

2021 LWVLA Observer Corps Report Form

Thank you for participating as a member of the Observer Corps for the League of Women Voters of the La Crosse Area. Our goal is to educate LWVLA members on local government activities with the potential to refer topics for further study and advocacy.

Your Name: Sally King

Name of Governmental Body (City/County/Town) Board or Committee: CMJC

Time and Date of Meeting: October 20, 2021, 5-6:30 pm

Members of the Governmental Body (If available, note attendance.):

Link to the public posting of meeting information:

~~Meeting Purpose and Content~~

Please provide a brief statement of the meeting's purpose and a concise overview of its content in the form of a bulleted list:

<https://www.lacrossecounty.org/Minutes%20and%20Agendas/Attachments/2021/Standing/Oct/CJMC102021A.pdf>

-Steve Doyle informed group that after extensive work a resolution was adopted unanimously to create a study committee regarding policing in the county.

-Police officer Avrie Schott and social worker Sam Seefeld presented the "Community Resource Unit" or CRU aimed at helping officers on the spot deal with calls involving mental health crisis cases. The collaboration has helped officers handle those calls and helped individuals in crisis avoid incarceration, instead surrounding them with the resources they need and followup services. So far they have a team available Monday-Friday from 3-7 pm.

-Troy Harcey mentioned the "Handle with Care" program also that connects children witnessing a crisis or traumatic event. Messages are sent to school staff in the 7 Regions Area letting them know a child may arrive at school after such an event.

.Identify issues that the League may want to follow for further study or advocacy:

~~The committee unanimously approved a resolution to create a study committee so~~
Monica Kruse, county board chair can begin to appoint members and set up parameters. It now goes to Judiciary and Law committee.

~~Note any additional comments or feedback regarding this meeting:~~

CMJC will continue to have visitors to the committee explain how their agencies are working to collaborate and provide resources to those at risk to avoid incarceration. Next month Gundersen possibly.

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Items in this section of the form are provided for the observers' benefit. They do not need to be a part of the report, but they provide a checklist of WI Open Meetings Law requirements and good practice for public meeting accessibility. Notable observations about these practices could be included in your feedback comments.

WI Open Meetings Law Checklist

- ☐ Public notice (time/date/location/content) was readily available no later than 2 hours prior to the meeting.
- ☐ The meeting was held in a location that was open to the public and readily accessible to members of the public who wished to attend.
- ☐ The agenda provided enough specific detail to inform interested members of the public about the content of the meeting.
- ☐ A quorum was present to conduct business.
- ☐ Meeting content was limited to only noticed agenda items, including business discussed in closed session.
- ☐ A record of motions, seconds, and roll-call votes from the meeting will be (was?) created and preserved.

Good Practice for Public Accessibility Checklist

- ☐ The meeting was available to view or listen to on-line.
- ☐ Copies of the agenda and handouts were available to the public. Important information was available for viewing via handouts, web links, or projector.
- ☐ Roll call was conducted, and the public could identify members who were present or absent
- ☐ Speakers were identified and could be easily heard.
- ☐ The public was given an opportunity to speak at the meeting.
- ☐ Minutes and/or a recording of the meeting will be made available to the public.

Thank you for participating in the LWVLA Observer Corps. Your responses will help us ensure transparency in local government and assess the need for future LWVLA actions!