



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

Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, September 14th, 2022 @8:30 a.m.
Monroe County – Board Assembly Room Sparta, WI

Committee Members Present: Nodji Van Wychen, David Pierce, Doug Rogalla, Joey Esterline Todd Sparks, Paul Zastoupil

Also Present: Cedric Schnitzler, Tina Osterberg, Jarrod Roll, April Anderson, Adam Hady, Chad Ziegler, Tonya Townsell, Veronica Blount, Alison Elliot, Bryce Richardson

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 August 16, 2022 Meeting. The committee reviewed the minutes
A motion was made by D. Rogalla to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Second by D. Pierce. Motion carries 6-0 (P. Zastoupil voting)

Local History Room/Wegner Grotto Report (Roll) - A written and financial report were provided and presented by J. Roll {see attached}

A motion was made by D. Rogalla to approve the History Room and Grotto reports as presented Second by D Pierce. Motion carries 5-0 (P. Zastoupil not voting).

Deke Slayton/Bike Museum Report (Young) – A written report was provided.

Extension Office Business

- County Farm Education Funds – None
- Review August Expenditures – Report provided & presented by A. Hady {see attached}
- Extension Educator Reports – Anderson reported on various programs and a presentation planned for the upcoming statewide convention. {see attached}.

A motion was made by D. Pierce to approve the Extension expenditures and educator reports. Second by J. Esterline. Motion carries 5-0 (P. Zastoupil not voting).

Fort McCoy Update (Townsell) – T. Townsell provided a report on various activities at Fort McCoy including fish tagging, E DNA testing, water sampling of waste water treatment plant discharge after rain events, endangered species inventories and wolf howling surveys.

NRCS Report (Krause) – Report presented by V. Blount

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• Nodji VanWychen-Chair • David Pierce • Joey Esterline • Doug Rogalla • Todd Sparks • Paul Zastoupil-FSA Rep
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Blount reported on construction project status, conservation compliance, EQIP signup deadline and possible climate smart funding.

Land Conservation Department (Micheel)

- Review August Expenditures – Report provided and presented by B. Richardson {see attached}.
- LCD- Director’s Report – Report provided by B. Micheel {see attached}.
- Land Use Planner Report (R. Anderson) - Report provided by R. Anderson {see attached}
- Soil & Water Conservationist Reports (Richardson & B. Anderson) – Report provided B Richardson {see attached}.
- Stewardship Award Nominations – Committee discussed Conservation Farmer and Conservationist nominees that were selected by the Monroe County Stewardship Committee. *Motion made by D Pierce to approve the nominations of the Conservation Farmer and Conservationist forwarded by the Monroe County Stewardship Committee. Second by D. Rogalla. Motion carries 5-0 (P Zastoupil not voting)*
- Cost Share Agreements – none presented
- Fishing Easements – Richardson presented fishing easement for Michael and Julie Haas on the LaCrosse River. *Motion made by D Pierce to approve Haas fishing easement. Second by D. Rogalla. Motion carries 5-0 (P Zastoupil not voting)*
- Agronomist Position – Funding/Discussion. T Osterberg presented options for funding of proposed County Agronomist position. Possible funding sources include current Ag Agent funds, pesticide certification funds, and farm education account. A Hady UWEX will check on availability of funds for Ag Agent and pesticide certification. Will discuss at October NR & E committee meeting.
- Sanitation and Zoning Committee Request – Review/ Approve. A Elliot discussed ideas for a flood mitigation site on the LaCrosse River. Inquired about a possible canoe/kayak landing as an acceptable use for the site on Icarus Rd. Discussion ensued on project design and costs as well as future maintenance requirements. Land Conservation staff with work with zoning on developing a construction plan and budget. *Motion made by D Rogalla to proceed with planning for Icarus Rd canoe/kayak landing. Second by T Sparks. Motion carried 5-0. (P Zastoupil not voting)*

Forestry & Parks (C. Ziegler)

- Forestry & Parks Updates (C. Ziegler) – Report provided and presented by C. Ziegler {see attached}.

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- Twister Sale Discussion/Action on bid acceptance
C. Ziegler discussed storm damage timber harvest and lack of communication from logger who was awarded the bid. Numerous attempts to communicate have been ignored. Committee suggests a letter stating the deadline to have contract signed and returned and if not returned to reach out to the next highest bidder.
- Resolution Approving 2023 Annual Work Plan –C. Ziegler discussed 2023 Annual Work Plan.{see attached}
Motion made by D Pierce to approve 2023 Annual Work Plan. Second by D. Rogalla. Motion carried 5-0. (P Zastoupil not voting)

DNR Reports –

- Warden Report (Modjeski)– No Report
- Forester Report (Mickelson/Gilman) – No Report
- Managed Forest Law Program (Bauer) – No Report
- Wildlife Biologist Report (Napierala) – No Report

Adjourn 11:51am - Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 @8:30 a.m.

Agenda items for 10/18/22 meeting.

- Agronomist Position Funding – Discussion/Action. Discuss use of Co. Farm Education Fund, Existing UWEX funds, and Leadership Development Account funds as possible sources of funding for the Co. Agronomist position.

Recorded By: Bryce Richardson (Soil and Water Conservationist)

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