



**Monroe County**  
**Natural Resource and Extension Committee**  
 820 Industrial Drive, Suite 3, Sparta WI 54656  
 Phone – 608-269-8973 • Fax – 608-269-4394  
 Email – bmicheel@co.monroe.wi.us

**Meeting Information**

Link:

<https://monroecountywi.webex.com/>

Meeting number: 146 271 5391

Password: NREC

Join by phone

+14043971516 US Toll

Access code: 146 271 5391

**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @8:30 a.m.**  
**Monroe County Ag Service Center**

**Committee Members Present:** Nodji Van Wychen, Ron Luethe, David Pierce, Mark Nicholson, Paul Zastoupil (FSA Rep)

**Committee Members Attending Virtual:** Jen Schmitz

**Also present:** Bill Halfman, Joshua Goede, Taylor Hanley, Alyssa Young, Tonya Townsell, Bob Micheel, Roxie Anderson, Clint Gilman, Matt Modjeski, Chad Ziegler, Michelle Komiskey

**Virtual Attendees:** Adam Hady

This meeting was posted in compliance with open meeting laws.

**The meeting was called to Order at 8:30 a.m. by committee chair, Nodji Van Wychen**

**Public Comment Period** – None

**Approve Minutes from the July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting.** The committee reviewed the minutes.

*A motion was made by R. Luethe to accept the meeting minutes as presented. Second by D. Pierce. Motion carries 6-0 (P. Zastoupil voting)*

**Local History Room/Wegner Grotto (J. Roll)**

1. A written report was provided by J. Roll (see attached)
2. A written 2022 Budgets for History Room & Grotto was provided (see attached)

*A motion was made to approve the report/2022 budget was made by R. Luethe, second by D. Pierce. Motion carries 5-0 (P. Zastoupil not voting)*

**Extension Office Business**

1. **County Farm Education Funds – None**
2. **Review July Expenditures** – Written Report provided & Presented by B. Halfman (see attached) with the following addition: T. Hanley mileage being pulled from the wrong account will be amended going forward. Dues for **WEXA** need to be paid.
3. **Preliminary 2022 Budget** provided and presented by B. Halfman for review (see attached)
4. **Agriculture Report** provided and presented by B. Halfman (see attached)
5. **4H & Youth Development Report** provided and presented by J. Geode (see attached) with the following addition: A 3 minute news segment was conducted by News channel 8.
6. **Health & Well-Being/Food Wise Report** was provided by A. Anderson (see attached)
7. **AED Update** was presented by A. Hady.
  - o A. Hady has been approved at the permanent Area Extension Director. He will continue to oversee his prior position in the interim acting in both roles.

*A motion was made to accept the reports as presented/provided by D. Pierce, second by R. Luethe. Motion carries 5-0 (P. Zastoupil not voting)*

**Fort McCoy Update presented by T. Townsell**

1. Fort McCoy is requiring mask usage for all persons regardless of their vaccination status.
2. An internal event is being planned to commemorate the 20 year anniversary of 9/11
3. The natural resource work continues without interruption as it is primarily outdoors.
4. Community leaders are engaging area educators to utilize Fort McCoy for area school field trips.
5. Fort McCoy is being visited by senior officers to observe usage and implantation of COVID precautions due to their continued success.
6. A community appreciation event is being planned for August 26<sup>th</sup> with a reminder that masks will be required.

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- Nodji VanWychen-Chair • Ron Luethe • David Pierce • Jen Schmitz • Mark Nicolson • Paul Zastoupil-FSA Rep

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### **Land Conservation Department**

1. **July Expenditures** – Provided and presented by B. Micheel (see attached)
2. **Preliminary 2022 Budget** – Provided and presented by B. Micheel (see attached)
3. **LCD – Director’s Report** – provided and presented by B. Micheel (see attached) with the following addition:
  - Land Stewardship Award winners have been notified of their award and it was announced in the local papers as well.
  - NRCS announced they will no longer be providing inspection for dams that are past their 50 service life. The county will need to take on that expense/responsibility. There are 5 functioning dams in Monroe County. Grant Funding for this expense is being researched.
  - Intern L. Adams and M. Yancey presented a verbal overview of their summer accomplishments. Including inspecting and documenting bridges, culverts, and stream crossing throughout townships in Monroe County, which included assessments of water flow, fish habitat and how structures are reacting to erosion and flooding.
4. **Fishing Easements (2)** 20 year fishing easements were converted to perpetual easements: Arnold Muenzenberger, Lowell Fromm. A new fishing easement was signed by Connie Meyer

*A motion was made by D. Pierce to accept the easements as presented. Second by R. Luethe. Motion carries 6-0 (P. Zastoupil voting)*

5. **Land Use Planner Report** written report provided along with verbal report presented by R. Anderson (see attached) with an additional note from committee member R. Luethe thanking R. Anderson for the comprehensive work she has done in grant research and application.
6. **Soil & Water Conservationist Reports** Written Report Provided by B. Richardson & B. Anderson

### **Forestry & Parks (C. Ziegler)**

1. **Forestry & Parks Updates** provided and presented by C. Ziegler (see attached) with the following notes:
  - Sale 162 is complete. Sale 150 is in progress. Handicap Assessable Facilities for the Angelo Wayside were requested, awaiting response. The insurance check from the fire at site 63 purchased the replacement of the electrical pedestal, removal of damaged trees, and lost revenue. The insurance company is subrogating against the responsible party. Outdoor Rec plan is a county/community plan that expired and a new plan is being worked on.
2. **Approve County Forest Annual Work Plan Resolution** provided and presented by C. Ziegler (see attached)

*A motion was made to approve the resolution as presented by D. Pierce. Second by R. Luethe. Motion carries 5-0 (P. Zastoupil not voting)*

3. **Approve Resolution Increasing the Maximum Balance of the park department non-lapsing Capital Improvement Account** provided and presented by C. Ziegler (see attached)

*A motion was made to approve the resolution as presented by M. Nicholson. Second by D. Pierce. Motion carries 5-0 (P. Zastoupil not voting)*

4. **Approve Forestry Budget Adjustment** provided and presented by C. Ziegler

*A motion was made to approve the budget adjustment as presented by D. Pierce. Second by M. Nicholson.. Motion carries 5-0 (P. Zastoupil not voting)*

5. **Preliminary 2022 Budget Review** was provided and presented by C. Ziegler

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6. **Discussion/Action - Potential Property Acquisition - Town of Byron.** C. Ziegler presented update waiting for seller to accept offer to purchase.
  - i. The Natural Resources & Extension Committee may go into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1) (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session
7. **Review July Forestry & Parks Expenditures** was provided and presented by C. Ziegler

**Reports:**

1. **Deke Slayton/Bike Museum** Report provided and presented by A. Young (see attached) with the following addition: Museum hours are 1-4 Tuesday – Saturday. A second Chicken Q is planned for September. The August Space camp was held with a shift to Zoom due to COVID.
2. **NRCS Report** presented by M. Komiskey
  - a. NRCS continues to obligate EQIP Programs, Perform compliance reviews for land that is highly Erodible or Wetland, contract CRP with FSA, and preparing for the end of the fiscal year.
3. DNR Forestry Reports:
  - **Warden Report** presented by M. Modjeski detailing a recent timber violation that he worked with C. Callum, ending with the land owner being ordered to pay a substantial forfeiture. And detailed that the active buck theft case court case has been completed. The buck was stolen from the back of the owner truck and was returned to the owner within 25 hours. Theft resulted in fines, criminal charges and revocation of DNR privileges.
  - **Forester Report** Presented by C. Gilman with an update that active timber sales continue. Bid will be accepted for timber sales in the West Salem School forest. Climate Change Task Force will meet in August and a complete a forest tour.
  - Managed Forest Law Program (Bauer) - None

*A motion was made to adjourn by R. Luethe, second by M. Nicholson, The motion carries 6-0 (P. Zastoupil voting)  
Meeting Adjourned 10:55*

**- Next Meeting: September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @8:30 a.m.**

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