



RESOLUTION # 15-6/12

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE  
LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 6-25

**BOARD ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 25  
Against: =  
Abstain: =  
Abs/Excd: 4  
Vote Req: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Action: \_\_\_\_\_

**PUBLIC WORKS &  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
COMMITTEE  
ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 6  
Against: =  
Abstain: =  
Abs/Excd: 1

**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE  
ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 7  
Against: =  
Abstain: =  
Abs/Excd: 2

**RE: ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE BUILDING POLICY FOR FACILITIES AND PURCHASING**

**WHEREAS**, on February 19, 2009, the County of La Crosse adopted the Strategic Plan for Sustainability; and,

**WHEREAS**, section 1.78(3)(d) of the La Crosse County Code of Ordinances charges the Sustainable La Crosse Commission with making policy recommendations and providing general support for sustainability efforts; and,

**WHEREAS**, some conventional development and some construction practices may deplete natural resources and cause air and water pollution, solid waste, deforestation, toxic wastes, health hazards and other negative consequences; and,

**WHEREAS**, buildings use one-quarter of all the world's wood harvest and consume two-fifths of all materials and energy; and,

**WHEREAS**, the rising energy prices and fragile economy pose serious threats to La Crosse County's ability to thrive, now and in the future; and,

**WHEREAS**, sustainable building complements existing policies related to development and natural resource conservation, including solid waste and recycling policies, sustainable procurement policies, and stormwater management regulations; and,

**WHEREAS**, sustainable development practices present a major economic development opportunity for La Crosse County, not only by supporting existing businesses (i.e. Kwik Trip, Gundersen Lutheran, Aramark), but also may yield cost savings to County taxpayers through reduced operating costs and providing for a healthy work environment for County employees and visitors to County facilities and buildings; and,

**WHEREAS**, studies have shown that high performance office buildings save between 20-40% (\$.40 - \$.80 per square foot) in annual utility bills while providing a better work environment allowing for greater employee productivity (1-10% or \$350-\$3500 per employee per year as reported by Lawrence Berkley Lab report "Cost Effectiveness of Improving Indoor Environments to Increase Productivity"); and,

**WHEREAS**, indicators used for grading our success include building practices that incorporate the triple bottom line of people, planet and profits; and,

**WHEREAS**, the County of La Crosse recognizes its responsibility to implement and promote building practices that protect the quality of air, water and other natural resources, reduce construction practices that impact native fish, vegetation, wildlife and other ecosystems; and minimize human impact on local and worldwide ecosystems; and,

**WHEREAS**, the United States Sustainable Building Council has, in a national collaborative process, created Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards that identify a range of actions that define sustainable buildings and establish certification processes for new and existing buildings; and,

**WHEREAS**, an action item to "Consider adopting LEED standards for all new buildings and remodeling efforts" was identified in the City and County of La Crosse Strategic Plan for Sustainability; and,

**RE: ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE BUILDING POLICY FOR FACILITIES AND PURCHASING**

Page 2

**WHEREAS**, sustainable building practices include life cycle cost analysis, which is an inclusive approach to costing a program, facility or group of facilities that encompasses planning design, construction, operation and maintenance over the useful life of the facilities or group of facilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby adopts the County of La Crosse Sustainable Building Policy (attached hereto as Exhibit A) and the County of La Crosse Sustainable Purchasing Policy (attached hereto as Exhibit B).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that there will be communication between department heads, the Purchasing Manager, and the Sustainability Coordinator regarding policy when purchasing RFP's are utilized and when building projects are planned.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County of La Crosse shall finance and staff its sustainable building projects at a level compatible with current budgetary constraints.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Long-term, these practices have been shown to save money and should continue to save money over the life-cycle of buildings, products and services. Each situation needs to be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Date: 6/11/12

Don Meyer  
**PUBLIC WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE  
COMMITTEE CHAIR**

[Signature]  
**RECORDING CLERK**

Date: June 13, 2012

[Signature]  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Terri Parlic  
**RECORDING CLERK**

|               | Reviewed Only      | Recommended | Not Recommended |   |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|---|
| Co. Admin.    | _____              | _____       | _____           | Requested By: Marilyn Pedretti<br>Date Requested: March 21, 2012<br>Drafted By: Corporation Counsel |
| Fin. Director | <u>GI</u>          | <u>50</u>   | _____           |   |
| Corp. Counsel | <u>NA</u>          | _____       | _____           |   |
| Board Chair   | <u>[Signature]</u> | _____       | _____           |   |

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 21 Day of June, 2012

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2012.

[Signature]  
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk