

Wednesday, February 12th, 2020 -
Climate Change Task Force Meeting Minutes:

1. Call to Order

2. Welcome & Introductions

3. Monroe County Task Force Update

- Roxie Anderson, Land Use Planner, presented an update to new members of the audience on the task force's plans to establish a real-time weather and stream monitoring system that will also serve as a flood warning alert system.

4. WI State Climate Change Task Force –Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes provided updates.

- 2019 Executive Order #38 created the Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy charge with achieving the goal to ensure 100% clean energy by 2050 and Executive Order #53 created Governor's Task Force on Climate Change
 - The State Task Force has been attending meetings throughout the state and will be hosting 4-5 public hearings April - May. They want to hear the voices of the people in this state, and especially those people in the affected areas. Public hearing dates and locations are to be determined.
 - Wenona Wolf is a Legislative and Policy Director for the Lt. Governor and Morgan Ryser, an engineering student at UW Madison, is an intern and both are part of the State's Task Force
 - A website is being developed to post information about the State's Task Force's efforts, but for the time-being, Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) is a good resource for information. Wicci.wisc.edu
 - The Task Force's next meeting is March 10th in Steven's Point – more info will be available on the states website or you can email the LT Governor at ltgov@wi.gov for more information.

5. Open discussion/questions

- David Vetrano from Wisconsin Green Fire brought up managed grazing as a land use to reduce flooding and increase vegetation in flooding impacted areas to improve soil health. We have to change planning, and landscaping, because of the larger amount of 100-500 year flooding events.
- Tim Hundt, Representative for Congressman Ron Kind provided information about March 19th, 2020 meeting about Coon Creek Watershed.
- Ron Luethe, Town of Ridgeville Supervisor, spoke about the need for crop conversion to reduce the acres of row crops in high flooding areas and bring more crops in to support soil nutrition and ground water quality (crops like alfalfa help with this). Need to figure out how to get farmers to convert, some crops are not as financially supportive as others. Bob Micheel, Land Conservation Department Director added that crops need to be further away from stream edges.
- Matt Krueger, Executive Director for Wisconsin Land+Water Association, provided some information on training they do with farmers to implement better practices and

their advocacy for Land Conservation Departments. He also introduced Elliot Meyer who is their Communications and Media Coordinator.

- Mary Henry, Vernon County Board Supervisor, asked CCTF how to establish a climate change task force and what initiatives need to be taken. Tina Osterberg, County Administrator, provided information.
- Flooding negatively impacts Trout Fishing which is a \$1.6 billion industry in the driftless region.
- Short Term Ideas to prepare for upcoming flood season, spring 2020 –
 - Raise and collect money for these systems, small businesses, and state, federal, and local entities need to work together.
 - Possibly have a non-profit organize funding opportunities. Work with Kickapoo Valley Reserve to find funding sources.
 - Wally Habegger, Monroe County Board Supervisor volunteered to fund a water station.
- FEMA policies need to change – requirement to re-build back to pre-disaster condition is not working. FEMA has also revised policy use consensus based building codes to increase resiliency of communities after a disaster. Greg Wavrunek, U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin's Representative, also mentioned Senator Baldwin's bipartisan bill Rebuilding Stronger Infrastructure Act addresses this issue though the Federal Highway Administration.
- Bring CCTF updates to the full Monroe County Board to let them know about planning efforts and educate new in-coming Board Supervisors. Put together a presentation for Board, perhaps around the 50th anniversary of Earth Day coming up.
- Roxie Anderson, Land Use Planner, continues to seek and work on grant funding opportunities.
- Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) – would be the best avenue for proposing a state conference on climate change.

6. Future Topics and Meeting Dates

- Time to move forward on a decision for implementing objective #1. Keep working on funding sources but we also need to work quickly to establish monitoring and warning systems before the upcoming flood season. Start working on implementing the local option.
- Meetings with the watersheds to see what needs to be done.
- Impervious surfaces and stormwater run-off discussion in the future.
- Next Meeting Date: March 11th 2020 at 2:30-4:30pm in the assembly room

7. Adjournment

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force Meeting

Date: 2/12/2020

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force Members

Name	Title	Agency
Bob Micheel	County Conservationist	Monroe County
Alison Elliott	Zoning Administrator	Monroe County
Roxie Anderson	Land Use Planner	Monroe County
David Ohnstad	Highway Commissioner	Monroe County
Jared Tessman	Emergency Management Coordinator	Monroe County
Wally Habegger	County Supervisor, District 5	Monroe County
Al McCoy	County Supervisor, District 1	Monroe County
Dave Pierce	County Supervisor, District 2	Monroe County
Jim Schroeder	County Supervisor, District 15	Monroe County
Ron Luethe	Town Supervisor	Town of Ridgeville
Jack Herricks	Town Chair / MC Farm Bureau President	Town of Jefferson
Bill Halfman	Agricultural Agent	UW-Extension
John Noble	Fisheries Biologist	Fort McCoy
Tonya Townsell	Public Affairs Officer	Fort McCoy
Cindy Koperski	Program and Policy Analyst	WI Dept. of Natural Resources

RED = Absent

Additional Attendees

Name	Title	Agency
Mandela Barnes	Lt. Governor	State of Wisconsin
Wenona Wolf	Legislative and Policy Director	State of Wisconsin
Morgan Ryser	Intern	State of Wisconsin CCTF
Matt Krueger	Executive Director	Wisconsin Land and Water Association
Elliot Meyer	Communications and Media Coordinator	Wisconsin Land and Water Association
Mark Van Wormer	Public Works Director	City of Sparta
Gillian Pomplun	Reporter	Crawford City Independent
Carl Schlecht	Resident	Crawford County
Kathleen Tigerman	Resident	Crawford County
Edie Ehlert	Board President	Crawford Stewardship Project
Marcy West	Executive Director	Kickapoo Valley Reserve
Abbey Nicewander	Planner	Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission
Joey Esterline	Resident	Monroe County
Ned Gatzke	Resident	Monroe County
Mary Von Ruden	County Supervisor, District 7	Monroe County
Cedric Schnitzler	County Supervisor, District 4	Monroe County
Pat Mulvaney	Reporter	Monroe County Herald
John Wetenkamp	Hydrologist	National Weather Service
Dan Baumgardt	Science and Operations Officer	National Weather Service
Ann Smith	Resident	Town of Wells
Tim Hundt	Representative	U.S. Representative Ron Kind
Mike Holland	Representative	U.S. Senator Ron Johnson
Gregg Wavrunek	Regional Representative	U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin
Ashley Oliphant	Zoning Administrator	Vernon County
Mary Henry	Board Supervisor	Vernon County

Additional Attendees

Name	Title	Agency
Toby Grotz	Resident	Vernon County
Monique Hassman	Watershed Planner	Vernon County LCD and Valley Stewardship Network
Dan Baumann	Secretary's Director	WI Dept. of Natural Resources
David Vetrano	Sustainability Consultant	Wisconsin Green Fire
James Ebert	Resident	
Kewz Gallaway	Resident	