

## Citizen Forums

May 1, 2014 Baraboo, West Square Building, Rm B30, 5:30 p.m.

- 8 County Board Members – Tommy Lee Bychinski, John Dietz, Joan Fordham, Andrea Lombard, Tom Kriegl, John Miller, Peter Vedro, Scott Von Asten
- 5 Staff – Lynn Horkan, Keri Olson, Brentt Michalek, Kathy Schauf, Cathy Warwick
- 12 Public – John Eric Allen, Katie Clay, Bill Dagnon, Tim Damos, Wessie Dietz, Daniel Holzman, Jim Lombard, Tim Reppen, Robert Snyder, Mary Carol Solum, Carol Waser, William Waser

### Public's Comments Expressed:

1. Commented that County employees should have right to have a contract and be paid a living wage. The employees' wages help our communities.
2. Commented County departments should have equity among employees. The County should continue to hire and keep the best staff.
3. Appreciation was expressed for the Highway Department's maintenance and care of roads.
4. Concerned about keeping nature and its diversity in the County. Expressed the County can be a solution.
5. Want the Sheriff to get out of prison business. Encourage the County to do more to help the socially disadvantaged.
6. Committees that control largest budgets should have more diverse members.
7. The judicial consortium is important to focus on what Sauk County needs. Partnerships between County departments and judges bring experience and knowledge. Take advantage of existing successful programs such as La Crosse County. Program can save lives and help citizens support themselves and their families.
8. Commented on importance of independent investigations when appropriate. Referenced situation in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
9. Encourage citizens to comment in the fall on master plan of Badger Army Ammunition Plant. Exceedingly important to be informed and participate. Want Badger to be cleaned up for children to play.
10. Concerns expressed about transparency and financial policies. Expressed concern about the Sheriff's Department bookkeeping and concerned that money is being spent and hidden.
11. Want a change in policy so County supervisors do not have to pay for open records. In this computer age anyone in County should be able to get access and log in to the County system to get information.
12. Expressed dislike of meeting "ground rule: no debate". A complaint will be filed.
13. Questioned what County does with the input from these meetings. Suggested an end of the year wrap up meeting to review key outcomes in response to the citizen forums.
14. Would like to see the County help more with homeless issue. Sauk County Housing Authority is not taking any applications due to lack of funding.
15. Concern about sand mining and frac sand mining in the county. County members can help protect, regulate to set groundwork for a healthy community. Ordinances can be updated to protect groundwater mandating testing and require better blasting notification timelines and monitoring.
16. Commented it is not up to the Sheriff to increase or decrease the jail population.
17. Over time, Medicaid has become an example of "if you build it they will come", and it has greatly increased. Expressed caution in expanding social services.