

ORDINANCE

SUBJECT: REGULATIONS AND LICENSING OF LARGE ASSEMBLIES

COMMITTEE: JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

FIRST CONSIDERATION: October 20, 2011

FINAL CONSIDERATION: November 15, 2011

ORDINANCE # 99 – 11/11 **PUBLICATION DATE** November 26, 2011

The County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County does ordain as follows:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND S. 13.03 OF CHAPTER 13 OF THE GENERAL CODE OF
LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN ENTITLED
"REGULATIONS AND LICENSING OF LARGE ASSEMBLIES"**

ANALYSIS

The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the regulations relating to large assemblies to recognize changes that have occurred since the passage of the original ordinance in 1994. The jurisdiction of this regulation covers the unincorporated areas of the county except for a town that has adopted similar regulations and a town that has its own police department.

The fees charged for a large assembly license (\$100 for a 1 or 2 day assembly and an additional \$100/day for each day in excess of 2 days) have been deleted from the ordinance and moved to the Master Fee Schedule that is presented to the County Board along with the annual budget. Instead of stating the amount of the fees in the ordinance, language has been added that the fees shall be determined by the County Board and subject to change from time to time.

Also, deleted from the ordinance is a requirement that the location be completely enclosed by a fence. The Sheriff's Department felt that the fencing requirement was not necessary and should be deleted.

The Sheriff's Department recommended that a medical professional that shall be on duty at all times during a large assembly shall be one of the following: a registered nurse, emergency medical technician (EMT), or a 1st Responder. An emergency medical technician intermediate (EMTI) was deleted from the list of medical personnel and the basic level EMT and 1st Responder were added. There is also a change in the requirement for ambulances at large assemblies. When the number of persons attending a large assembly is expected to exceed 10,000, this ordinance reduces the number of required ambulances on site from 2 to 1 and the number of EMT's from 4 to 2. Also deleted from the ordinance is the requirement that 3 ambulances be on site when the crowd is expected to exceed 30,000.

The ordinance deletes telephone requirements that were required for large assemblies. For instance, public pay phones, private telephone lines in the medical facility and other private line requirements have been deleted in recognition of the widespread use of cell phones that are readily available to persons attending a large assembly and personnel providing medical treatment. When this ordinance was adopted, cell phones were not widely available and the advancement of phone technology has eliminated the need for land lines. Also deleted is the requirement for a telephone service plan.

Added to the ordinance is a requirement that the applicant provide 1 licensed bartender for each separate beverage station that is serving alcohol.

As a part of the application process for obtaining a large assembly license, the applicant must receive prior approval from the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee if the event is to be held in a

County Park. If the event is to be held in an unincorporated area of the county other than a county park, the applicant must submit with the application a written resolution or letter from the town board or town clerk confirming that the town has approved the event. The Sheriff's Department will confer with other county departments to ensure that the event complies with state and local codes.

The names, addresses and hours of availability of medical personnel will no longer be required as a part of the application for a large assembly license. Also, deleted is the requirement that names, addresses, credentials and hours of availability of security personnel need to be provided to the Sheriff's department. However, the name of person in charge of security for the event and the name and phone number of the contact person are required.

Also, prior to submitting an application, the plans for fire protection must be submitted to the applicable local fire department and the date that the fire plan was submitted to the local fire department must be included with the application.

INFORMATION:

County Board Rules: Governing Body s. 2.02(8) states, in part: Ordinances are drafted by the Corporation Counsel. After the ordinance has been reviewed by a standing committee, each Supervisor will be given a copy of the ordinance showing the deleted language (grayed) and the new language (underlined) and an analysis of the intent of the ordinance. After introduction to the County Board, the ordinance shall be referred to the next monthly meeting unless waived by a 2/3 vote of the Supervisors present and a public hearing may be held if requested by a Supervisor. An amendment may be introduced and debated at either the original or the referred meeting. Copies of the ordinances of the County of La Crosse in their entirety are available with Corporation Counsel, County Clerk, or www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/code/.

(rev. 3/03)