Date: October 3, 2011

Re: October Monthly Report to the County Board

Attached is the October Monthly Report to the County Board, providing monitoring information about department activities to the full County Board instead of reporting only to governing committees.

REMINDER Monthly Reporting by roughly half the organization every other month. While you will receive this report each month, the reports do not cover every department each time.

February, April, June, August, Oct. & Dec.

Planning, Resources & Development
Public Works & Infrastructure
Judiciary & Law Enforcement
Corp Counsel & Child Support

January, March, May, July, September, November

Health & Human Services
Aging & Long Term Care
County Clerk, Finance, IT,
Printing, Personnel, Treasurer

“OF INTEREST”

2012 Budget review and consideration begins this month

The County Administrator's Budget recommendation has been printed and has been distributed to Supervisors' lockers. You will notice that there are several summaries included specific items the board has been most interested in receiving separately in previous years.

Policy Planning meeting Monday October 10, 2011

Budget Overview and Update on La Crosse County Highway System Needs

Committee Meetings this month

Committees will review the budgets of departments that report to them.

Executive Committee will hold a separate Budget meeting Monday October 24, 2011 @4pm

UW-Extension Mary Meehan-Strub receives recognition

As part of a team of UW-Extension family living educators from across the state, Professor Mary Meehan-Strub received a Chancellors Award for Excellence from the UW Colleges and UW Extension for their work addressing economic challenges faced by Wisconsin families and communities. The Family Living Financial Education team received the Award for Excellence for leadership and success in financial security education that enables Wisconsin residents and communities to make better consumer and financial management decisions, said Ray Cross, Chancellor.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by phone or e-mail.

*County Administrator direct line: 785-9789, cell phone 608-385-3316
or e-mail steve.omalley@co.la-crosse.wi.us*

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Planning, Resources & Development Committee October 2011

Zoning, Planning and Land Information:

Ordinance Updates:

1. Zoning ordinance: The Planning Resources and Development Committee and staff continue drafting an update of the Zoning Ordinance. We have met numerous times with the public and our towns. The latest draft will go to public hearing in October. The latest public meeting, held at the fairgrounds on Sept. 22nd was a very positive meeting with a significant amount of two way discussion. The controversy seemed to be minimized after this meeting.
2. Floodplain Ordinance: Went to public hearing with zero comments, should be on the agendas of the next couple of county board meetings for first and second reading and publishing by the end of the year.

Farmland Preservation: We are required to update the current Farmland Preservation Plan to obtain Certification by the State by the end of this year. The plan was approved by committee and received zero comments at the scheduled public hearing. We should receive certification from DATCP soon. The proposed amendments in the upcoming state budget approvals will have an effect on the tools available for farmland preservation.

Sign Ordinance: PR&D Committee met with two proposals to review on September 21st. The Committee got through $\frac{3}{4}$ of the ordinance and made recommendations for drafting a Committee Supported ordinance. This process should be completed on October 5th at the next scheduled work group meeting. This process was not easy, nor fun, but good work was done on the subject.

Committee Recognition: As you can see, the PR&D Committee has been working very hard on a number of VERY controversial issues. These committee members, and all who participated deserve a significant amount of respect for the efforts that have been put forth. There is a proclamation on the County Board Policy Planning agenda which recognizes the work of your local plan commissions, especially the County PR&D Committee for their commitment to community planning. The county staff would like to thank our PR&D Committee for their efforts and strong direction!!

Charlie Hardy
County Planner

Department of Land Conservation

The Department of Land Conservation is revising the La Crosse County Land and Water Resource Management Plan for 2012-2017. Chapter 19.10 ss. requires that County's update their plans once every five years. The Land and Water Resource Management Plan is developed to accomplish the following:

- Identify and prioritize natural resources issues and concerns for La Crosse County
- Develop a coordinated effort to resolve those issues and concerns
- Provide guidance for cooperating agencies to assist in implementing the plan
- Develop activities, goals and objectives that give clear direction for implementation of the plan
- Obtain financial assistance to implement the plan

The plan's main focus is to develop soil and water conservation plans for County farmers in the Farmland Preservation Program, assist farmers in developing nutrient management plans for their cropland, ensure farm operations are in compliance with the State's agricultural performance standards and prohibitions, and oversee the County's Erosion Control and Storm Water Management Ordinances. The purpose of the plan is to protect and enhance the high-value soil and water resources of La Crosse County.

La Crosse County's Hoeth Forest was the site of a DNR sponsored timber harvest workshop and field demonstration to educate foresters, loggers and land managers regarding the affects of Annosum root rot. The fungal disease interferes with a tree's ability to uptake water and nutrients and will quickly kill live, standing timber, diminishing its market value. Annosum Root Rot thrives by producing spores that are spread by wind or animal/people/vehicle traffic to new host sites, usually conifers, where there is damage to the protective bark covering of the tree's trunk. Annosum Root Rot can spread quickly in a managed pine plantation like Hoeth Forest by attaching to tree stumps left behind from recent thinning harvests. An infected tree usually dies within 3-4 years of coming in contact with the fungal spores. The purpose of the workshop was to teach attendees (approximately 75) how to identify Annosum Root Rot and how to treat trees during harvest to prevent the spread of the fungus. Stump treatment is not a guaranteed method of stopping the spread of the disease but can help reduce the number of incidents. It appears that Annosum Root Rot will be around for a long time.

The construction season is coming to an end but the number of erosion control permits for construction sites are ahead of last year's numbers. One and two family homes continue to have a good market in La Crosse County and have increased every year since 2008.

*Gregg Stangl, Director
Land Conservation*

County Surveyor

GLOBAL POSITIONING SATELLITE SYSTEM EQUIPMENT PURCHASE: Over the past several weeks, a team of County staff have been investigating the purchase of Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) equipment for the County Surveyor Department. That team is comprised of Bryan Jostad – Finance Department; Jeff Bluske – Land Information Director; Bryan Meyer – County Surveyor; Pete Follansbee – Senior Engineering Aide; Kurt Pederson – Conservation Specialist; Doug Schoenfeld – Information Technology. An initial Request for Proposal (RFP) was released in July. We received five responses from companies representing: Leica; Topcon; Trimble; Ashtech and Sokkia. Following an examination of these five submissions, three vendors were selected for interviews which took place on August 23rd. Following the interviews, two vendor products – Leica and Topcon - were selected for field testing. The process of field testing finished during the final week of September. A recommendation will be a part of the Planning, Resources and Development (PRD) Committee at its October meeting. This equipment update is part of our current Land Records Modernization Plan. Monies for this proposed purchase are a part of the 2011 budget in the amount of \$50,000.00 and will come from the Land Records funds of the Land Information program.

SCANNING PROJECT: Our effort to digitize the maps found in the County Surveyor records is moving along nicely. We are currently in the process of assigning and applying a unique identifying number for each of the survey maps found in the City of La Crosse files. Senior Engineering Aide Pete Follansbee has taken on this tedious task and is moving along thoroughly and efficiently to accomplish this effort. The unique identifying number is necessary so that the digital images can someday be a part of our Geographic Information System (GIS).

CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP, PRELIMINARY PLAT REVIEW AND MAP FILING: So far in 2011, we have had 42 Certified Survey Maps submitted for review. Of these 42 maps, 21 are located in the unincorporated areas of La Crosse County and are subject to a review fee of \$50. We continue the intake of Plat of Survey maps submitted for filing in the County Surveyor files.

SECTION AND QUARTER CORNER VISITS: We continue our annual effort to visit a minimum of 5% of our Section and Quarter corner locations throughout the County. This year we are concentrating on the monument locations in T17N, R5W in the Town of Burns. We also visit other corner monuments that may be at risk of disturbance or removal (for example road construction). If you know of a survey marker that may be endangered, please contact our office.

ONGOING RESPONSE: As always, we continually respond to the public, other County Departments and other governmental agencies to assist them with surveying and land ownership questions. These interactions take place via e-mail, telephone and face-to-face visits and can illustrate some very unique situations and raise some interesting and complex questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan Meyer
La Crosse County Surveyor

UW-Extension

- Corn Fungicide plot ratings were taken at four locations this month and showed small amounts of leaf diseases (rust and northern corn leaf blight were the main two diseases found) were present in our local corn crop. Yields from these plots will be taken at harvest to determine if the application of a corn fungicide resulted in greater yields versus those that were untreated. (SDH)
- Eighteen adults started a twelve week, level one training, to become Master Gardener Volunteers for their community. (SDH)
- More than 50 producers and professionals attended a dairy goat production workshop in September. Producers learned basic management practices and important set-up requirements to starting a dairy goat business. (SDH)
- Over 230 youth participated in the "4-H...More Than You Ever Imagined" annual Art Exhibit at the Pump House Regional Arts Center. The youth, in grades kindergarten through one year past high school, have created drawings, paintings, sculptures, jewelry, ceramics, photographs and many other fascinating works of art. The exhibit consists of only the best of the best art blue ribbons and merits received at the La Crosse Interstate Fair. (JH)
- Over ninety youth attended 4-H camp in August. Post-camp surveys indicated 100% of those surveyed enjoyed camp and learned things about the history and use of the Wisconsin River and other environmental education during the camp experience. A parent survey indicated the experience was positive and that their children gained skills in self-confidence, group dynamics and teamwork, new friendships, and gained independence. (RM)
- Over one hundred youth represented La Crosse County at the Wisconsin State Fair and exhibited projects in a wide variety of areas including dairy, beef, sheep, goat, rabbits, woodworking, arts, clothing, demonstrations, music and drama. Participants in the State Fair are evaluated by certified judges and practice communication skills through interaction with the many people that visit the Fair. (RM)
- Three-hundred-fifty Wisconsin Association of Home and Community Education (WAHCE) members attended their annual conference in La Crosse in September. HCE offers opportunities for learning, in a social setting, sharing what we learn, and caring to make a difference in homes, communities and the world. (MMS)
- The Family Living Agent presented a session on Estate Planning at the WAHCE Annual Conference. The newly revised UW-Extension publication B1442, Family Estate Planning in Wisconsin, co-authored by Mary Meehan-Strub, was released at this session. Single free copies of the publication can be downloaded from the learningstore.uwex.edu/ website and are available for purchase in the Extension Department. (MMS)
- Some new fall programs being organized include: Hmong Elderly Health Fair in collaboration with the La Crosse County Aging Unit; planning classes for our new Head Start parent classes with assistance from four site managers; and adding a walk-by display education at two pantries in collaboration with WAFER and Salvation Army directors. (SH)
- WNEP collaborated with La Crosse County 4-H to share information about healthy eating to young children at the Southside Community Center by performing a puppet show about making healthy choices and being physically active. After the presentation, children made a nutritious snack using all of the food groups and played a game to reinforce ways that they can be active. (SH)
- The City of La Crosse/La Crosse County Joint Housing Taskforce has continued meeting regarding the high level of low-value housing in the City of La Crosse following the UW-Extension report titled, "Challenging Trends Facing Housing in La

Crosse". This issue has received much press, including an October 2nd front page article in the La Crosse Tribune. (KG)

- Facilitated the La Crosse County/La Crosse School District & City of La Crosse Community Summit, where over 100 attendees were led through three exercises categorizing local social services offered to children as a means of identifying gaps and overlaps. Evaluations from this summit indicated a web site idea organized in the format of the Adelman & Taylor authored "Rebuilding for Learning" community service organizations, as a suggested outcome. (KG)

JH – Jenny Holm, 4-H & Youth Assistant

KG – Karl Green, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Comm. Resource Dev., Community Resource Dev. Agent

MMS – Mary Meehan-Strub, Prof., Dept. of Family Living, Family Living Agent / Dept. Head

RM – Robert Matysik, Prof., Dept of Youth Dev., 4-H & Youth Agent

SH – Sheila Harding, Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program Coordinator

SDH – Steve Huntzicker, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Agriculture, Ag Agent

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Public Works & Infrastructure October 2011

Solid Waste

- Tonnage – Projected tonnage, delivered to Xcel, is expected to exceed the contractual minimum of 73,000 tons.
- On September 16, 2011, an Open House and Customer Appreciation Day was held at the landfill. Hank gave a “Photo Tour” of the landfill, discussing the changes over the last year, and an update on the Gas to Energy Project. Tours of the landfill, new compressor building and HHM were offered. The open house was attended by approximately 80 persons. Numerous positive comments were received.
- HHM –Usage of the HHM facility continues to be strong in 2011. The number of household users is up by 5% and the total weight of waste collected has increased by over 30%. The average weight delivered by a household user is 66 pounds; 12 pounds heavier than last year. Eric Bashaw was hired to fill the vacancy for a Special Waste Technician. He formerly was the Laboratory Analytical Technician at Main Street Ingredients.
- Clean Sweep – During September and October, HHM is conducting Clean Sweep events in Vernon, Crawford, Monroe and Trempealeau Counties. Conducting these mobile collections increases the grant money available to the program, benefiting La Crosse County along with the neighboring communities.
- Mediation with Landfill Contractor – Meetings and mediation with the St. Joseph Construction Company continue regarding operations of the landfill contract. Compliance with contract conditions has not been achieved.
- Sand Removal – The ongoing removal of sand continues to cause traffic congestion at the landfill. No restoration of the sand area has been accomplished yet, leaving the County with a potential liability.
- Solid Waste Evaluation - The second meeting of the Solid Waste Evaluation Ad Hoc committee was held on the 27th of September. The members of the committee are: Dale Hexom, Dan Hines, Debi McKinney, Geoff Stetzer, Doug Happel, Jarrod Holter, Dan Ferries, and Pat Lemke. Warren Shuros of Foth Company explained how the study was done and compared the City’s of Onalaska and La Crosse’s collection system to what exists in other cities and towns around the State of Wisconsin. A third meeting is scheduled for October.
- Gas to Energy – Construction update:
 - Compressor, chiller and related equipment have been set in building and wired.
 - Interior piping for gas system 80% complete.
 - Installation of the gas pipeline and fiber optics along with restoration has been completed from the flare to the Gunderson Lutheran campus. Approximately 100’ of connection piping remain at each end.

- Operation and de-bugging of the Compressor system is still scheduled for 10/10/11.
- Delays in construction and the requirements for developing the OM Manual will delay operation of the gas pipeline until mid-December. SEH (Solid Waste Consultant) has been given the responsibility of implementing the OM manual to meet PSC requirements for operation of the gas pipeline. Because PSC approval is required prior to implementation the date for its completion is projected to be 8-10 weeks.
- Sustainability –
 - **HUD Grant:** A consortium of 9 counties' has been formed and an application is being put together for a HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant. Because of the size of the group, the minimum available grant is \$600,000 with a maximum amount being \$3,000,000. A local match of 20 percent (cash and in-kind contribution) is required. The Consortium's request will be for \$2,200,000.
 - **Community Forest:** Nick Nichols (Sustainability Coordinator) has contacted the local WDNR forester to help facilitate the transition of the forest land on the landfill property to a community forest. Upon registration, the Solid Waste Department is eligible for free trees and seed from the state forest nurseries, technical assistance from WDNR foresters and program assistance from the Wisconsin School Forest Education Specialist

Respectfully Submitted,



Randy Nedrelo, Deputy Director

Highway Department

- The Highway Department finished the reconditioning project on CTH V and has started paving on CTH EE, our last reconditioning project for this year. On completion of the paving and shouldering work we will begin adding beam guard to CTH EE.
- We will be beginning the Lakeview Demolition work and dredging and riprap work at Veteran's Park for the Facilities Department in October.
- The County Crews have been setting up the trucks for the winter operation. Salt has been received at our salt facility in West Salem. The building is currently full.
- The State Crew has been working along STH 162 to widen shoulders out in preparation for a reconstruction on 162 from I90 south to STH 33 currently schedule for 2015.

- The State Crew will also be doing concrete repair on various state roadways in October.
- WisDOT has received their salt for the upcoming winter season.

Respectfully Submitted
Ronald Chamberlain

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Judiciary & Law October 2011

Child Support

Funding: As provided in the last report, the Joint Commission on Finance voted to maintain funding for county child support agencies at \$4.25 million in fiscal year 2012 and 2013, which takes effect in July 2012. This is ½ the prior funding level for General Purpose Revenue or GPR. The directive from JCF to the Department of Children and Families – Bureau of Child Support Enforcement is to devise new performance measures that will ensure efficiency in every agency across the state. DCF provided a new measure that measures Caseload Size per FTE against the establishment of current support and paternity orders. La Crosse County CSA came out well in this measure due to having the 6th highest ranking of cases per FTE and respectable performances in establishing child support orders and paternities.

As of the date of this writing, Joint Finance has objected to this measure and it is unclear at this time what that means for child support agencies. It may provide an opportunity to discuss the potential impact to CSA's if the funding is not restored. Wisconsin Counties has invited all Child Support Agency Director's to attend a County Ambassador Meeting on October 19th which will provide an opportunity to discuss the impact of the proposed funding with Legislators.

Performance: The agency has reached a new 5 year high in establishing current support orders. The agency is very close to the goal set in reducing total arrears cases by 7% during the fiscal year October 2010 to September 2011.

Meg Torgerud, Supervisor
La Crosse County Child Support

Register of Deeds

I attended a very informational Fidlar user group meeting on Thur. Sept. 15th in Wisconsin Rapids. One of the topics discussed was MERS, or Mortgage Electronic Registry Systems. Thanks to the MERS failure to accurately complete and/or publically record property conveyances in the frenzy of banks securitizing home loans and in subsequent foreclosure actions. Many problems with MERS and the home loan securitization process have been reported in print media, in movies, and on television shows like 60 minutes.

http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2011/04/01/60minutes/main20049646_page4.shtml?tag=contentMain;contentBody

Academic professors have written extensively on what is wrong with MERS. Courts have ruled against MERS standing to foreclose and have criticized the MERS model as being flawed, wholly inaccurate and not allowing homeowners to fight foreclosures because it shields the true owner of a mortgage in public records. State Attorney Generals and federal bank regulators are investigating MERS practices including fraudulently robo-signing, robo-notarizing and back dating missing documents. Many Register of Deeds offices around the county are claiming that they are owed millions of dollars in lost revenue from mortgage assignment transfers that were not recorded because MERS was listed as the mortgagee in public land records. These fraudulent schemes not only jeopardize the land recordation

system but may damage an individual's property rights. Here in LaCrosse County, we have approximately 6630 of these mortgages on record. Many have been assigned (sometimes 2, 3, or more times) but few of the assignments were ever recorded with this office. The assignments that have been recorded have many of the robo-signers names on them & if you look at the signatures you can tell that they are all different. If you would like more information on this, please contact Cheryl McBride in the Register of Deeds office.

I will be giving an informational talk on the new vitals system to the Planning, Resources & Development Committee on Mon. Oct. 3. I will be showing them how vital records filing, indexing, & issuance has been changing over the years & how it will be changing even more in the next 5 years.

2011 statistics

	Birth Certificates	Death & Marriage Certificates	Real Estate Documents	Total Revenue
Jan.	428	1417	2038	\$ 50,549.12
Feb.	429	1079	1510	\$ 46,560.96
Mar.	495	1046	1519	\$ 51,874.28
April	514	1304	1345	\$ 45,518.11
May	447	1178	1418	\$ 51,585.51
June	418	1260	1639	\$ 59,376.62
July	419	909	1564	\$ 45,206.01
Aug.	598	1323	1713	\$ 50,611.81

Cheryl A. McBride
LaCrosse County Register of Deeds

Sheriff's Department

In July, Sgt. Larry Robinson retired from the Sheriff's Dept. after 39 years. Larry worked in the Patrol Division during his entire career and retired as the day shift Patrol Sgt. He will be greatly missed by the entire department and we wish him well in the future.

The Sheriff's Dept. went live with a departmental Facebook page in July. The page allows the Sheriff's Dept. to improve communication with the community and allows us to post important messages, crime trends and alerts. It also allows the community to provide information to us that we normally would not get with this interaction.

The Sheriff's Dept. continues to expand neighborhood watch programs throughout the County. In September, the department met with neighbors in the Marvin Garden's Addition in the Town of Onalaska and we hope to have a program in their neighborhood soon.

The Training Division is busy planning the annual inservice training for 2012. Officers from Onalaska, Bangor, Holmen, West Salem, Shelby, Campbell and the La Crosse Airport Police will be participating.

Jeffrey A. Wolf
Chief Deputy

Emergency Services

A long-time member of Emergency Services is leaving the department as of October 1. Al Blencoe has retired after his Public Safety Communications Manager position was reduced to a three-quarters position in 2011 and will be eliminated from the department altogether in 2012.

Al has served the citizens of La Crosse County very well for more than 28 years, starting as a telecommunicator in 1983, being promoted to a Supervisor in 1989, to Public Safety Technology Coordinator in 2003 and then Dispatch Manager in 2009.

The La Crosse County Emergency Services Department was honored during a community Triangle of Achievement award on August 2 in recognition to the response efforts following the May 22 tornado incident in the City of La Crosse.

Public-Safety Communications

July

Telephone Calls

9-1-1 Calls 3,065 (average of 98 per day)
 Answered within 10 seconds: 94.94%
 Answered within 20 seconds: 99.22%
 * 1 call more than 30 seconds

Total Calls 26,530 (average of 856 per day)

Calls for Service

Law Enforcement 9,031
Fire Fighting 272
Emergency Medical 598

August

Telephone Calls

9-1-1 Calls 2,692 (average of 87 per day)
 Answered within 10 seconds: 94.91%
 Answered within 20 seconds: 99.59%
 * 2 calls more than 30 seconds

Total Calls 25,718 (average of 830 per day)

Calls for Service

Law Enforcement 8,013
Fire Fighting 233
Emergency Medical 563

**National Emergency Number Association Standards:*

- 90% within 10 seconds (during the busy hour)
- 95% within 20 seconds.

Emergency Dispatch experienced its busiest month on record for 9-1-1 calls in July, topping the 3,000 mark for only the second time in its 28-year history.

The month started out being very active as there were 200 9-1-1 calls for the day. There have been only seven days in our history where we have had 200 or more 9-1-1 calls. 58 of those calls came within a one-hour period when a severe wind storm blew through much

of the County. Many of the 9-1-1 calls were related to trees and power lines down, as well as localized urban flooding.

Despite how active the month was, only one of the more than 3000 calls took more than 30 seconds to answer. That call was on July 30th, during the time that the La Crosse Fire Department was fighting a major building fire department when a severe automobile accident with injuries generated multiple wireless 9-1-1 calls at the same time.

Emergency Management (Keith Butler, Coordinator)

August happenings:

- Emergency Management Coordinator provided a presentation to the Kiwanis Club.
- Public Health, Highway, Facilities and Emergency Management met with representatives from the Coulee Region Humane Society to review a draft MOU regarding emergency animal shelter operations.
- Emergency Management assisted local agencies in response to a drowning incident at Pettibone Park.
- A retired Dispatch Supervisor, Karen Hoel, has agreed to serve as the Volunteer Coordinator for Emergency Management and met with a representative of the Medical Reserve Corp initiative to begin discussions on collaboration of programs during major incidents that may benefit from citizen volunteers.
- Emergency Management attended a Regional Hospital Preparedness monthly meeting at Gundersen Clinic.
- Emergency Management attended a Zoning Dept public presentation at the Shelby Fire Station and the County Fire Officers meeting at Shelby FD.
- Emergency Management Coordinator attended a WI Emergency Management Association meeting in Appleton as the West Central Regional representative. This term ended on September 21 and the Monroe County Emergency Management Director assumed the representative role.
- Emergency Management Coordinator completed Donations Management and Rapid Assessment training at Fort McCoy.
- Held final La Crosse Area Radio Group meeting in preparation for the October narrow band conversion process for all public safety radios. (Conversion is scheduled for October 17-21).
- The Mass Casualty Team met at the West Salem Highway Department shop. New equipment was distributed and the trailers were checked for supplies and condition.
- The regional Disaster Long Term Recovery Group met and the Emergency Management Coordinator presented information regarding a home situation in Onalaska.
- Emergency Management hosted a countywide WisDOT Evacuation Plan presentation on August 25.
- The La Crosse County Township Association met in the Town of Onalaska and Emergency Management was present to answer any questions or concerns regarding the public safety narrowband conversion process and the 2012 radio system budget needs.
- Tri-State Ambulance will be participating in a statewide electronic patient tracking system pilot program and County Emergency Management secured a grant to allow the participation at no local cost.
- County Mass Casualty Team and Emergency Management Coordinator responded to a collision in St. Joe involving approximately 15 patients and provided needed supplies, equipment and incident support services. This is the 3rd major incident response for the Team since it was formed nearly 15 years ago.
- County Emergency Management Coordinator was selected to serve as the Exercise Director for a multi-state Federal communications and hazardous materials exercise to be held in 2012.

September happenings

- Emergency Management responded to a major wind storm on September 2 by assisting in Dispatch, conducting damage assessment throughout La Crosse and Shelby and assisted Red Cross with the opening of a shelter at Central High School later that evening. (Wide-spread power outages)
- Multiple local media interviews were conducted regarding the 9/11/01 anniversary and Homeland Security funding.
- Emergency Management met with Western Wisconsin Cares representatives to discuss emergency planning collaboration and information sharing.
- Emergency Services presented the Communication Vehicle and provided a display booth/table at the West Salem Emergency Preparedness Fair.
- The WI Emergency Management West Central Regional monthly meeting was held on September 20 at the home of the former (retired) Regional Director in Chetek. The Emergency Management Coordinator and Clerk both attended the event.
- The Local Emergency Planning Committee met and received information regarding a potential reduction or elimination of funding for the Regional HazMat Teams. Emergency Management Coordinator was directed to poll Emergency Managers in the other HazMat regions to determine what actions may be taken to help support funding for the HazMat teams.
- WisDOT Traffic Incident Management monthly meeting in La Crosse on September 22.
- Emergency Management assisted the Oktoberfest Aid Station by supplying cots and other items and participated in planning meetings and reviewed the emergency action plan for Oktoberfest.
- Emergency Management Coordinator serves on the state radio system (WISCOM) management group and technical committee and attended a planning meeting in Madison and participated in a teleconference.

Jay Loeffler, Administrator
Emergency Services

Medical Examiner

[See Semi-Annual Report Attached.](#)