



Department Updates

Barron County

July / August 2012

Health & Human Services

Judy Demers Director

A meeting is scheduled for September 26, at the Government Center, to gather input from the community to identify top health priorities of Barron County. This is a collaboration with Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield Dental Clinic, Lakeview Medical Center, Cumberland Healthcare, Mayo Clinic Health System, and our Public Health Unit as part of the development of our Community Health Improvement Plan(CHIP).

A site visit was conducted on July 10, to review the effectiveness of our Coordinated Services Team(CST) initiative. Feedback received from the consultant and other participants was that Barron County is

truly a model for the rest of the state to follow. They were very impressed with the community involvement and collaboration and the positive feedback from families who have been involved in the process. The consultant wrote, "The testimonies provided by the parents, youth and partner representatives demonstrated the true benefits of building a strong collaborative system of care."

According to the most recent data available, our Great Rivers Consortium is processing applications within the proper timelines 93% of the time. This compares to the Enrollment Services Center that was only 16% compliant with timelines.

Barron County, in collaboration with Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn,

Eau Claire, Pepin and Pierce Counties, submitted an application for grant funding for enhancement of services to individuals with behavioral health issues. On August 1, our group was advised that our grant was one of two awarded in the state. This grant amount is \$200,000 per year for a period of three years. Some of the goals of this collaborative are to achieve more consistent delivery of services from county to county through identification of core services, sharing of services across county boundaries to make more efficient use of existing resources, and to improve overall quality of care through evidence-based and best practice models.

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County Clerk

DeeAnn Cook County Clerk

There was a larger voter turnout for the June 2012 Recall Election than there was when the Governor's race was originally decided in November, 2010. Total votes cast in November 2010 in the county were 15,978 and at the June Recall Election, 17,611. In June, 49.3% of eligible voters and 68.5% of registered voters cast ballots. We are proud to say that it was reported on the radio that Barron County was the first county in the state to have all results posted into GAB's website on election night which speaks volumes for our municipal clerks and poll workers, not to mention our

staff here. Special thanks again to Jeff and Pam French, Vonnie Ritchie and Linda Barta who volunteer on Election Night to help take in results. Deputy Jess Hodek did a marvelous job by quickly and accurately entering the results into GAB's system and posting them on our website.

We are now gearing up for the August 14 Partisan Primary where voter turnout is expected to be considerably less than it was for the June Recall. Municipalities with voters in the Barron School District could see a higher turnout due to a referenda question being on the ballot. Town of Sumner will probably see the highest percentage turnout due to a Recall Election of a

Town Supervisor occurring in conjunction with the Fall Primary. Due to 3 candidates filing, August 14 will be a primary and a special election will have to be held a month later with the top two vote getters from the primary on the ballot unless one of the candidates in the primary receives more than 50% of the vote. If that happens, the race is decided then.

Clerk of Court

Sharon Millermon Clerk of Court

One of the most recent law changes to affect the clerk of court office is 2011 Wisconsin Act 274 which became effective April 24, 2012. Act 274 allows certain persons to petition for a name change and keep the records confidential. This law change not only affects procedures of the clerk of court office and courts, but also the register of deeds and state registrar of vital statistics. Under the act, a petitioner is exempt from the publication require-

ment if he or she demonstrates that: (1) publication of the petition for a name change could endanger the petitioner; and (2) petitioner is not petitioning for a name change as an attempt to avoid a debt or conceal a criminal record. If a court determines these conditions are met and publication is not required, then all of the records related to the name change are confidential and exempt from the open records law. Pursuant to 786.36(2m) (a) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the court must provide a copy of the Order for Confidential Name Change to the regis-

ter of deeds and to the state registrar of vital statistics, if the petitioner was born in the State of Wisconsin. The new name may not be disclosed except pursuant to a court order. A court may order disclosure of confidential information upon good cause shown and upon determining that the safety of the petitioner is not jeopardized by disclosure.

Administration

Jeff French County Administrator

LCC/Extension:

June meeting: Approved Farm Preservation Plan Certificate of Compliance.

No July meeting and the August meeting was to be held on the 6th.

Property Committee:

June meeting: Approved renovations to the interior of the Red Cedar School, Rice Lake School district with all costs to be the responsibility of RL Schools.

Approved resolution of continued participation in the County Conservation Aids Program and Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program and directed Administrator to sign Memorandum of Understanding with

City of Rice Lake for improvements to College Drive.

July meeting: Committee completed walk-through of the second floor, Government Center and the conscientious of the Committee was to continue the process of the potential remodeling scenarios.

Had a closed session regarding potential land sale to Rice Lake Weighing.

Executive:

Please note all action items of the Executive Committee were referred to the full Board for action, June and July meeting or will be at the August meeting.