



*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: June 5, 2014

Re: June Monthly Report to the County Board

Attached is the June 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”

June 5, 2014 Planning Meeting presentations

After the Annual Report of Couleecap, (report has been placed in Supervisors lockers), the Planning Meeting should provide very useful information for future decision making with the following presentations:

- Overview of the basics of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and its' use in La Crosse county by Brian Fukuda, Community Development Specialist and Karl Green, Community and Natural Resources Development Agent UW-Extension. The goal is to provide a basic overview of the use of TIF, which is misunderstood, yet remains the most powerful economic development tool available to local government.
- Update and Status of progress on each of these issues:
 - Administrative Center Zoning change, as approved by the City Council
 - Lot C RFP process and current timeline for receiving proposals
 - Associated Bank offer to purchase and lease terms (if supported by the Administrative Center and Downtown Campus Study committee)

*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 June 2014

La Crosse County UW-Extension

- Convened representatives from 25 agencies/organizations and financial businesses to explore the need for establishing a Financial Education Network and/or a Financial Resource Center in La Crosse County. The Committee identified a need for coordination and integration of services to help people find the appropriate resource(s) for their situation, is creating a financial inventory of what is available in the greater La Crosse Area, and will explore needs and gaps in service before defining long-term plans. (MMS)
- Facilitated discussion with the Human Services Leadership Team at their Leadership Development Institute which focused on planning for the 2015 budget. Managers and supervisors identified how client needs have changed, changing skills and abilities necessary to do the work successfully, community services not available, training needed to better serve clientele, and spending alternatives. (MMS)
- Over 100 UWL students attended the *Price is Right* game night sponsored by the "It Makes Cent\$" organization. This event is offered to provide financial education in an inexpensive and fun way to improve the financial literacy of college students. (MMS)
- Multiple on-farm University based research projects will be conducted in La Crosse County this growing season. A nitrogen rate plot near West Salem will look at the effects of applying varying rates of nitrogen to corn on production and yield. Samples were collected from a local farm for a national study relating to atrazine use. Also, a local vegetable and fruit farmer near Bangor will be part of a monitoring project for spotted winged drosophila in fruit crops. (SDH)
- The youth livestock education classes in La Crosse County, such as Meat Animal Quality Assurance and Swine/Sheep/Beef Education Sessions, offered this spring have taught youth better care and management practices for the animals they are raising, proper use of animal health products, as well as ethics for showing their animals at the fair. 104 youth have participated in these educational sessions. (SDH)
- Numerous horticulture presentations were given over the past two months, including a presentation on soils to 3rd graders at Summit Elementary and a presentation to adults in the Onalaska area on basic gardening techniques for home food production in small spaces. (SDH)
- Eighteen teenagers applied to be counselors at the 4-H residential camp. They have been interviewed, completed assignments and are participating in 12 hours of training and camp planning conducted by the 4-H Agent. A statewide study showed that teens who serve as camp counselors indicate it as a powerful leadership experience and they use skills learned in many other areas of their lives. (RM)
- The La Crosse County 4-H Horse Project held its annual Camp event in May. During camp, youth take classes in a variety of horse subjects; breed recognition, caring, fitting, grooming, safety and many others. Safety certification tests are an important component of the event. All youth are required to safety certify with the horse(s) they plan to show. This is required to ensure the safety of both rider and horse. This year's event involved over 40 youth and 30 volunteers/instructors. (JH)

- Each month, the WNEP nutrition educator shares information about a nutrition topic, leads a discussion, and demonstrates an inexpensive and healthy recipe to taste for participants of the HOPE Academy (which provides parenting and life skills education and support for teen moms in the La Crosse area). Some of the topics include: benefits of family meals, quick and easy meals, vegetables and whole grain, and healthy choices when eating out. (SF)
- Nutrition Educators partnered with the La Crosse School Nutrition Supervisor, University of Wisconsin College student and a principal to offer two nights of the Family Fun Cooking /Nutritional Educational Class to Northside Elementary families who were on the free meal program. After our nutrition classes the surveyed families said they are now trying to eat more vegetables, fruits, and whole grains. (SF)
- Presented the Annual Residential Cost Comparison study to the La Crosse City Council and other present members of the public at the April La Crosse City Council meeting. This program was also presented to the County Economic Development committee, and may come to the full County Board in summer 2014. The Cost Comparison study is a local analysis for six municipalities in La Crosse County (La Crosse, Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem & Towns of Onalaska and Farmington). (KG)
- Following a nine month planning process, the Village of West Salem's Capital Improvement Planning Committee has finalized their capital improvement plan. UW-Extension helped direct and facilitate this process, moving the Village's committee toward developing a fact-based report that detailed future expenditures over a five year period. The Village Board is set to review this plan in June for final approval. (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 – Bob Matysik, Prof., Dept of Youth Dev., 4-H & Youth Agent

SH – Sheila Franz, Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program Coordinator

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

County Surveyor

FACILITIES DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE: I recently completed on a four lot Certified Survey Map of County owned lands on and around the Lakeview Healthcare Facility. One of the parcels is a 25 acre lot that will be sold to the West Salem School District. This survey also includes a parcel for the current Lakeview Facility, a parcel for the new Lakeview Facility along with an extension of Garland Street. The map was recorded in the Register of Deeds office in early May.

2014 SECTION AND QUARTER CORNER MAINTENANCE: The corners of the Public Lands Survey System (PLSS) are La Crosse County's first infrastructure. These corner locations are the "starting points" for nearly every property description in La Crosse County. Preserving these important markers is the primary focus of the County Surveyor's Office. For 2014, we are concentrating on the corners in an area comprised of the South half of T18N, R7W. This area includes portions of the Towns of Onalaska, Holland and Farmington. This area is being targeted because, in addition to maintenance work, the corners in this area are in need of having highly accurate GPS coordinate values placed on them. Once our maintenance/preservation work is complete, we will collect GPS values on many of those same corners. The GPS values will then be provided to our Land Information Office to create more accurate Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping.

HIGHWAY PROJECTS: We have begun work on referencing survey monuments along some County roads that will be resurfaced in the near future. There are three projects scheduled for resurfacing: 1) County Road OA from the County Road FO South to State Road 33; 2) County Road AE from County Road TA West to County Road A; 3) County Road A from State Highway 162 West to County Road C. The work of referencing these important survey marks has begun. Once the resurfacing work is complete, I will reset those markers in the new road surface.

REGISTER OF DEEDS ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION: At the request of La Crosse County Register of Deeds Cheri McBride, I will serve as a presenter at the Wisconsin Register of Deeds conference at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells on June 6. This conference will be held in conjunction with the Wisconsin Land Information Association spring conference. My session is titled "The Document Says What?/Understanding Legal Descriptions". I am looking forward to the opportunity to share and engage with other land records professionals.

MAP REVIEW: A total of 18 Certified Survey Maps have been submitted for review so far in 2014. Ten of those maps are in unincorporated areas of La Crosse County and are subject to the \$100 review fee called for in Chapter 18 of the La Crosse County Code. At this time in 2013, we had 24 maps submitted for review.

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Meyer, La Crosse County Surveyor

Zoning, Planning and Land Information:

Meet our staff: Our Department will introduce you to members of our staff in the following bi-monthly reports. In this report you will meet **Chad Vandenlangenberg**.



Chad has been with the department for 14 years

- Born and raised in Appleton, WI
- B.S. in Wildlife Management from University of Wisconsin, Green Bay
- Moved to La Crosse in January, 2000
- Began working for La Crosse County Zoning, Planning and Land Information Department in November, 2000 as a Land Use Specialist
- Became La Crosse County's first full time Code Enforcement Specialist in fall, 2006.

As the Code Enforcement Specialist for the Zoning, Planning and Land Information Department, I perform enforcement actions in regards to complaints or violations of the following chapters of the La Crosse County Code of Ordinances:

- Chapter 16 – Floodplain Zoning
- Chapter 17 – General Zoning
- Chapter 20 – Shoreland Zoning
- Chapter 27 – Non-Metallic Mining
- Chapter 28 – Mobile Tower, Television or Radio Facility Siting
- Chapter 33 – Regulation of Outdoor Advertising

There are times when I perform enforcement actions on other chapters of the code due to issues that crossover into other areas of the code and or state statutes. Therefore, in many cases I work with other county departments such as the Health Department and the Land Conservation Department. I also work together with state agencies such as the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Transportation.

I pride myself in my duties within my current position by treating every citizen of La Crosse County equally. As a department, we strive for a level playing field where everyone plays by the same rules and are governed by the same ordinances.

On a personal note, I live in the Town of Onalaska with my wife and three daughters aged 7, 11 and 12. I spend my free time in my wood shop, on a golf course, hunting or fishing.

I really enjoy working for La Crosse County and love every aspect of my job duties. When I meet people for the first time, I usually get the response of "oh yeah, I heard about you. You're that bad guy from the county". But, most realize that this department works hard for them, and are usually impressed with our customer service, if not always happy with the enforcement that needs to be carried out. I'm not that bad once you get to know me.

Thank you for the opportunity to allow me to provide you some details on who I am and about my position, role and duties as a member of the La Crosse County Zoning, Planning and Land Information team.

Rollout of Updated GIS Web Site:

Our Department recently rolled out a new GIS service for residents and professionals to access a significant amount of data about each parcel in the county. This was a successful rollout of the updated web service. We do have a few bugs to work out, and a few users that need time to get used to the new format, but overall we are very pleased with the result. Below is an excerpt from the new web site:

The La Crosse County Maps and Apps Gallery is the place where you can find maps and apps that increase transparency and help you interact with your local government. The maps and apps are organized around county services and the information you need to do business with the County on a daily basis.

The site will also highlight innovators and innovations that demonstrate a more collaborative and open government. If you have an application using County or Municipal data not in our gallery, we would like to hear from you. We hope you find this website helpful. We are committed to making this site informative and user-friendly. If you have any suggestions for improvements or additional functionality, please let us know.

Some of the information found on this site includes:

- Parcel Map (Tax Parcel Viewer)
- Real Estate Parcel Information (Tax Parcel Viewer; La Crosse County Parcel Search)
- County Issued Permits (La Crosse County Permit Search)
- State and County Sanitary Information (La Crosse County Permit Search)
- Well Information (La Crosse County Permit Search)
- Driveway on County Highway (La Crosse County Permit Search)

We strive to daily produce and publish the most accurate and up-to-date information. However, Due to variances in sources and update cycles, La Crosse County makes no

representation or warranties, either express or implied regarding the accuracy and/or completeness of the information contained herein.

Permits: - Zoning Permits Issued Through May 2014 - La Crosse County Unincorporated

2013 - Jan – May Permits Issued– 100

Value 2013 - \$ 9,634,726

2014 - Jan- May Permits Issued – 119 **UP 19 %**

Value 2014 - \$ 10,414,316 UP 9%

Metropolitan Planning Organization

As I mentioned in my last report, the LAPC hosted a Boundary Agreement Summit on May 1, 2014.

A group of residents from across the La Crosse/La Crescent region gathered to learn about and discuss opportunities for intergovernmental agreements. There were 26 participants (elected officials, plan commission members, and planning staff) representing 11 communities plus La Crosse County:

- City of La Crosse
- City of La Crescent
- City of Onalaska
- Village of Holmen
- Village of West Salem
- Town of Shelby
- Town of Medary
- Town of Hamilton
- Town of Campbell
- Town of Onalaska
- Town of Holland

The gathering was facilitated by the following people:

- Andrew Bremer, MSA Professional Services
- Jason Valerius, MSA Professional Services
- Tom Faella, La Crosse Area Planning Committee
- Jackie Eastwood, La Crosse Area Planning Committee
- Karl Green, UW-Extension
- Charlie Handy, La Crosse County
- Erich Schmidtke, WI DOA Municipal Boundary Review
- Renee Powers, WI DOA Municipal Boundary Review

The first half of the meeting featured a summary of Coulee Vision 2050, the results of a survey of local leaders completed earlier in 2014, and information about the various types of intergovernmental agreements that communities can use to facilitate service efficiencies and cooperation. Boundary agreements were a specific focus of the presentation – the hope is that the La Crosse area communities will use boundary agreements to enable cooperation and efficiencies of all types, including cooperative land planning that leads to more compact

development patterns compatible with biking, walking and transit service. This first half of the meeting also included participant feedback identifying the various types of intergovernmental cooperation currently in practice. These included:

- Shared equipment, facilities and services:
 - Building inspection services
 - Snow plowing
 - Community center
 - Transit
 - Fire Coverage, EMS
- Bluff land protection/preservation
- Water and sewer service
- Boundary agreement (T. Campbell/C. La Crosse)
- Mutual aid

The second half of the meeting featured facilitated discussions between participants from neighboring communities. Communities were paired up as feasible in two rounds of discussions, so not every pair of neighboring communities was able to meet at the event. Participants were asked to describe current cooperation and competition between the two communities, and then to discuss the prospect of boundary agreements, including possible advantages to each community, impediments to an agreement, and interest in continued discussions.

The discussions were very helpful for the communities with lots of good ideas put forth. This summer MSA Professional Services will be writing a template boundary agreement document for use by the communities and will be holding follow up meetings.

Tom Faella

Executive Director, La Crosse Area Planning Committee (LAPC)

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Public Works & Infrastructure June 2014

Solid Waste

Xcel Operations:

With spring conditions, operating activities at Xcel have normalized. Under Amendment 8, approved by the County Board, a significant increase of yield has occurred, which results in more fuel being produced and less residue going to the Landfill. An analysis of tonnages received indicates that the required contract tonnages should be delivered in 2014 without a penalty. While the single stream recycling program has had some impacts on reducing tonnage to Xcel, new waste arriving under the hauler rebate agreements have offset that loss. The annual presentation on environmental performance for the Xcel facility will be scheduled sometime after June.

Landfill Construction Activities 2014:

Landfill construction has commenced on schedule. However, frequent rainfall events have occurred and some initial delays are happening. Both host communities were contacted and notified that construction activities were necessary on Saturdays to make up for the lost time. A ground-breaking ceremony (see picture) was conducted on May 13th, 2014. The Landfill cell is expected to be complete by August with filling activities commencing in September.



The second part of the construction activities is to place final cover on the west slope. No significant work has been started on this project and will not commence until the later portion of June. Final cover and improvements to the gas collection system are expected to be completed by October.

Increased Customer Usage:

The Landfill has experienced significant increased customer usage in the first four months of 2014. Citizens' use of the citizens' unloading area has increased by 53%, or 1298 people. Conflicts are beginning to develop between citizen use of the Landfill and the hauling traffic and alternatives are being considered to resolve such. Safety is being carefully controlled, but all citizens and haulers must be attentive to other drivers. With the increased customer usage, an increase in budgeted revenue is occurring.

HHM (Household Hazardous Materials):

After a slow start over the winter, utilization of the HHM facility is now 7% ahead of last year's record pace. The quarterly medication collection on April 26 was again held at five sites. 1,143 participants delivered 1,882 pounds of unwanted medications. While there were 200 fewer participants, the total poundage of medications collected was only 18 pounds short of last October's record.

This year the HHM staff is emphasizing safe handling and transportation of hazardous materials, particularly by people bring them to HHM. Educational materials are being handed out to users, information has been added to the website and Facebook and the Earth Month radio "blitz" emphasized safe handling and use of these materials.

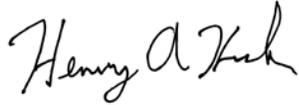
Sustainability:

- **Sustainable La Crosse Commission:** The next quarterly meeting of the commission will take place in Late May. Discussion will center on the indicators report and the annual Sustainability report.
- **Presentations/Tours:** Nick, Randy, and other HHM staff gave presentations and tours to over 500 students and staff from several institutions including UWL, Holmen School District Academy on the Prairie, The Coulee Montessori Adolescent Program, Luther High School Physical Science Classes, Lincoln Middle School, and Onalaska 7th grade.
- **Mattress Recycling:** There is a local effort headed by Riverfront Inc. and Recycleall to create a mattress recycling facility in the La Crosse area. Nick has attended several meetings representing the Solid Waste Department in this potentially valuable private program.
- **Ag Bags:** a demonstration of a new grinder was held at the landfill on May 20th and one of the items shredded were ag bags. This material was ground along with clean wood to see if this might be a viable option in disposing at Xcel. Plastic has a high energy value, but ag bags are difficult to recycle. Mark Paitl from Xcel Energy is looking forward to putting this material through the energy plant to see if it's a viable product to create increased energy.
- **Bioblitz:** a survey of the flora and fauna within the landfill complex was held on April 26th and over 153 species of plants, trees, amphibians, and birds were identified. This included what one bird expert claimed as "one of the most unique sparrow habitats in the region." A report is being prepared by

the 3 students who organized the event and will be made available in the near future.

REMINDER: Our 25th Annual Meeting and Customer Appreciation will be held Friday, June 27th. You should have received your Save-the-Date postcard. If you did not, please call Jaime at 608-789-4840.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry A. Koch, P.E.

Highway Department

- Below is a status of this year's major projects.
 - We have been working on finishing up the CTH OA (CTH O to CTH FO) project that we started last year. We will be paving this project at such time as we are wrapped up with the CTH OA (CTH FO to STH 33) project.
 - We have been working on the next portion of CTH OA (CTH FO to STH 33). The culverts are replaced, the pavement has been ground up to recycled as base course material and we have added a base stabilization oil to provide more structural strength. As of today that stabilization effort is in the process of curing out. We will start paving this road on June 9th, weather permitting. This project is currently in a "Road Closed, Local Traffic Only" situation with a posted detour for through traffic. Access is being maintained to residences and businesses.
 - The Town of Green field has indicated an interest in taking ownership of the old portion of CTH OA that is now known as Casa Del Sol. As a condition of that transfer they indicated that they wanted that ½ mile road ground up and paved with 3 inches of hot mix asphalt. This project is also in progress and will be paved when we have CTH OA wrapped up.
 - CTH A (STH 162 to CTH C) is in the process of having the culverts replaced, including 4 larger structures in the vicinity of the intersection of CTH A and CTH AE. When these efforts are complete the roadway will be pulverized, base gravel added, and base stabilization oil added. One the stabilization process has cured out this portion of CTH A will be paved with 4 inches of hotmix asphalt. This project is being completed in a "Road Closed, Local Traffic Only" situation with a posted detour for through traffic. Access is being maintained to residences and businesses.
 - Our last major project for this year is CTH AE. Currently it too is having its culverts replaced. When those culverts are wrapped up we will begin the recycling of the existing asphalt, base placement, and base stabilization operations. CTH AE will also be pave with 4 inches of hot mix asphalt. This project is being completed in a "Road Closed, Local Traffic Only" situation with a posted detour for through traffic.
- The month of July will see our department commencing seal coating operations. We are currently in the process of roadway review in order to finalize the list of roads to

be seal coated. We do plan to seal approximately 20 miles of County Highway this year.

- Crack filling operations on the County system are in progress when the weather and workload permit.
- We will be starting our first round of mowing on the County system shortly in an effort to have the system mowed prior to July 4th if possible.
- State Trunk Highway (STH) mowing has started in the urban area.
 - This year sees us mowing the STH with increased frequency within the urban areas. We have been directed to mow the urban areas when the grass is 6 inches in height, up to a total of 10 times per year and to a width of 30 feet from edge of pavement or curb.
 - In the interchange areas of exits 2, 3, 4 and 5 we will also be able to mow with increased frequency. We have been directed to mow a height of 9 inches, up to 6 times per year. This area will be mowed 30 feet wide from edge of pavement on the outside and infields will be mowed 45 feet wide from edge of pavement.
- Our other big news for the STH system is that we will likely be performing a night work crack filling project on STH 16 in the mall area. This work will be done under a new performance based maintenance program that was developed as part of the last State budget process. The current estimate for this contract with WisDOT is approximately \$200,000 - \$225,000.

Thank you for your continued support of Highway Department operations.

Respectfully Submitted

Ronald Chamberlain

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Judiciary & Law June 2014

Corporation Counsel Office

1. Claims Update.

- Thomas J. Fuselier v. La Crosse County, Case No. 13-G-0650-BBC. Fuselier has filed a complaint in federal court. He is alleging that the County disregarded a substantial risk of serious harm to him because he has a physical disability and slipped in a shower and fell, causing injuries. The claim has been sent to WMMIC and counsel has been appointed to represent La Crosse County. The County is currently providing documentation to our attorneys to defend this claim.
- No other new major claims have been filed. Our office continues to assist in processing smaller claims that are handled and disposed of quickly without the appointment of counsel.

2. County Property Matters. Our office continues to work on a number of issues involving various County properties, which include the following:

- Administrative Center/Associated Bank – Our office continues to be involved with discussions with Associated Bank regarding purchase of the Associated Bank property and the purchase of a portion of Lot C by Associated Bank.
- Park Plaza – Our office continues to work on a Development Agreement between West Coast Development, LLC, the City of La Crosse and La Crosse County.
- Lakeview Properties – Our office has continued to work on issues involving two Lakeview properties.
 - La Crosse County has now closed on the purchase of approximately 25 acres of land by the West Salem School District near the Lakeview Health Center. Closing occurred on May 30, 2014.
 - Our office has also been involved in negotiations regarding an offer to purchase the Lakeview Health Center building by Harry Griswold and Peter Opsahl. A resolution has been prepared to approve an offer to purchase Lakeview Health Center for the June, 2014 County Board meeting. Our office will continue to assist with any of the legal issues involved in these transactions.

3. Ordinance Updates. Our office has worked with a number of County Departments in updating County ordinances. The County has worked on the following ordinances:

- Chapter 18 Subdivision & Planning ordinance – will be introduced for approval by the County Board.
- Chapter 23 Animal Manure Management ordinance – This ordinance needed to be rewritten and is ready to be introduced for approval to the County Board.

- Chapter 24 Emergency Government – Our office continues to work on updating this ordinance.
 - Chapter 22 Historic Sites Commission – Our office continues to work on updating this ordinance.
4. Department Assistance. Our office continues to assist various County departments regarding legal issues as they arise. Specific issues include the following:
- Personnel Dept. – Continue to work with the Personnel Department on several labor matters which involve different County Departments.
 - Solid Waste Dept – Corporation Counsel continues to work with the Solid Waste Department on several issues including:
 - Memorandum of Understanding with Xcel Energy regarding the shut down period.
 - Issues involving Walz and Sjolander wells
 - Other miscellaneous issues
 - Highway Dept. – Our office works with the Highway Department on a number of matters, including:
 - Multi-Use Path agreement and other contractual issues
 - Highway 108 jurisdiction issues
 - Wanless communications site
 - Medical Examiner – Continue to assist the Medical Examiner with legal issues and review of Medical Examiner policies.
5. Court Activities. Our office continues to work on Child In Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) and Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) cases. Megan DeVore recently completed a jury trial on a Child in Need of Protection or Services case and has worked on a child guardianship issue, which cases have taken substantial time. Our office also continues to represent the Human Services Department in Chapter 51 mental health cases and Chapter 54/55 Guardianship and Protective Placement cases, as well as child support cases in La Crosse County.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Lange
Corporation Counsel

Child Support Agency

The Agency case numbers remain steady at about 5500 cases.

A meeting was held in May with representatives from the Bureau of Child Support and Department of Children and Families to discuss how to best to move forward with a Lean Government initiative within the department. The State will provide the resources to assist in refining processes and service delivery.

We are looking at ways to collaborate with the stakeholders that we interact with to improve customer service opportunities.

In preparation for the 2015 budget process we are looking at ways to ensure that we maximize funding opportunities.

*Deb Barnes, Supervisor
La Crosse County Child Support Agency*

Emergency Services

Here is an update on the joint La Crosse City/County Public Safety Radio project. Two proposals have been received and are being reviewed. One is from Tait Radio Systems and the other from Motorola Solutions.

The combined radio project is expected to run in two phases. The first phase will be mainly for the city's 800 megahertz trunking system. This phase includes the development of two tower sites that would also be shared with the County Radio System. A replacement of the dispatch center's radio consoles would also be part of the first phase, as any new system for the city would not work on the present dispatch consoles that will be at end of life by 2017. Another aspect in the early phase is to look at enlarging and enhancing the county-owned Wanlass tower site. This will be a key element in the upgrade of the County Highway Department's radio system.

The second phase would be the expansion and upgrade of the county's conventional simulcast VHF radio system. It is expected to incorporate the four current county-owned tower sites along with two sites shared with the city radio system. Negotiations and system detail design are next on the timeline for the radio system.

Public-Safety Communications

March

Telephone Calls

9-1-1 Calls 2,042 (average of 66 per day)
Answered within 10 seconds: 97.85%
Answered within 20 seconds: 99.90%
Average Answer Time: 4 Seconds
**1 call more than 30 seconds*

75% of 9-1-1 calls were from wireless phones.

Total Telephone Calls 22,521 (average of 726 per day)

Calls for Service

Law Enforcement	9,751
Fire Fighting	167
Emergency Medical	603

April

Telephone Calls

9-1-1 Calls 2,166 (average of 72 per day)
Answered within 10 seconds: 96.58%
Answered within 20 seconds: 99.63%
Average Answer Time: 4 Seconds
** 3 calls more than 30 seconds*

74 % of 9-1-1 calls were from wireless phones.

Total Telephone Calls 22,664 (average of 755 per day)

Calls for Service

Law Enforcement	9,612
Fire Fighting	230
Emergency Medical	556

**National Emergency Number Association Standards:*

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

Emergency Management (Keith Butler, Coordinator)

Events of note during this period

- The Mass Casualty Team met on March 30 to conduct annual Support Trailer clean-up. Both Support trailers are currently being stored outside at the Park Lane Drive garage site due to space limitations.
- Several La Crosse County communities reported severe winter weather damages and extraordinary expenses. County EM is working with Wisconsin EM to gather information for a potential Federal disaster declaration which could provide some financial assistance to the affected municipalities.
- The County Finance Dept assisted County EM with the disposal of nearly 50 1950's era US Army cots that have been in storage for several decades. The last of the cots were sold and removed in May.
- County EM participated in the annual SkyWarn (storm spotting) training on April 8.
- County EM and the Mass Casualty Team provided support during an overnight wild-land fire on Sommers Road on April 9.
- County EM attended a community rail road safety forum at Central High School on April 22. All of the EM Directors from the eight WI counties that have BNSF rail lines have been working together to prepare and equip emergency responders for crude oil spills.
- County EM participated in the Viterbo campus-wide tornado drill on April 23.
- County EM participated in a City/County radio system RFP review on April 25. Numerous meetings with City and County officials as well as engineers from the consulting firm were required.
- County EM presented the After-Action report for an international Cyber-terrorism exercise via a webinar on May 1. The exercise was held in Atlanta, Georgia in February. County EM served as the Homeland Security Exercise Program advisor and authored the exercise report.
- County EM, Mass Casualty Team and Amateur Radio volunteers provided assistance during the Grandad Marathon on Saturday, May 3.
- County EM participated in a WI DOT emergency response exercise in La Crosse on May 7

- County EM and Mississippi River Planning Commission presented the draft Mitigation Plan update during a public hearing on May 12.
- County EM, County Public Health, County Medical Examiner and hospital representatives continue efforts to develop a Mass Fatality response plan for La Crosse County and met on May 14.
- County EM co-facilitated a Volunteer Reception Center presentation during the State Lion's Club convention held in the WI Dells on May 16.
- County EM and the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health – Academy for Rural Medicine program conducted a tabletop exercise and site review on May 27 in preparation for a meth lab/active shooter exercise to be held in the Town of Shelby on June 17.

**Jay Loeffler, Administrator
Emergency Services**

La Crosse County Medical Examiner

Year to Date as of May 31st Report

184 Total Cases Investigated

75 Scene Investigations (6 pending death determination, 12 suicides, 2 accidents, 15 autopsies). We have 113 Natural Deaths.

184 Reportable Cases Investigated

347 Cremation Cases Investigated.

Total Cases Investigated as of May 31st 531 Cases

347 Cremation permits signed

111 Death Certificates signed

We have 4 Tissue donations as of May 31st at our LaCrosse County Morgue.

Total Revenue thru May 31st \$66,865.00

We are happy to report that so far in 2014 we have no drug related deaths to report. On the other hand we are sad to report that we are on a record pace in the suicide category. We are currently working on a new drug policy. We hired 3 new deputies in April are in the process of training now. We are hoping by the end of summer that these new deputies will be able to help our office. On another note we will be hosting the Wisconsin Medical Examiners and Coroner Association State Conference at the Radisson Hotel on October 26th thru October 29th.

Tim Candahl

La Crosse County Medical Examiner