



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

County Administrative Center
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Memo To: La Crosse County Board of Supervisors
From: Steve O'Malley, County Administrator
Date: September 1, 2011

Re: September Monthly Report to the County Board

Attached is the September 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”

Reminder: Policy Planning moved to Monday September 12

This will be a very busy agenda including:

- Redistricting Public Hearing,
- Conceal Carry,
- Sheriff report on the use of the new Jail and challenges
- Update on 2012 Budget preparation
- Review in closed session of outstanding litigation matters

Two Special Reports included in this month's report

- Cliff the Sheriff's department K-9 is retiring
- Emerald Ash Borer has been identified in La Crosse County

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*

SPECIAL REPORTS

Sheriff's Department

Cliff, the Sheriff's Department K9 is retiring. Like many of us, Cliff has started to feel the effects of his age. Fortunately his replacement, Subiye, is fully trained and has also proved to be an excellent dog for law enforcement duties. Subiye has been very successful in the short time we have been using him. Attached to this email are Cliff's exceptionally impressive career statistics. The K9 program has been a great addition to the Sheriff's Department. Deputy Brandon Stoughtenger is our K9 handler and much of the success can be attributed to his dedication.

Cliff's Career Stats:

Deployments: 475

Accounted for or assisted with 190 arrests

Over 400 vehicles searched with 89% reliability

Drugs:

Marijuana: 9lbs (Street Value \$40,000)

Crack Cocaine: 1lb (Street Value \$12,000)

Meth: 4 ounces (Street Value \$6,800)

Heroin: 2 ounces (Street Value \$18,000)

Ecstasy Pills: 100 (Street Value \$5000)

Cash Seizures: \$16,000

Items of Drug Paraphernalia: 485

Total Cash Value of Drugs Seized: \$98,000

Building Searches: 25 – 2 Burglary Suspects Arrested

Tracks / Successful Tracks: 34/16 (47% National average is around 30%)

Apprehensions (Suspects taken into custody without incident with use of the dog): 25

Over 100 Hours of Community Events and Public Demonstrations

Sheriff Steve Helgeson

UW Extension

- Emerald Ash Borer has been confirmed in La Crosse County. Six beetles were collected from a trap in the Town of Medary. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection will continue to visit the area to assess how large of area might be effected. La Crosse County will become a quarantined area which will mean that firewood and other wood products will not be allowed to be transported out of the county without proper permission.
- The discovery of EAB will lead to numerous questions about control options for homeowners, professional, municipalities and more. La Crosse County UW Extension will continue to work with these groups to provide educational information about control or replacement of ash trees. More information is available on the La Crosse County UW Extension website <http://lacrosse.uwex.edu/> or by contacting our office.

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

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Aging & Long Term Care September 2011

Veterans Service Office

- Western Technical College is projecting an enrollment of 1800 veterans and eligible family members receiving educational benefits. The number of students attending WTC has risen steadily since 2005 as more and more Iraq and Afghanistan veterans are released from active duty. Our office staff has been quite busy all summer assisting veterans in enrolling for one of the 5 VA education programs currently in place. The most popular education program is the Post 9/11 GI Bill, which pays for tuition and books plus gives veterans a monthly living allowance of over \$1,000 monthly.
- If a request for benefits is denied by the VA, I assist veterans in filing notices of disagreement and formal appeals to the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, DC. The timeliness of appeals has slipped to an average of 2 years: this is an average of about 2 years after an appeal is filed before the veteran gets a response. This is the longest response time I have witnessed in 18 years of doing this sort of work.
- As of August 24 Governor Walker has not appointed a new Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA). New legislation was signed into law in July 2011 giving the Governor the authority to appoint the Secretary of the Agency vs. the Board of Veterans Affairs having that authority. The last WDVA Secretary, Kenneth Black, resigned suddenly in April 2011. An appointment by the Governor is expected at any time.

Lakeview Health Center

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSION ANNUAL MEETING AUGUST 17, 2011

At the annual combined Mississippi Valley Health Services Commission and Commission Board Meeting the following motions were passed unanimously. These actions are a positive move for the continuation of the commission and will positively impact La Crosse County as well.

- Allow transferring the initial contribution of La Crosse County from the close out of Old Lakeview to help defray the costs to La Crosse County Human Services. This is because of the rising number of Western Wisconsin Cares (La Crosse County) members. Currently DHS expects La Crosse County Human Services to "foot the bill" for these members due to the geographical location of Lakeview.
- Mississippi Valley Health Services board and commission will actively assist and support our efforts to lobby the Department of Health Services on addressing the inequity of the current DHS expectations regarding La Crosse County – MCO members.

- Agree to transfer half of the current Mississippi Valley Health Services reserves to help keep the Mississippi Valley Health Services per diem rate increase to 5% in 2012. 2011 rate is \$57.00 per day – 2012 rate approved is \$59.86 per day.
- The commission also approved an extra meeting in the spring of 2012 to discuss the major capital needs for the Lakeview facility.

*Pam Semb, Administrator
Lakeview Health Center*

Aging Unit

Voter ID Concerns

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/idcard.htm>

Obtaining an identification (ID) card

Any Wisconsin resident who does not hold a valid drivers license from Wisconsin or another jurisdiction may request a photo ID. There is no age limit to apply for an ID card. When applying, it will be necessary to provide:

- Proof of name and date of birth, for example, a certified U.S. birth certificate, valid passport or certificate of naturalization. A certified birth certificate has a 'raised' state seal
 - Proof of identity (usually a document with a signature or photo). - your SS card could be used for this
 - Proof of Wisconsin residency. - a utility bill showing your current address
 - Proof of U.S. citizenship, legal permanent resident status, legal conditional resident status or legal temporary visitor status.
 - Your social security number. - you do NOT have to show your card
- More about Wisconsin ID cards:
- Cost for original or renewal of Wisconsin ID cards.

NOTICE - Unfortunately, the workers at the DMV may NOT ask you if the ID is for voting. To have the \$28 Fee WAIVED you MUST check the box on the ID application form where it asks if the ID is needed for voting.

Original ID cards are mailed to applicants 18 years old or older.

- Cost for duplicate ID cards.
- ID cards can be obtained at any DMV Service Center. DMV service centers accept cash or checks only.

Medicare Part D Enrollment Period has changed

Between October 15 – December 7, anyone can join, switch, or drop a Medicare drug plan. The change will take effect on January 1 as long as the plan gets your request by December 7. Don't worry, you can still get assistance from the Elderly Benefit Specialist, Tina Johnson, (785-6140) when trying to decide which plan is best for you.

[It used to be that you had until December 31 to decide but now you will have to decide and enroll by December 7.]

*Noreen Kuroski
Aging Director*

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Health & Human Services September 2011

Health Department

MISSION: *Protect, Promote and Improve the Health of all People in the County.*

Selected activities undertaken to April-June 2011 Health Department include:

Goal #1: Provide high priority public health services.

NA – Not Available NR – Not Reported	<u>Current Quarter</u>	<u>Current Year to Date</u>	<u>Last Year to Date</u>	
ADMINISTRATION/FISCAL				
Salary Savings	\$5,458.61	\$19,830.56	\$7,185.91	
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH/LABORATORY				
Permits Issued	97	154	125	
Food and water samples	66	114	130	
Complaints	129	228	168	
Coliform – Private Water	633	856	791	
Coliform – Public Water	435	854	935	
Drug Testing – number of tests	18302	36551	32268	
Educational Presentations	30	35	6	
Environmental Health Testing – Beaches	57	57	108	
Environmental Health Testing – Pools - Coliform	112	169	180	
Land Conservation – Fecal Coliform	101	101	70	
Landfill Monitoring – Field Tests	499	535	645	
Nitrate – Tests	196	298	344	
HEALTH EDUCATION				
	Current Quarter		Last Year to Date	
	Attend	Presen.	Attend	Presen.
Tobacco	563	31	380	15
Burn Barrel Education	98	49	NR	NR
HIV/AIDS	1340	28	59	59
Car Seat Inspections	35	22	8	8
HIV Screenings	70	70	32	32
Community Emergency Response Training	106	3	0	0
Alcohol Education	490	12	372	11
NURSING - HOME CARE				
NA – Not Available NR – Not Reported	<u>Current Quarter</u>	<u>Current year to date</u>	<u>Last Year to Date</u>	
Home Care RN visits	615	1260	1242	
Home Health Aide visits	1118	2174	2240	
Personal Care Supervisor visits	10	32	26	
Personal Care Hours	913.25	1539.75	1263.98	
NURSING - PUBLIC HEALTH				
Caring, Inc	80	192	243	
Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs	6	18	22	
Communicable Disease	59	140	28	

NA – Not Available NR – Not Reported	<u>Current Quarter</u>	<u>Current Year to Date</u>	<u>Last Year to Date</u>	
Fluoride Varnish Applications	200	326	178	
Foot Care Visits – <i>Clinics/Home-Based</i>	68/0	146/2	230/4	
Immunizations – # of people/ # of vaccines	140/219	320/477	NR/2524	
Influenza Shots	1	77	288	
Lead Visits	7	19	5	
Prenatal Care Coordination Contacts	19	21	19	
Public Health Visits	7	29	53	
Tuberculosis Screening – <i>Tests/Results</i>	105/102	218/212	538/NR	
Wellness Clinic	33	53	20	
Wisconsin Well Woman Program	81	118	48	
NUTRITION				
Weight Management (people enrolled)	0	144	13	
Prenatal Care Coordination (women enrolled)	34 new	163	220	
Lead – Children Screened	139	242	346	
Community Liaison Program (people seen)	52	64	44	
WIC people receiving services***	2307	2282	2349	
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH				
Employee Physicals	28	56	71	
Health Bits (issues/#people receiving)	6/1400	12/1400	16/1400	
Individual contacts with employees (Nutrition)	25	210	284	
VECTOR CONTROL				
	Current Quarter		Current YTD	Last YTD
	Attend	Programs		
Animal Control & Responsibility Education	3939	61	111	139
Vector Borne Disease Education	324	7	48	12
Animal bites investigated		70	112	117
Rabies quarantines		65	106	112
Complaints – Vectorborne/Animal Related		2,814	4,813	4,453

Goal #2: Achieve and maintain designation as the highest level public health agency.

Goal #3: Promote and utilize partnerships to develop public health services.

NA – Not Available NR – Not Reported	<u>Current Quarter</u>	<u>Current Year to Date</u>	<u>Last Year to Date</u>
Media Contacts			
All Department Divisions	284	768	439

Partnership	Met This Qtr.
COMPASS Health Needs Assessment	X
Complete Streets	X
Coulee Region Childhood Obesity Coalition	X
Coulee Region Immunization Coalition	X
Dental Health Advocacy	X
Family Policy Council	X
Footsteps to Health	X
Healthy Babies in Wisconsin	X
Healthiest County 2015: La Crosse	X
Healthy Living Coalition	X
Home Health Workforce Committee	X
La Crosse Area Breastfeeding Coalition	X

Mental Health Coalition	X
Population Health Committee (UW-L)	X
7C's – Counties Tobacco Coalition	X
Western Region Partnership for Public Health Preparedness	X

Doug Mormann, Health Director

Human Services Department

ECONOMIC SUPPORT

Economic Support Consortia Planning

The adopted State 2011-13 Biennial Budget included the change where, effective January 1, 2012, Income Maintenance services will be administered through up to 10 county consortia. La Crosse County is meeting regularly with a group of seven counties with the plans of forming a consortia with those counties: Buffalo, Clark, Jackson, Monroe, Pepin, Trempealeau, and Vernon. These are the same counties that are part of our regional change center partnership. With such a short timeline to implement this significant change in administration, it is important to begin planning for implementation as soon as possible. Thus, while we are awaiting much of the detail in terms of guidelines and funding surrounding formation of the consortia, we are moving forward with planning.

Transportation Update

Logisticare, under contract with the Department of Health Services (DHS), began managing non-emergency Medicaid Transportation services in Wisconsin July 1st. Counties are reporting several issues that customers have experienced since Logisticare took over. Issues include problems getting transportation set up for scheduled medical appointments, and transportation providers not showing up for rides that were approved and set up by Logisticare. DHS reported that complaints have steadily gone down throughout the month. Logisticare and DHS are working on issues on a case by case basis. A large part of the challenge for Logisticare has been the increase in the numbers of MA recipients requesting MA Transportation. They expected, and planned for, handling 4,000 rides per day in Wisconsin. The actual rides in the first few weeks of July were closer to 6,000 rides per day. A large reason for the increased demand for transportation services was the increased awareness among MA recipients of the transportation services available to them after DHS sent a letter to all MA recipients announcing Logisticare's takeover of MA Transportation brokerage services in Wisconsin. Customer complaints received by La Crosse County are being tracked by the ADRC, and forwarded on to the State. In addition, Lorie Graff is handling urgent issues that customers are experiencing that require immediate resolution by Logisticare.

AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

Family Care Caps

A significant amount of time has been spent drafting materials for the State on how the upcoming wait lists for individuals who are developmentally disabled, physically disabled and the frail elderly can be managed. Additionally, we have been providing input to the State on how the urgent care money of \$12.6 million should be accessed for meeting individual's needs on a temporary basis while awaiting an attrition slot. As of the writing of this report, the State is taking all of this under advisement but has not issued any clear direction or rules.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S

Permanency Roundtables (PRT)

We have submitted our proposal to the Department of Children & Families (DCF) for the Permanency Roundtables for Children in Out-of-Home Care grant. We have requested funding of approximately \$65,000.00 to cover internal staff time, supplies and to hire a contracted half-time PRT coordinator. If we are awarded the grant for Permanency Roundtables we will need to quickly put together a Request for Proposal (RFP) in order to hire the coordinator as required training will begin in September.

MENTAL HEALTH RECOVERY SERVICES

Project to Clarify and/or Improve Collaboration with WWcares

La Crosse County has a reputation of collaborating more effectively with Family Care (WWcares) than most other counties in the state. We have been asked to do a joint presentation on "the ups and downs of collaborating" at the Wisconsin Crisis Conference in September. MHRS and WWcares began work in July on clarifying and improving areas where collaboration occurs:

- After hours authorization of WWcares service by Mobile Crisis
- Day/night crisis service delivered to WWcares members
- Crisis planning for WWcares members (who does what?)
- IMD (Institute for Mental Disease) level of care requests for WWcares members
- Comprehensive Community Services (consumers can be dually enrolled in this MHRS program and WWcares)
- Adult Family Home (AFH) coordination (MHRS purchases this from WWcares)
- CARE Center (WWcares members served)

Jason Witt

Human Services Director

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Internal Departments September 2011

Treasurer's Office

July and August were busy months in the Treasurer's Office as the 2nd half taxes were due July 31st and also the August Settlements. In September we will be running the Notice of Issuance of Tax Certificate for Taxes and a delinquent notice on all delinquent taxes. The 2007 Taxes that were up for foreclosure have been filed with the Court August 23, 2011.

DELINQUENT – MONTHLY COLLECTIONS

MONTH/YEAR	TAX	INTEREST	SPECIALS	INTEREST	TOTAL
Jan-11	219,668.34	51,079.33	12,537.29	1,795.68	285,080.64
Feb-11	113,918.27	34,790.87	5,730.10	950.88	155,390.12
March-11	171,262.99	50,432.69	7,415.11	1,293.45	230,404.24
April-11	53,968.86	18,826.65	2,511.97	489.45	75,796.93
May-11	128,068.77	49,711.36	2,157.36	479.53	180,417.02
June-11	133,814.75	50,034.31	5,751.73	1,181.78	190,782.57
July-11	82,891.96	29,405.43	6,512.92	628.87	119,439.18

CURRENT YEAR – MONTHLY COLLECTIONS

MONTH/YEAR	TAX	INTEREST	SPECIALS	INTEREST	TOTAL
Feb-11	369,189.29	2,929.02			372,118.31
March-11	596,997.72	13,155.77			610,153.49
April-11	229,145.08	3,536.27			232,681.35
May-11	214,946.41	4,445.09			219,391.50
June-11	1,183,604.91	6,915.09			1,190,520.00
July-11	13,398,431.85	5,440.13	51,038.26	1,042.97	13,455,953.21

Reported by
Donna Hanson, County Treasurer

County Clerk Office

Things have finally slowed down in our office after the recent outbreak of elections. With the unheard of turnout of voters for the July and August Recall, the election budget to say the least has been strained. We are now focusing our attention back to our normal routine of issuing marriage licenses, dog tags, parade permits, and all our other daily activities.

Elections

July 12th Recall Primary: With a 2nd Democrat turning in signature papers for the 32nd District Recall Election, a primary was required. A total of 25,156 ballots were cast in this election for a turnout of 35.97% of the registered voters for La Crosse County. That is right about where we expected to be and planned for. Every municipality had enough ballots and things went extremely smoothly with the soft implementation of the new Voter ID Bill requirements. New for this election that was mandatory was the signing of the poll book and the change of

residency in your voting district to 28 days instead of the previous 10 days. A majority of the voters had their ID out and were prepared to show it. It was not mandatory, but by law, the poll workers were required to ask to see it. Only a handful of voters refused to show their ID, which was fine for this election, but starting in 2012, it will be mandatory to have a valid photo ID to vote.

August 9th Recall Election: There was yet another high turnout for the August 9th Recall Election of the 32nd Senate District. 40,857 voters cast ballots for a turnout of 58.08% of registered voters countywide. Our last Gubernatorial Election we had a voter turnout of 58.51%. This is an exceptional turnout considering it was a recall and during the summer, something that has rarely happened in La Crosse County.

With Jennifer Shilling winning the Recall Election, she will resign her seat from the 95th Assembly District. That makes for yet another election for La Crosse County. Already three Democrats have announced candidacy which guarantees a primary if all turn in the necessary paperwork. This election would have to be called by Governor Walker and there is no time limit on when he has to call it. I believe this would bring our total elections for this year to 7 with 1 recount.

Preliminary numbers for the July and August Recall Elections cost the La Crosse County taxpayers \$85,100. This number includes the municipality fee but does not include the time of coding and preparing elections forms from staff in the County Clerk's Office.

Dog Licenses

On August 11, 2011, Judge Horne found 116 owners with 134 dogs guilty by default for failure to license their dogs or provide proof of rabies. Approximately 132 late dog tags were sold over the counter in our office for revenues of \$2,223 in July and August.

Marriage Licenses:

We continue to be in our busy time of year for issuing marriage licenses. 203 licenses were issued in July and August for revenues of \$9,105.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk

Information Technology

Lakeview Electronic Health System – Information Technology is providing project management resources to help Lakeview implement a new Electronic Health Record (EHR) System. The new product purchased from the Sauk City, Wisconsin based company American Data will replace the existing obsolete system and bring Lakeview into compliance with the new Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, passed in 2009 as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. As part of this new EHR system 13 new wall-mounted kiosks/workstations will be located near the patients to allow for more accessible electronic charting. All training and implementation of the new system is scheduled to be completed by the end of October.

Hillview Website - A website for the new Hillview Terrace Assisted Living facility has been created to showcase amenities, rates and services, an events calendar, floor plans, contact information and directions, and FAQs. Visitors can come to the site and review admission criteria and apply for tenancy online. The site is available from the 'What's New' section of the County website, the home page of the Hillview department site, as well as the Carroll Heights page. <http://lacrossecounty.org/hillview/assistedliving/>

County Faxing to Internet Protocol (IP) - The IT department is converting the County's fax system to IP service. This migration will enable the County to save money by

discontinuing seven analog phone lines and leveraging existing communication circuits already in place for voice service.

New Internet Service – La Crosse County is becoming a member of WiscNet. This will allow the County to more than triple its internet capabilities while reducing the cost by more than 50%. We are working in collaboration with the City of La Crosse, Western Technical College and UW-La Crosse.

Service Model - The Information Technology Department is revamping its Service Model to refocus on customer service for all County departments. We realize that each department depends on us for its daily operations and successful delivery of its services. These changes will help ensure we are meeting department demands. These changes are geared to make us leaner, faster and more responsive to departments' needs and requests.

Payroll System - The Highline ePersonality System is being upgraded. This is a major upgrade which will include a tax software change from an outdated version of the tax software product to a new updated software tax product. This upgrade is needed to keep us current for yearend processing. All U.S. clients using ePersonality are required to be on the new release before the end of 2011. We anticipate going live mid-November.

Hillview / Lakeview Time Clock Management System Upgrade - Hillview and Lakeview Nursing Homes are in the progress of upgrading their current versions of Time Clock Management Software (Kronos) to a new version. This new version will be replacing the older Time Clock Management product and will add additional features such as improved employee access points to their time worked information, improved real-time and historical reporting for managers, and more advanced clock punching capabilities.

Training – The Information Technology Department provided 18 days of classroom training sessions for all County departments covering Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Adobe Acrobat. We did this a very low cost by having the trainer on site and 10 attendees per session. These products are widely used at the County and training on these products helps with productivity for all departments.

John Parshall
IT Director

Library

La Crosse County Library will host the first annual [Joseph P. Rakha Memorial Leave a Legacy Event](#) on Saturday, September 10th from 2:00-5:00 at the Onalaska Public Library. Attendees can choose and purchase an item to be added to the collections in Bangor, Campbell, Holmen, Onalaska and West Salem. A bookplate, acknowledging the contribution will be placed in each item purchased. All purchases are tax deductible.

On Monday, August 29th the Winding Rivers Library system migrated to a new automation system. Check out the new catalog at www.lacrossecountylibrary.org for a look and to find user guides and video tutorials on how to navigate the new system.

Chris McArdle Rejo
La Crosse County Library Director