



*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: December 2, 2014

Re: December Monthly Report to the County Board

Attached is the December 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”

December 8, 2014 Planning Meeting

The board will receive a presentation on rail road safety issues from Tammy Wagner and Al Budleski who are staff from the Federal Rail Administration. Following this presentation, the board will receive an overview of the Railroad Safety Analysis – BNSF Railroad from SRF consulting. The board will recall that the County retained SRF to conduct an independent analysis of the crossings and bridges along the BNSF line in the unincorporated areas of the County.

Finally, the board will be asked to go into Closed Session to receive the latest update on the negotiations with Weber Holdings and the City of La Crosse regarding the development of Lot C.

*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 December 2014

La Crosse County UW-Extension

- Interviews for a 4-H Youth Development Agent ended with a failed search. The position has been reposted through January 6, and the interview process will begin following that date. (MMS)
- Family Living Agent participated in the Wisconsin Enrollment Conference in preparation for the 2015 health insurance Open Enrollment Period. Plans to work with the Regional Enrollment Network to reach those who remain uninsured to connect them with coverage, assure those who gained coverage in 2014 take the necessary steps to retain coverage or change plans to better fit their current circumstances, and, address the transition of former BAadgerCare+ members to other sources of coverage and assure that their children remain enrolled in appropriate coverage. (MMS)
- Facilitated discussions for the Community Collaboration to realize the full potential of an integrated partnership with the faith community in moving to form the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative. The second part of this effort engaged the members of the Community Collaboration to identify what is needed in "doing community engagement & empowerment the 'right way': creating trust and ownership at the neighborhood-level." (MMS)
- A corn Maximum Return to Nitrogen (MRTN) research plot was harvested in early November. With the help of a local grower, the plot contained 24 nitrogen rate trials that looked at the response of varying nitrogen application amounts and their resulting yields. Results will be used as a part of a state-wide data base and presented back to local farmers at our winter agronomy meetings. (SDH)
- In September, 20 Master Gardener interns began training in the 12-week Level 1 Master Gardener program. Nineteen of the twenty completed and passed the required post class exam in November and have become certified Master Gardener Volunteers. In return for the training, participants will be giving back at least 24 hours of volunteer time related to horticulture in the local community over the coming year. (SDH)
- For the first time ever, Wisconsin 4-H inducted 4-H volunteers, financial supporters, staff and pioneers who made major contributions to 4-H at the local, state and national levels into its Hall of Fame. La Crosse County 4-H volunteer Molly Sacia of Union Mills 4-H, Holmen was a 2014 Laureate In Memoriam, the first La Crosse County volunteer to be honored in the Hall of Fame. This celebration was the final event in the Wisconsin 4-H Centennial Celebration. (JH)
- In November, 4-H youth in grades K-13 were recognized at the annual 4-H Achievement Celebration for their exceptional growth in outstanding project work, involvement in activities, and leadership they displayed during the past year. Youth involved in the process learn skills such as writing, organization, goal setting and recordkeeping. (JH)
- The WNEP Nutrition Educator presented a series of after school nutrition lessons to 24 first and second grade students at Northside Elementary School. A parent survey is being conducted to see if the children were eating and/or asking for more fruits and vegetables at home since they participated in the lessons. (MHL)

- WNEP partnered with Head Start and taught a “stretching the food dollars” class to parents at the Margaret Annett and Onalaska Head Start sites. An evaluation completed by the participants after the class indicated that 100% were able to plan a one-dish meal that they would consider preparing for their family and 100% said that after what they learned today they were going to try to eat more vegetables. (MHL)
- Continued to present the La Crosse Large Employer Housing Survey to interested organizations, including: Gundersen Health System, Gerard Hoeschler Realty, La Crosse Promise, the La Crosse Neighborhood Development Corporation and GENA Neighborhood Association. (KG)
- Presented the Challenging Trends in Housing presentation to the La Crosse Neighborhood Development Corporation at its first Strategic Planning session. This program helped set the stage for existing conditions of housing in various City neighborhoods. In addition, results from the Large Employer Housing Survey were shared to help illustrate where demand in new and existing housing may exist. (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

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

MHL – Mary Hoeft-Leithold, Nutrition Educator

County Surveyor

YEAR END REPORT DECEMBER 2014

CORNER MAINTENANCE AND PRESERVATION: We have again exceeded our goal of maintaining and preserving a number of Public Lands Survey System (PLSS) corners. Our department goal is to maintain a minimum of 5% of La Crosse County’s 1405 corners (71 corner locations per year). We have maintained and preserved 76 corners (5.4%) in 2014. We had hoped for more corners this year but the early arrival of winter weather has curtailed our outside productivity. As we accomplished necessary maintenance work, we also collected much needed GPS coordinate values for many of these corners. These GPS values are then provided to our Land Information Office to aid in more accurate GIS mapping.

SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE UPDATED: The County Board approved our update to Chapter 18 entitled “Subdivision and Platting” at their July 2014 meeting. Many of the updates were “housekeeping” in nature making spelling and verbiage corrections. The updates also eliminated the mention of dollar values for review fees. Added was the requirement that driveways and access points along County and State roads be shown. This requirement will assist Highway Commissioner Ron Chamberlain and DOT officials in placing future driveways in safe locations.

MAP REVIEW: As the department responsible for the efficient layout and division of land as called for in Chapter 18, we review Subdivision Plats and Certified Survey Maps (CSM). Review of land divisions in unincorporated areas of La Crosse County are subject to a review fee - \$300 for subdivision plats and \$100 for CSMs. As of November 30, 2014, a total of 45 Certified Survey Maps have been submitted to this office for review. Twenty-three of those maps are in unincorporated areas of La Crosse County and are subject to a \$100 review fee. At this date in 2013, we had 51 maps submitted for review. Certified Survey Maps in Cities and Villages are reviewed as well, but we do not receive a fee for that service. We also continue the intake, indexing, scanning and filing of all other incoming survey maps submitted for filing in the County Surveyor files.

COOPERATION WITH AND ASSISTANCE TO OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS: Earlier this year, the Highway Department informed us that a resurfacing project was to take place on County Roads A and AE in the Towns of Farmington and Burns. Prior to resurfacing, we were able to locate and reference approximately 47 survey monuments which fell in the paved portions of these roads. We replaced most of the monuments on the portions of this project which have the final blacktop layer applied. We will complete the task in spring once a final layer of asphalt has been placed to the few remaining portions of the roads. The Land Conservation Department also requested our assistance. They asked that we locate roadways/trails within Hoeth Forest in the Town of Farmington. While Hoeth Forest is not specifically designated as a recreational area, many people use the roadways/trails in it for hiking and horseback riding. Our plan is to develop a map illustrating the location of the roadways/trails. Should an emergency arise, an accurate map would be of assistance to emergency personnel. We also completed a four lot Certified Survey Map of County owned lands on and around the Lakeview Healthcare Facility for the Facilities Department. One of the parcels is a 25 acre lot that was sold to the West Salem School District. The survey also included 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.

PRESENTATIONS: I had the honor and privilege of serving as a presenter at the 2014 Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors (WSLS) Annual Institute at the Kalahari Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells, January 22-24. I reworked the presentation titled "*The County Surveyor – Hey, what do those people do anyway?*" to make it more in depth and thought provoking for my fellow surveyors. At the request of La Crosse County Register of Deeds Cheri McBride, I also served as a presenter at the Wisconsin Register of Deeds (WROD) conference at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells on June 6. My session was titled "The Document Says What?/Understanding Legal Descriptions". Both presentations appeared to be well received and appreciated by both organizations.

ONGOING RESPONSE: The County Surveyor's Office continually responds to our customers by assisting 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 land ownership and title questions. For most people, a land transaction is a rare occurrence. Our office can often serve as a resource to help our customers understand how the land transaction process works and we are pleased to be able to assist them in this way.

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Meyer, La Crosse County Surveyor

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Public Works & Infrastructure December 2014

Solid Waste

Xcel Operations:

The planned Maintenance projects associated with the Xcel shutdown have been completed. BTU values continue to decline with the implementation of the single stream recycling program. This reduces the energy credit the County receives from Xcel. The Solid Waste Department retained a consultant to review the BTU materials sampling program and test procedures. A report will be available at the end of the year.

Sampling of RDF materials at Xcel for BTU analysis being performed under supervision of Solid Waste Department's consultant.



Landfill Construction Activities 2014:

Construction for the Phase VIII Liner has been completed and operations are proceeding according to plan. Construction activities were completed on the final cover but a dormant seeding of the topsoil layer was required. A significant retainage is being withheld to insure adequate growth of the vegetative layer and control of erosion in the spring of 2015. Work is continuing on the looped header system which will enhance gas production associated with the gas to energy system. Prior to the onset of the cold weather notable increases in gas production and

quality were obtained from the five new gas wells installed as part of the final cover project. Work for an expansion of the processing pad is under way. Expanding the processing pad will increase the capacity to manage the clean wood waste and shingles for recycling purposes. The expansion will also allow an increased area for aggregate storage for the Highway Department and provide a place for winter storage of rental containers. The onset of the cold weather was hampering construction activities on the processing pad.

Personnel:

All vacated positions have been filled.

Landfill Operations:

Winter hours have been established effective November 1st for all landfill operations. A gradual decrease in waste loading and citizen's use is occurring as weather becomes inclement. Winter unloading areas have been established within the landfill and all access roads have been cleaned and rehabilitated for winter operations. Additional litter control fencing has been established for Phase VIII to assist in controlling litter during high wind conditions associated with winter.

HHM (Household Hazardous Materials):

10,000th household user

On 11/18/2014 Peter Grabow was the 10,000 household user of the HHM facility in 2014. This is the second year in a row that the program has exceeded the 10,000-user threshold. Overall usage of the facility is up almost 9% over 2013.



You can read more about this milestone on our Facebook site.

<https://www.facebook.com/lacrossecountysolidwaste>

HHM Survey

In August, SEH surveyed 47 users of the HHM facility. Following are some of the results:

- 46 of 47 described their experience at HHM as satisfied or very satisfied
- When asked what services were lacking:
 - 35 responded nothing
 - More hours, better location and curbside pick-up where the most common remaining responses
- When asked how the program could be improved:
 - 24 said nothing or that they were happy how it is
 - More or more flexible hours, better advertisement or signage and more medication disposal events where the most common responses

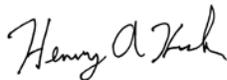
Sustainability:

- **Sustainable La Crosse Commission:** The commission has met twice and received updates on sustainable issues for the year. Discussion has centered on the feasibility of putting together a presentation/conference in conjunction with the Wisconsin Counties Association annual meeting. That meeting will be held in September 20-22, 2015. A committee is being formed to explore interest with partnering with other groups such as coulee Partners for Sustainability and the Western Sustainability Institute.
- **Presentations/Tours:** Nick and Randy gave tours to over 200 students and others of the HHM and landfill complex. A Western Technical College group toured the Gas to energy site along with Gundersen's Jenbacher Engine. And a member of the Children's museum staff toured the landfill and discussed

opportunities to collaborate on education for youth. Nick gave two presentations, one to 5 Logan Middle School classes of over 120 students and one to 77 attendees of the Honda Motorwerks energy Independence Day event in October.

- **Mattress Recycling:** A container has been placed at the citizen's drop off area to collect mattresses. This will be a pilot project to measure the feasibility of the program. Several containers full of Mattresses have been sent to Recycleall at the cost of \$15.00 apiece. This effort will continue for the next month and an evaluation of the project will be done.
- **Bridge/Trails Projects:** The Bridge project has been completed and a ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Thursday October 16th to recognize two Eagle Scouts and their projects on site. News reporters from WXOW and WKBT were on site and newscasts were on each station. Willie Bittner from WisCorps and George Arimond from the Outdoor Recreation alliance were on site on Monday November 17th to review the area where an entry trail will be constructed in 2015. Very cold conditions but spectacular views from near the top of the community forest.
- **Bioblitz:** Planning is beginning to take shape for the 2015 Bioblitz. If anyone is interested in inventorying the flora and fauna of the landfill pleas let Nick know and he will get you on the mailing list.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry A. Koch, P.E., Director

Highway Department

- Our reconditioning projects on CTH A and CTH AE are wrapped up. Both projects were well received by the local residents, and the improvements are appreciated.
- Our supplies of winter road salt are in the sheds and all equipment is up and running, having had a couple of storms for a "shake down" at this point. That said it is shaping up into a winter similar to last year for storm response requirements.
- We have welcomed our new Highway Engineer, Joseph Langeberg, to our Department. Joe comes to us from the WisDOT with experience in design, construction, bridges, and planning.
- Currently we are working on getting ready for our materials bids, equipment bids and other preparation for next year's maintenance and rehabilitation.
- In recent communications, the Highway Department has been informed of a successful Indian Reservations Roads Grant, \$270,000, for use on CTH Z in the form of an overlay from STH 35 to the termini of CTH Z out at the west end of Brice's Prairie. This money comes to La Crosse County from the Ho Chunk Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Respectfully Submitted

Ronald Chamberlain

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Judiciary & Law December 2014

Register Of Deeds Office

2013 Statistics

	Birth Certificates	Death & Marriage	Real Estate Documents	Transfer Fees	Total Revenue	Running Total for Total Rev
Jan.	491	1722	2074	\$77,208.00	\$57,672.14	
Feb.	548	1274	1780	\$44,708.40	\$53,067.07	\$110,739.21
Mar.	514	979	1663	\$72,020.40	\$45,323.40	\$156,062.61
Apr.	548	1277	1973	\$79,364.70	\$63,318.33	\$219,380.94
May	422	1402	1960	\$117,910.20	\$73,582.63	\$292,963.57
June	434	1295	1942	\$108,011.10	\$62,331.47	\$355,295.04
July	543	1300	2077	\$137,471.40	\$79,582.99	\$434,878.03
Aug.	569	1165	1896	\$107,123.40	\$62,258.91	\$497,136.94
Sept.	504	1111	1546	\$82,789.20	\$56,238.74	\$553,375.68
Oct.	493	1340	1674	\$96,133.50	\$74,390.57	\$627,766.25
Nov.	328	1074	1342	\$63,966.00	\$37,992.15	\$665,758.40
Dec.	294	1128	1277	\$161,524.20	\$74,698.01	\$740,456.41
TOTALS	5688	15067	21204	\$1,148,230.50	\$740,456.41	

2014 Statistics

Jan.	513	1501	1144	\$90,611.10	\$40,641.97	
Feb.	365	1417	1036	\$68,906.10	\$48,034.34	\$88,676.31
Mar.	421	1241	1095	\$61,184.40	\$43,206.20	\$131,882.51
Apr.	461	1247	1300	\$71,760.00	\$52,856.43	\$184,738.94
May	395	1204	1343	\$102,284.70	\$52,560.60	\$237,299.54
June	412	1115	1508	\$140,514.00	\$63,723.91	\$301,023.45
July	436	1144	1575	\$204,915.90	\$82,447.65	\$383,471.10
Aug.	475	1294	1486	\$145,973.70	\$71,219.51	\$454,690.61
Sept.	381	1453	1528	\$245,077.20	93,776.88	\$548,467.49
Oct.	440	1121	1467	\$90,693.90	50,055.77	\$598,523.26
Nov.	320	1057	1214	\$79,347.60		\$598,523.26
Dec.						\$598,523.26
TOTALS	4619	13794	14696	\$1,301,268.60	\$598,523.26	

Cheryl McBride
Register of Deeds

Emergency Services

As day-shift dispatchers reported to work at 6:50 AM on Wednesday, November 19th, the 9-1-1 lines began to ring continuously. Many citizens reported hearing an explosion. The first four 9-1-1 calls rang in within five seconds of each other and the callers indicated three different locations of the explosion and fire. Within the first minute, there were 16 9-1-1 calls and 43 within the first 20 minutes.

The explosion was from a large liquid asphalt storage tank at La Crosse's Midwest Industrial Asphalt. La Crosse Fire and Police Departments responded along with Tri-State Ambulance to the event, which had one non-life-threatening injury reported. A shelter-in-place advisory was issued by LCFD. Emergency Management responded to the incident command post, plus notified and updated the State Emergency Management duty officer. The fire and threat were extinguished and the shelter-in-place advisory was cancelled just prior to 8:30 a.m.

Public-Safety Communications

September

Telephone Calls

9-1-1 Calls 2,451 (average of 82 per day)
Answered within 10 seconds: 96.00%
Answered within 20 seconds: 99.80%
Average Answer Time: 4 Seconds
**1 call more than 30 seconds*

77% of 9-1-1 calls were from wireless phones.

Total Telephone Calls 24,085 (average of 822 per day)

Calls for Service

Law Enforcement	10,737
Fire Fighting	209
Emergency Medical	669

October

Telephone Calls

9-1-1 Calls 2,365 (average of 76 per day)
Answered within 10 seconds: 96.66%
Answered within 20 seconds: 99.62%
Average Answer Time: 4 Seconds
** 2 calls more than 30 seconds*

73% of 9-1-1 calls were from wireless phones.

Total Telephone Calls 23,590 (average of 761er day)

Calls for Service

Law Enforcement	9,522
Fire Fighting	184
Emergency Medical	614

**National Emergency Number Association Standards:*

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

Night-shift lead telecommunicator Melissa Rendler is retiring at the end of 2014. Melissa has been with the department for just under 30 years. She received recognition for her service from the Domestic Abuse Task Force in 1998, was runner-up for the Wisconsin Telecommunicator of the Year in 1999 and was the La Crosse County Telecommunicator of the Year in 2001. Another long-term dispatcher, Holly Inglett, left our team after 14 years of service. Holly was the Department's Telecommunicator of the Year in 2002.

Public Safety Communications welcomes Heather Hawes and Ellen Jones as part of its dispatching team. Heather has been a public safety dispatcher at Walworth County for seven years. She is originally from the Alma area and a position in our center allows her to return closer to her family in Buffalo County. For the past year, Ellen has been an emergency medical dispatcher for Gundersen Lutheran. Prior to that, she worked as a trauma center coordinator. Ellen lives in Holmen.

Emergency Management (Keith Butler, Coordinator)

Events of note during this period

- County Emergency Management participated in a major regional oil spill exercise program on October 2 – 4 that was held in La Crosse County. The scenario involved a spill of crude oil into the river.
- Much effort has been needed for Public Health EBOLA planning, including multiple meetings and webinars. County EM provided some protective garments to Gundersen Health and to the Health Dept.
- The AmeriCorps – ReadyWisconsin partnership program is now underway and Intern Michael Heing has been working with Karen Hoel (Volunteer Coordinator) and Brenda Hanson in the Health Dept to provide assistance to several existing projects and programs as well as to develop new community preparedness initiatives.
- County EM is working with the La Crosse County VOAD (Volunteers Organizations Active in Disaster) and the Health Dept to prepare for severe winter cold emergencies. A new community warming center is now operational. Planning for supplemental emergency warming sites is underway. Policy and procedure documents are being developed.
- County EM continues to assist with two major public safety radio system projects. Opportunities to consider some cost-sharing and interoperability between the City of La Crosse radio system and the County radio system have been presented and reviewed and revised when needed.
- County EM presented a major revision to the County Emergency Operations Plan to the Judiciary & Law committee on November 4. The development of 15 new "Emergency Support Functions" as well as an update to the Emergency Plan will be undertaken during the FY14/15 time period.
- County EM attended the Wisconsin Emergency Management Association Conference and Wisconsin Emergency Management annual Director's meeting in Oshkosh on October 15-17.
- County EM has been meeting with La Crosse School District officials to develop a multi-day safety collaboration presentation in January, 2015.
- County EM is working with Farmington public safety officials to prepare a disaster exercise program to be held at the Girl Scout Camp Ehawee facility in 2015.
- County EM prepared several Hazardous Materials Performance Grant applications that were to be reviewed during the November LEPC meeting.

- County EM participated in a Hazardous Materials Emergency Responder course held in Onalaska on October 29 and facilitated a meeting of the I-90 Bridge Project partners in La Crescent later that evening.
- The 5-year update to the County Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by FEMA. The County Board will be asked to approve the Plan update in December.
- County EM participated in a WisDOT regional meeting on November 13.
- On November 19, County EM responded to and assisted at the Incident Command Post for an explosion at Midwest Industrial Asphalt.

Jay Loeffler, Administrator
Emergency Services

Corporation Counsel Office

1. Claims Update.

- Estate of Rita Soulia v. La Crosse County, d/b/a/ Hillview Health Care Center, et al, Case No. 13-CV-472. This is a very complicated case involving allegations against La Crosse County and other personnel based upon care received by Rita Soulia at Hillview Health Care Center. The complaint alleged that La Crosse County was negligent in providing care for Ms. Soulia and had violated her civil rights. Ms. Soulia was at Hillview Health Care Center from September 1st until she passed away on September 8, 2010. West Bend Mutual Insurance Company settled the matter for payment of \$50,000. La Crosse County admits no liability for the care provided to Rita Soulia as part of this settlement. This was a case where the settlement is in the best interests of La Crosse County because even though La Crosse County's position is that La Crosse County provided proper care to Ms. Soulia and does not admit any negligence, the potential damages in going to trial would have been quite significant and the costs in terms of witness fees and attorneys fees in going forward for trial could easily have exceeded the amount of the settlement.
- Lueck v. County of La Crosse, ERD Case No. CR2011 3176. The Labor and Industry Review Commission issued a decision on November 13, 2014, affirming the decision of the administrative law judge who found no probable cause to believe that the County violated the Wisconsin Fair Employment Act by retaliating against Mr. Lueck and who dismissed his complaint.
- Schulze v. County of La Crosse, EEOC Case No. 443-2014-01442. Michelle Schulze has filed a discrimination charge against La Crosse County, alleging discrimination at the La Crosse County Solid Waste Department on the basis of sex, religion and retaliation in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This matter has been referred to WMMIC and Attorney Mary Nelson has been retained to represent La Crosse County in this matter.
- Claim by Estate of Richard Bendel and Joanne Fiers (sister of Richard Bendel). On November 20, 2014 La Crosse County received a Notice of Claim and Claim for Damages by the Estate of Richard Bendel and Joanne Fiers. The claimants allege that on February 16, 2014 Richard Bendel, a 79 year old resident of Lakeview Health Center, was allowed to exit the facility unattended, and that he subsequently fell and suffered serious injuries that resulted in his death on

February 20, 2014. The Plaintiff's are demanding \$75,000 in damages for conscious pain and suffering and medical expenses.

2. County Property Matters. Our office continues to work on a number of issues involving various County properties, which include the following:
 - Lot C – Weber Holdings - Our office has been working on the sale of Lot C to Weber Holdings and other related issues involving both Weber Holdings and the City of La Crosse.
 - Associated Bank – Our office worked on details to finalize a purchase agreement with Associated Bank.
 - Purchase of Schroeder Property – Our office has been involved with negotiations with the attorney for the Schroeders regarding property adjacent to the La Crosse County Landfill office abutting Highway 16.
 - Park Plaza – Our office continues to be involved with issues involving the possible sale of the Park Plaza property.
3. Ordinance Updates. Our office continues to work on updating Chapter 22 – Historic Sites Commission, Chapter 5 Records Management, Chapter 7 Traffic Code, and Chapter 15 Solid Waste.
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 personnel department involving different County departments. Working on several matters involving employee discipline and also several employment matters involving an ERD claim and an EEOC claim filed by a La Crosse County employee and former La Crosse County employee.
 - Highway Dept. – Our office continues to work with the Highway Department on several issues, including the annual registration fee, Highway 108/CTH C jurisdiction issues, condemnation issues, contractual issues, and other jurisdictional transfer agreements.
 - Treasurer Dept. – Our office has finalized the tax foreclosure action for 2008 unpaid tax liens and will begin working on tax foreclosure for unpaid tax liens for the years 2009 and 2010 early next year.
5. Open Records. Our office continues to assist various departments with open records requests as they arise.
6. Court Activities. Our office continues to work on Human Service matters as they arise involving child protection cases and Chapter 51 mental commitment and 54/55 guardianship and protective placement cases. Our office also continues to work on child support matters, including assisting Debra Barnes with various issues as they arise.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Lange
Corporation Counsel

Child Support Agency Report to the Board

The Agency continues to work hard to improve performance in order to maximize incentive funding.

The Agency participated in a Lean Government event to examine the area of enforcement of the provision of health insurance. The purpose of the event was to identify waste and streamline the process. The Agency will continue to examine other processes within the department.

The Agency has been working with the IT Department in the construction of a digital data storage system. This program will allow the agency to scan and index our documents electronically. This will reduce the amount of paper file storage needs and will allow us to access those documents in PDF format.

The agency has been able to work with the IT Department and the Department of Administration/Bureau of Child Support to allow staff to 'print to file' within the KIDS system rather than automatically printing documents once they are confirmed. This will allow the agency to reduce printing costs.

Debra Barnes, Child Support Supervisor