



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

County Administrative Center
212 Sixth St. N, Suite 2400 La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601
(608) 785-9700 • Fax (608) 789-4821
www.co.la-crosse.wi.us

Memo To: La Crosse County Board of Supervisors
From: Steve O'Malley, County Administrator
Date: April 4, 2017

Re: April Monthly Report to the County Board

Attached is the April 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 should 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”

County Board Planning Meeting Monday April 10, 2017

Included on our agenda for Monday's planning meeting is the following:

- Fraud Prevention Presentation
- Review of Premier Resort Area Tax referendum results
- Discussion of future options to address road and bridge funding

Sale of old Lakeview Facility completed

Following discussion with the Executive Committee last month, Deputy Corporation Counsel Amy Flottmeyer communicated to the sole bidders for the old Lakeview Facility (Mr. Griswold and Mr. Opsahl) that the County would accept the terms of sale as approved by the County Board.

Without any amended terms, we were informed that the partnership between Harry Griswold and Peter Opsahl was dissolved and that Mr. Opsahl would proceed on his own. On Monday April 3, 2017, the County closed on the sale of the Lakeview building and property at the agreed upon price of \$100,000 to Mr. Opsahl.

*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 April 2017

Register of Deeds Office

2017 Stats	Birth	Death & Marriage	Real Estate Documents	Transfer Fees
Jan.	400	1258	1446	\$96,678.30
Feb.	542	1400	1026	\$57,654.60

We are still trying to find where things are and get organized. We recently got all of our power cords & computer wires situated on our front counter. Holes were drilled and cords hidden so it makes a little more room to work and we can actually open the drawers without hitting cords. Ahh, the little things that make us happy!! We still miss the actual amount of space we had in the old building and have had a few customers comment on it when they have to do work in our records or at our counter. We do like it here, we just really miss having enough counter space and work space. We are making it work.

Last report I mentioned that on Jan. 3, 2017 all of the Register of Deeds offices in the State of Wisconsin started state wide issuance of vital records. ALL birth certificates could now be issued in any Register of Deeds office no matter where you were born in Wisconsin. Previously you had to contact the county where you were born to get your record. The process is a little slower for the customer standing at our counter as we have to contact the State Vitals Office to have them update records into the online system that are previous to 1994. That usually takes about 15 minutes for them to do before we can then issue the record. Update is that this seems to be working very well. Customers who were born in another county are quite grateful that they can get their record here even if they have to wait the 15 minutes or so. It is less time and less cumbersome than having to travel, use the mail or order online and wait for delivery. We have not had anyone get real upset about the wait, they are usually more upset about the price (which is set by state statute).

The Wisconsin Register of Deeds Assn is currently working on statute clean up legislation for items pertaining to our offices, legislation to improve the process of recording sheriffs deeds, and our vitals committee (that I am on) recently came up with language to amend legislation in regards to vital records that was initiated by the Brown County clerk. The committee was opposed to the legislation as written but we came up with language that everyone could agree upon. We are also watching an item in the Governors budget that would eliminate the weatherization program for rental property that is administered by the State of WI Dept of Safety and Professional Services. If the program is eliminated, this office would lose about \$7500 per year in revenue.

If you have any questions regarding any item in this report, please give me a call and as always we invite everyone to come take a look at our office and see what it is we do here. We welcome you!

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. McBride
Register of Deeds

Department of Land Conservation

This year's construction season will be a busy one for the Department of Land Conservation as the weather improves and farmers and contractors are ready to get to work. On our plate this year will be two dairy herd expansions and three new subdivision developments. The dairy herd expansions are important news for farming in La Crosse County as there are slightly over 100 dairy herds presently in the county and the number is slowly declining. Compared to counties like Clark County, which has over 1000 active dairy herds, we are relatively small in size. The herd expansions demonstrates that dairying in La Crosse County is still alive and well. State rules require that new and expanding farm operations must be in compliance with required soil and water conservation standards. Department of Land Conservation staff will be assisting the expanding operations by providing technical and planning assistance for manure storage facilities, waste transfer systems, feed storage leachate control, nutrient management and erosion and stormwater control.

On the urban side of conservation, Department staff will be providing planning assistance to the subdivision developers and building contractors on three proposed subdivisions. These subdivisions range from 24 lot to 46 lot developments. It is the responsibility of the Department of Land Conservation to review and approve all stormwater and erosion control plans and ensure that they are implemented according to State rules and local ordinances. The purpose of the plans is to prevent sediment and runoff water from leaving these developments and harming adjacent properties and surface waters in the County. Once access roads and stormwater management practices are installed, these developments will take years before they are completely built out. Each lot that is sold and developed must do so in accordance with an approved erosion control plan. At last count, there were over 2,500 buildable lots in La Crosse County.

The Department of Land Conservation 2016 Annual Report will soon be available for your review. The report contains information regarding many of the Department's accomplishments during 2016 and an analysis of the surface water quality of the County's 36 watersheds. I hope you take the time to read the report and find the information useful.

*Gregg Stangl, Director
Land Conservation*

Zoning, Planning & Land Information

Update from Zoning:

Zoning Permits Issued Jan 1st through Feb. 28th 2017

2016-Jan 1 st -Feb 28th Permits Issued- 16	Value 2016- \$2,490,960
2017-Jan 1 st -Feb 28th Permits Issued- 27 Up 68.75 %	Value 2017- \$2,478,798 Down .49%

Zoning Permits Issued Feb. 1st through Feb 28th 2017

2016-Feb. 1 st – Feb. 28th – 9 permits	Value 2016- \$1,413,960
2017-Feb. 1 st – Feb. 28th – 19 permits Up 111.11%	Value 2017- \$1,840,460 Up 30.16%

*Charlie Handy, County Planner
Zoning, Planning & Land Information*

County Surveyor

NEW HIRE: Assistant County Surveyor John Krage turned in his resignation on March 7, 2017. While I am truly sad to see John go, I wish him well in his new endeavors. John and I will continue to be good friends and colleagues. I have worked with Human Resources to begin the recruitment process to find a suitable replacement. After advertising the position, we received a number of quality applicants. We recently completed interviews and have extended an offer to a great candidate. Our hope is to have that individual on board by mid to late April. I want to express my sincere thanks to the Human Resources Department – especially Kim Magnuson - for her quality assistance in this effort.

CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP REVIEW: We are off to a quick start in our review of Certified Survey Maps (CSM) in 2017. We have already reviewed 15 maps which is very much on pace with the 14 CSMs we had last year at this time.

FIELD WORK: We are off to a solid start in our field work for 2017. We recently completed a three projects for the Facilities Department. We are also off to a nice start on our Public Land Survey System (PLSS) maintenance work for 2017. Our department goal is to perform maintenance visits on 5% of La Crosse County's 1405 Public Land Survey System corners. So far we have made maintenance visits to 10 PLSS corners.

PRESENTATION: I was proud to be part of the "**A Day with Your County Surveyor**" presentation on April 3, 2017. The event took place at the Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells. My portion of the day was a presentation on the research that goes into relocating the Section and Quarter corners. Our group then went on a "field trip" to a nearby PLSS corner with an original government bearing tree still standing from the mid 1800's. The day concluded with presentations on what happens once a corner location is re-established and what happens with the data derived from the corner location. Our target audience was County Board members and decision makers and I believe we connected well with these folks.

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. These questions come from Township Officials, realtors, attorneys, title people, land surveyors and the general public. 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*

La Crosse County UW-Extension

- The Huran Group has completed current assessments for all four Program areas: Family Living, Youth Development, Resource Development and Agriculture, to be used for decision-making in the nEXT Generation restructure. Two Assistant Deans have been hired to oversee the 22 Area Extension Directors. Southwest Regional Director Matt Hanson will fill the Assistant Dean position that covers the southern half of Wisconsin Counties. (MMS)
- Presented on "Why Family Policy Matters" for the Wisconsin Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Public Policy Committee. The emphasis of the presentation was to insure that as UW-Extension moves through nEXT Generation, the importance of strengthening families is recognized and kept in the forefront. (MMS)

- Assisted the La Crosse Association of Home and Community Education as they continue to plan and carry out marketing strategies to increase the membership of the organization. Educational programs offered included: Meal Ideas for Healthier Eating; Keeping Your Brain Fit; and Music Therapy. This Extension affiliated organization promotes strengthening the family unit, provides self-education opportunities, and served to improve home and community life. (MMS)
- Eighty calls and/or office visits requesting Agriculture related information were received in January and February. Current Support Staff and Agents have provided the information and/or identified resources/referrals for obtaining the information. (MMS)
- Ten La Crosse County farmers attended one of two Pesticide Applicator Trainings (PAT) to update their certification. Farmers who use restricted use pesticides must renew their state license every five years by taking a training and must pass the exam with a score of 70% or better. (MMS)
- A special two day Pesticide Applicator Training was held for 14 Hmong farmers. The intent of this program is to increase the safety of farmers when they are using pesticides and increase the safety of the food that they are growing. (MMS)
- La Crosse County 4-H Shooting Sports worked with 101 youth members from January – March teaching them about Archery and Pellet Gun. The project leadership has gone through a thorough certification to make sure that youth learn safety and proper technique in shooting archery and pellet gun. The program has more than 10 volunteers that give a minimum of 8 hours per month to the youth participants. (JH)
- Clover College, a day-long event offering participants a chance to try new things and encourages them to grow their knowledge in a variety of disciplines. There were over 24 classes, taught by over 35 youth and adult leaders volunteering their time and knowledge to provide this opportunity to about 100 youth in La Crosse County. (JH)
- FoodWise is piloting a new program called FitWise. The strength training program is adapted from an extensively researched Tufts University exercise program called StrongWomen. Participants meet for two times per week for 10 weeks for an hour long exercise class which includes a nutrition education lesson one time per week. (KJ)
- FoodWise educators led a series of five nutrition themed classes for second grade students at Hintgen Elementary. Children were able to engage in activities to learn about a variety of foods from USDA MyPlate, handwashing, and tasted whole grains, fruits, and vegetables. Following the lessons, parent surveys showed that 68% of students seemed more willing to taste new foods or foods that he or she usually doesn't eat. (KJ)
- Assisted the La Crosse Promise Strategic Planning Committee prepare for their March Strategic Planning event. This included the development and dispersion of three facts sheets illustrating the existing challenging trends in La Crosse County. (KG)
- Assisted the La Crosse County MS4's prepare their Storm water Public Education summaries for reporting year 2016. This included reporting storm water public education events such as the Washburn Spring Into Gardening event held last weekend. Over 300 attendees visited the event and learned various gardening and storm water management ideas. (KG)
- Continued facilitating the Synergy Economic Development effort. This effort appears to be picking up steam, as at this point all 5 participating organizations have signed the resolution supporting the Synergy White Paper. At their last meeting in March they decided to move forward on three separate efforts towards developing strategic plans addressing regional workforce development issues, an economic development plan, and plan to develop a refreshed brand identity. (KG)

JH – Jenny Holm, 4-H Youth Development Program Advisor

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

KJ – Karie Johnson, Nutrition Coordinator

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

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Public Works & Infrastructure April 2017

Solid Waste Department

Landfill

Economic conditions and careful operation of the landfill in 2016 resulted in a significant increase in cash reserves. Operations at the landfill continue in a normal fashion. Integrity Inc., has begun mobilizing equipment to start on landfill cell construction.

Xcel

Above average amounts of solid waste are being received at Xcel in January and February. The renewal of stakeholder agreements is proceeding at a slower than anticipated rate. No down time or bypass of materials has occurred in the first three months of 2017.

Gas-to-Energy

For the first 2 months of 2017, gas to energy has performed very well. Our average for these months was 94.91% on runtime and 5782 MMBTU (budget for these items is 90% and 5500 MMBTU/month). The two additional STOC's installed in the fall of 2016 are operating well and adding to our collection efficiency. We will be adding 2 additional STOC's in the spring of this year. Spare parts and connection lines were ordered this month and review/annual maintenance of the landfill gas wells will take place in April 2017.

Landfill Site Entrance

Work continues on the final design for the scale house, container and citizen's areas and other related features. Bids are expected to be obtained in April with committee approval of such in early May.

Annual Meeting

On June 23rd, the Annual Meeting will occur at the landfill between 8:30am and 12:00pm with lunch provided. WDNR will be providing a guest speaker.

Household Hazardous Materials (HHM)

- **General Program**

Despite a few slow days due to snow and ice storms the utilization of the HM program is slightly higher than last year at this time.

<u>2017 La Crosse HHM Household Users YTD</u>	
Percent Change in users vs. 2016	+3%
Percent Change in waste received (lbs.) vs. 2016	+6%

Beginning in January, HHM is open on Mondays for residential users from Noon – 4:00 PM. Customer surveys have consistently shown that people would like more and varied hours available for walk-in users.

- **Annual Report to Stakeholders**

The 2016 Annual Report to Stakeholders was completed and distributed to representatives of all the County's municipalities and is being distributed to County Board members. It is also available to the public on the Reports and Documents page of the Solid Waste Department's webpage.

- **Future Funding of HHM**

The HHM contract with La Crosse County municipalities expires at the end of 2017. Staff is exploring the program's funding needs for the future and considering recommendations for meeting these needs. Staff will be seeking direction from the PW&I Committee at the April 10th meeting.

Sustainability

Tours/Events/Other

Tours are starting to pick up now that the spring session is up and running hard. Over 335 young people had the chance to take a tour of the Household Hazardous Materials site and the landfill. Ten Environmental Studies classes from the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse came out in February and March, along with quite a few advanced placement science students from Logan High School.

There has been movement on the Ag plastic recycling front. Revolution Plastics will be bringing 55 containers to the landfill for distribution to local farmers on the 31st of March, actual distribution will take place on the 10th of April. This should have a significant impact on the amount of Ag bag material showing up at the Xcel Energy plant. The Earth Fair event and cleanup of the marsh and trails planning has begun, this family centered event will be April 29th and 30th.

Nick had a chance to attend the Waste Integrated Resource Management Conference in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin at the end of February and beginning of March. This is a statewide conference geared towards solid waste and recycling issues. Haulers, recyclers, planners, consultants and interested parties gather once a year for a myriad of presentations and networking opportunities.

Eagle Scouts

A ribbon cutting event is being planned for June 3rd (save the date) to open the soon to be paved trail on the western side of the landfill. We will also be recognizing three Eagle Scouts and their projects that day. We have five planned Eagle Scout projects slated for 2017.

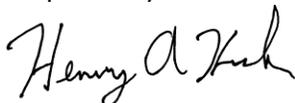
Burn Barrel Amnesty

Planning has begun to host a burn barrel amnesty program in October. Information will be distributed by the Health and Human Services Department over the summer dealing with the dangerous aspects of burn barrels. People will have a chance to sign a pledge not to use burn barrels anymore and be entered into a drawing for a \$100.00 gift card for turning in their old barrels free of charge at the Landfill.

Sustainable La Crosse Commission (SLC)

The SLC hosted a Solid Waste and Recycling public forum on the 15th of February with over 40 attendees participating. Hank made a presentation on the Solid Waste Department programs and then discussion ranged from the City's recycling system to Harter's collection method's and distribution. Three suggestions that were made at the meeting are: creating a county wide construction demolition recycling ordinance, doing a video of a Recycling Facility to show how materials are processed and hosting a website that shows specific materials and how to recycle them with contact information.

Respectfully Submitted,



Henry A. Koch, P.E.

Highway Department

- We are keeping our fingers crossed that winter is about over, but we do live in Wisconsin and I have personally seen sleet in July so who knows. As we leave this winter season we are in a drastically different position than we were last year at this time. We have used roughly ½ of our winter budget and we are moving into the salt bidding season with about 1/3 of the salt it takes to get through a winter in stock. So we are positioned well for a normal winter in November and December this budget, though nowhere near as well as last year.
- The recently completed County-wide Safety study is already producing dividends for us in the form of a finalist grant application in WisDOT's High Risk Rural Roads Program (HRRP) on CTH XX for 136,000 in safety improvements. The HRRP is 90/10 funding, so if we are successful we are looking at a \$136,000 safety improvement project costing La Cross County \$13,600.
- The Village of Holmen has let and awarded the work on Holmen Drive and Gaarder Road which is a joint project due to the jurisdictional transfer agreement that the County Board and Village Board entered into. We will be paving those streets as part of that agreement.
- The CTH B over Bostwick Creek bridge replacement is currently underway and the CTH M over Branch of Mormon Coulee will be let by WisDOT shortly.
- We are also prepping to move forward on our in house construction projects on CTH SN (CTH S to East Ave) and CTH V (CTH Q to the termini).
- In addition to the above mentioned activities, efforts continue on the following projects in design. CTH SN (East Ave to Alpine Lane), CTH M (CTH O to CTH B), and CTH PI (STH 162 to Vernon County Line). We also have the following bridges on the following roads under design CTH J, CTH V, CTH X, and Drogseth Road.
- CTH T (High Risk Rural Roads) is a WisDOT let due to the Federal funding involved and will be let in the very near future.
- Finally to provide you an idea of what the Department is looking at for the summer workload I have attached our current schedule. Schedules, as with any plan are subject to change depending on many factors including weather and other events. If you should have specific questions and/or please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your continued support for Highway operations, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronald Chamberlain
Highway Commissioner

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Judiciary & Law April 2017

Emergency Services

In the evening hours of March 6, a cold front, pushed a strong low pressure area into La Crosse County, creating a line of thunderstorms that produced 60-to-70 mph winds. When reviewing damage, a National Weather Service survey team determined that a tornado did touch down in the Town of Barre, south of West Salem. The survey team estimated the winds may have topped out at 110 mph, causing some damage to structures; however there were no reported injuries. This would be the earliest tornado in La Crosse County's recorded history.

In just over an hour, Public Safety Communications experienced nearly 200 total telephone calls, of which 46 were 9-1-1 calls. There were 47 storm-related public safety calls for service of such things as downed power lines, flooded intersections, blown over trees, and other debris in roadways.

Public Safety Communications

January

Telephone Calls

9-1-1 Calls 2,319 (average of 75 per day)
Answered within 10 seconds: 98.06%
Answered within 20 seconds: 100%
Average Answer Time: 4 seconds
**0 calls more than 20 seconds*

76% of 9-1-1 calls were from wireless phones.

Total Telephone Calls 22,331 (average of 720 per day)

Calls for Service

Law Enforcement	8,855
Fire Fighting	176
Emergency Medical	675

February

Telephone Calls

9-1-1 Calls 2,067 (average of 74 per day)
Answered within 10 seconds: 97.58%
Answered within 20 seconds: 99.61%
Average Answer Time: 4 seconds
** 1 call of more than 30 seconds*

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

Total Telephone Calls 20,250 (average of 723 per day)

Calls for Service

Law Enforcement	9,205
Fire Fighting	205
Emergency Medical	664

**National Emergency Number Association Standards:*

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

Ryan Sawatsky joins Emergency Services as a Telecommunicator. Ryan returns to La Crosse after working in St. Paul, MN, for the past few years – most recently as a 9-1-1 call-taker for the Ramsey County Emergency Dispatch. He also has experience working as an assistant probation officer at the Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center after having an internship with that department. Ryan has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Theology and Music. He also has done some mission work in the US, Canada and Guatemala. He has an interest in music and plays all sorts of instruments.

Ryan is 29 and originally from Canada (near Winnipeg). For a short period of time, he and his wife Gretchen lived in La Crosse before moving to St. Paul. They wanted to return to this area to raise their two daughters.

Emergency Management (Keith Butler, Coordinator)

- The post-disaster reporting and monitoring requirements for the September 22, 2016 flash flooding continues. Several communities have completed much of the restoration work and the reimbursement payments from FEMA are being prepared. A few sites are still being reviewed by State and FEMA officials, including the request for Bliss Road repairs or mitigation efforts.
- County EM has completed a comprehensive review and update of the CAMEO and MARPLOT databases that are used to manage information and emergency response planning for hazardous materials incidents. The information for over 130 facilities with chemicals and over 600 special facilities (child care centers, schools, nursing homes, etc.) was verified and re-mapped.
- County EM attended the County Fire Officers Association at the Bangor Fire Department on February 13 and provided a report regarding County EM and LEPC activities.
- County EM participated in a radiological emergency exercise held in Menomonie on February 15 regarding a simulated release from the Prairie Island nuclear power plant.
- County EM participated in a Flood Prepared Communities Roundtable on February 17.
- County EM participated in tour of the Gundersen Health Center chemical decontamination facility that was provided for the La Crosse School District Safety Committee on February 21.
- County EM attended the 2017 Governor's Emergency Management Conference and completed the Transportation Rail Incident Preparedness and Response training on March 7 – 9.
- County EM met with the Mass Casualty Team at the Farmington EMS building on Sunday, March 12 and distributed some new equipment and conducted an inventory of the Farmington trailer.
- The Local Planning Committee met on March 15 and modified the by-laws section regarding Committee membership and reappointments to better align with the County Board annual committee assignments.

- A 16-hour Incident Command System – Level 300 course was held in La Crosse County on March 16-17 with 25 participants. ICS is used by emergency responders to manage large scale emergencies.
- County EM attended the National Weather Service Integrated Warning Team workshop held in La Crosse on March 28.
- County EM co-facilitated a Highway Flood Impact workshop held at the County Highway Shop on March 30.

*Jay Loeffler, Administrator
Emergency Services*

Clerk of Courts

E-filing court cases has been a topic around the State for some time. In 2010, La Crosse County implemented voluntary e-filing. In March of 2016, the Wisconsin Supreme Court approved a new rule that resulted in the implementation of mandatory e-filing statewide for family, civil, paternity and small claims cases. On September 15th, we were one of the first 10 of the 72 counties in the state to implement. On March 15th, La Crosse County celebrated its sixth month anniversary of the mandatory e-filing implementation. Also, on March 1st, all mandatory e-filing counties turned on the enhancement for criminal, traffic and forfeiture cases. The new e-filing system is a work in progress. Procedures needed to be looked at and changes made to accommodate how things are now done in the electronic world as compared to the paper world. Attorneys had to also learn how to work in the e-filing world. All counties are expected to be e-filing counties by the end of 2017. CCAP is also working on improved features to the system. If you are interested and would like more information, here is the link to the website

<https://www.wicourts.gov/ecourts/efilecircuit/index.jsp>

*Pam Radtke
Clerk of Courts*

Corporation Counsel Office

1. CLAIMS

New claims

a. Ross Knothe v. Steve Helgeson, et al

This suit was filed in US District Court on February 21, 2017. Mr. Knothe was an inmate in the jail from approximately September 4 to September 15 of 2015. He alleges that his medical needs (both physical and mental health) were not adequately addressed by jail staff. Mr. Knothe alleges that he had a "psychotic episode" during a withdrawal from needed medication and during this episode, which involved physical restraint by jail staff, he injured his elbow. Mr. Knothe is seeking reimbursement of medical expenses, compensatory and punitive damages as well as attorney's fees and costs. WIMMIC has assigned defense counsel and I will keep the Board updated.

b. Tim Osley v. La Crosse County and John Doe Jail Staff

Mr. Osley was an inmate in the jail in July of 2014. He alleges that while in jail he was prohibited from obtaining ongoing medical care for a rotator cuff injury which has resulted in ongoing medical problems, including a surgery in August of 2016. Mr. Osley's complaint was filed without the assistance of counsel, so his legal claims are not entirely clear; however, the District Court Judge reviewed his pro se complaint and granted leave for plaintiff to proceed with suit. WIMMIC has assigned defense counsel and I will keep the Board updated.

Claims updates/outcomes

a. *Schneider v. La Crosse County*

Plaintiff had filed this lawsuit after he was detained for protesting (displaying various signs and US Flags) on a highway overpass located in the Town of Campbell. On March 15, 2017, the Court issued a written decision granting the County Defendants' (*La Crosse County, Michael Valencia and Jordan Schiller*) Motion for Summary Judgment in its entirety. All causes of action alleged against the County Defendants have been dismissed as a matter of law.

b. *Schulze v. County of La Crosse*

The EEOC had referred this case to the Department of Justice for review. On March 15, 2017, we received notice from the DOJ that they would not file suit on the alleged discrimination claim. The plaintiff has 90 days from the date of the notice to file a civil suit.

c. *WE Energies v. La Crosse County Highway Department*

WE Energies alleged that a gas line had been negligently damaged by the Highway Department crew during highway repairs in August of 2015. This claim had been disallowed by WIMMIC and the County Board in May/June of 2016. In January of 2017, the plaintiff filed a small claims action in La Crosse County Circuit Court. WIMMIC assigned defense counsel was successful in defending the suit and a motion for directed verdict dismissing the plaintiff's case was granted on March 3, 2017.

2. Ordinance Updates

- Recently completed work on repeal and recreation of "Shoreland Zoning" – Chapter 20
- Ongoing work on changes to the "Sign Ordinance" – Chapter 33
- Beginning work on changes to "Erosion Control/Land Disturbance" – Chapter 21
- Changes to Ch. 1 to reflect changes in ADRC/Aging Unit

3. Sale of Lakeview Property

- Completed closing on sale of Lakeview Property on April 3, 2017 per the original terms of the offer to purchase.

4. Court – Human Services Department /Child Support

Our office continues to represent the Human Services Department and the Child Support Agency at all court proceedings, including child protection cases, termination of parental rights, mental commitments, guardianships and protective placement,

paternity establishment, and child support establishment and enforcement. Between the four attorneys on staff, our office attends 40-50 court hearings per week.

5. Staffing

Our fourth attorney, Fabio Burgos, started on March 22, 2017. Our office is now fully staffed with four attorneys. We are in process of recruiting for our open support staff position.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan L. DeVore
Corporation Counsel

CORPORATION COUNSEL OFFICE – CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY

Once again we have some staffing changes in the agency. One of our child support specialists recently left us to take a position at UWL, we are sorry to see her go, but wish her all the best. We are currently recruiting applicants to refill that position. We had a longtime staff member retire in January. As an agency it was decided that we would not refill that position and the staff went from working 37.5 hours to 40 hours per week. Welcome to new Assistant Corporation Counsel, Fabio Burgos who comes to us with a lot of knowledge and experience.

We are striving to serve the families in our caseload as effectively as possible. We are always looking for innovative approaches that will ensure accountability and responsibility from parents for their children, while adapting to the changes in today's family structure. We continue to work with the other stakeholders involved with the families in our caseload to provide streamlined, evidence based child support services. We continue to collaborate with Workforce Connections in the implementation of our Enforcement Redesign project and are gathering statistical information to determine if the changes made are accomplishing the goals we hoped for. The redesign team will be meeting with the Lean facilitators at the end of May for a review the plan to determine if we are on the right course or if adjustments need to be made.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Barnes, Director
La Crosse County CSA

Family Court Commissioner (“FCC”) Office

GENERAL: We are a two-person office. The Family Court maintains five-set calendars every week. They are as follows:

Tuesdays: Domestic Abuse/Harassment Injunctions (morning)
Child Support (afternoon)

Thursdays: Paternity (morning)

Fridays: Default Divorces (morning)
Domestic Abuse/Harassment Injunctions (morning)

The FCC Office assists a constant influx of attorneys and litigants with filings related to those five-set weekly calendars in addition to the matters appearing on the general calendar. Many litigants appear pro se—without legal counsel.

UPDATES:

1. Collaboration with Child Support Agency and Corporation Counsel: This Department continues to work with these two agencies to improve child support enforcement by, among other things, the implementation of referrals to Work Force Connections. Workforce Connections’ contact information is provided to relevant litigants at the Child Support and Paternity calendars each week. Referral forms are completed while in the courtroom to facilitate future communications between the Child Support Agency and Workforce Connections about litigants’ compliance with this programming. With the input of both agencies, the Family Court is now conducting Child Support calendars more in accordance with a treatment court model. More frequent hearings are scheduled to track the progress of a payor parent in making child support payments and in obtaining employment. Similar to treatment courts, the goal is to motivate change that leads to positive outcomes for litigants. Attendance by payor parents at these hearings has increased.
2. Presentation at La Crosse County Bar Luncheon: On February 6, 2017, FCC Wright was the featured speaker the bar luncheon. She presented a review of the 2016 case law to local attorneys.
3. New Assistant Family Court Commissioner: Local attorney Pete Sayner has been appointed to serve as an Assistant Family Court Commissioner.
4. Family Policy Board: FCC Wright attended the Family Policy Board meeting on March 6, 2017.
5. The Parenting Place: FCC Wright attended the Supervised Visit and Exchange Advisory Committee meeting on March 21, 2017. The featured speaker provided information on human trafficking. The Parenting Place is an important resource for the Family Court. The Parenting Place provides supervised visits and exchanges when there are issues, such as a high conflict divorce, domestic violence, a parent with AODA issues, or an absent parent seeking reunification with his/her children. No socioeconomic class is exempt from these problems. For this reason, FCC Wright frequently orders families to use this excellent program.

6. Family Law Seminar: FCC Wright attended the Family Law Seminar held in Manitowoc on March 29-31. This program was sponsored by the Office of Judicial Education.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Wright, Family Court Commissioner*