

Thursday, June 4th, 2020 -
Climate Change Task Force Meeting Minutes:

1. Call to Order

2. Welcome & Introductions

- Conference call participants were notified they could follow along with presentations and visuals by logging onto the Monroe County Land Conservation Dept. Web page where they were posted for today's meeting.

3. Members update

- Tina Osterberg, County Administrator, announced James Schroeder is no longer serving on the Monroe County Board or the CCTF committee, Cedric Schnitzler will be filling that vacancy on the CCTF committee. Jared Tessman will be filling the roll left vacant by Darlene Pintarro as the Emergency Management Coordinator.

4. Monroe County Task Force Update

- Bob Micheel, noted the following since our last meeting on March 11th:
 - Gave a presentation to the State CCTF on May 21st for their virtual meeting. Discussed Climate Change (flooding) in Monroe County and our CCTF activities.
 - The Monroe County Zoning department is implementing a more stringent review process for crossings. A variance is need to permit crossings (culverts/bridges); which has led to improved siting and better alternatives in our waterways.
 - Participating in the NRCS Stream Restoration Standards team to revise current standards used in stream restoration work. All of these standards are impacted by climate change.
 - A private engineering firm has been selected for the Coon Creek Watershed plan development. This firm will be contracted shortly and planning will commence with anticipated outcomes between 18-24 months.
 - Participated in a conference call with the UW-Madison graduate students who are studying the effects of climate change in the Coon Creek Watershed. Potential outcomes: intense precipitation mitigation practices, which ultimately leads to flood flow reduction.
 - A New York Associate Producer Josh Fattersak from **The Years Project** contacted me in March. Looking to highlight Wisconsin's climate change impacts. Put together a list of landowners, municipal leaders, farmers to contact for assembling this documentary. He might be interested in attending one of our CCTF meetings in the future.
- Ron Luethe asked about the scheduled training for towns on culvert placement. Bob explained that we were still planning the culvert training with the townships, but with the impact of COVID-19 this will be held-off until fall.

- Dan Baumann, asked if the Lieutenant Governor office contacted us since they attended our February CCTF meeting? Yes, requested presentation for their May 21st meeting.

5. Implementation of Objective No. 1 – Monitoring Devices (weather stations) and warning systems in real time.

- Due to Marcy needing to leave the meeting at 9:00 the discussion surrounding review of Kickapoo Valley Association & CCTF donation brochure was moved up. Bob gave an update on the Monroe County Climate Change Task Force and Kickapoo Valley Association brochures for the Kickapoo and La Crosse watersheds. They show maps with potential placement of monitoring systems, donation levels; \$10,000 donation will receive naming rights of a weather station, and \$3,000 receive naming rights for the sensor station.
 - Bob noted an update that the Monroe County donation account is now available to accept donations for monitoring systems. Marcy stated, once they have the account setup at the bank, they will be able to accept donations at the KVR. Bob thanked Emily-with KVA for brochure development.
- a. Review weather stations/equipment for the Kickapoo River & La Crosse River Watersheds, Roxie gave a presentation on the specifications and price quotes of the monitoring equipment being consider. The presentation is posted on the Land Conservation Website <http://www.co.monroe.wi.us/departments/land-conservation/>
- b. Funding:
- CCTF Account, Tina gave an update regarding the Monroe County Board authorizing a restricted climate change task force donations account that would be non-lapsing from year to year in the Monroe County Land Conservation Department. This account would be restricted for use towards the CCTF goals/objectives. The resolution was passed by a vote of 16 yes and 0 no, by the Monroe County Board on May 20th.
 - Fishers and Farmers Partnership grant application titled “Establish Real-Time Weather Monitoring Stations to Improve Success of Conservation Practices in Flood-Prone Areas” has been awarded \$36,086 in funding with \$7,800 allocated for purchase of monitoring equipment. Project funding will be available summer of 2020.
 - FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, Hazard Mitigation Planning grant application titled “Integrating Hazard Mitigation Planning into Monroe County Planning Effort” has been selected for further review and funding. The funding request is \$63,768.75 with a \$21,256.25 match over a 20-month period. The funding request will cover personnel time for Monroe County’s Land Use Planner, Emergency Management Coordinator, Zoning Director, Highway Commissioner, and Land Conservation Director to integrate hazard

mitigation planning into Monroe County and Climate Change Task Force planning efforts. Final funding award amounts will be announced later this summer.

- c. Implementation timeline
 - o Summer 2020
- d. Schedule Watershed Meetings – (Leon/Wilton) Inform public and empower participation
 - o Bob Micheel led the discussion, Tim Welch and Ron Luethe will work together to find a facility for the Kickapoo watershed meeting. In the La Crosse watershed Jen Schmitz and Sharon Folcey will work together to setup a facility location and time for a watershed meeting
- e. Implementation Team – NWS, LCD, Designate – Watershed Point of Contact, others???

6. Logo Ideas

- Bob scrolled through possible logo options that Arin Gowan (LCD-Adm. Assistant) put together. The committee discussed what they like from reviewing these options. Bob will take the discussion points back to Arin and she will work on additional logo ideas that the committee can review at next month's meeting.

7. Open discussion/questions

- David Pierce suggested that maybe we want to implement the more expensive High Sierra monitoring devices, since they have been used in Trempealeau County and Pine Island Minnesota for approximately 8 years. They have proven that they will last over time and no sense recreating the wheel.
- Cedric suggested that maybe we should be inviting other locations to the Kickapoo and La Crosse watershed meetings, so that they can learn and be ready when their turn comes in a year or two. These would potentially be the Lemonweir in Tomah and Beaver Creek in Sparta sites.

6. Future Topics and Meeting Dates

- Report from the site visit to Trempealeau County on the High Sierra equipment
- Kickapoo watershed meeting report
- La Crosse watershed meeting report
- Review updated logo ideas from today's discussion
- The meeting schedule for the rest of 2020 has been set: 1st Wednesday of each month from 2:30 – 4:30pm in the Monroe County Board Assembly room.

7. Adjournment

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force Meeting

Date: 6/4/2020

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force Members

Name	Title	Agency
Tina Osterberg	County Administrator	Monroe County
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
Cedric Schnitzler	County Supervisor, District 4	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
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
Mark Van Wormer	Public Works Director	City of Sparta
Gillian Pomplun	Reporter	Crawford City Independent
Marcy West	Executive Director	Kickapoo Valley Reserve
Joey Esterline	Resident	Monroe County
Mary Von Ruden	County Supervisor, District 7	Monroe County
Jen Schmitz	County Supervisor, District 15	Monroe County
John Wetenkamp	Hydrologist	National Weather Service
Loren Oldenburg	State Representative	Wisconsin
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
Dan Baumann	Secretary's Director	WI Dept. of Natural Resources