

Climate Change Task Force Meeting

Wednesday, February 3, 2021- *Virtual Meeting Only*

1. Call to Order at 9:03 a.m. by Tina Osterberg
2. Welcome & Introductions – Tina introduces all task force members' and additional guests. See attendees list attached
 - Brad Pfaff: Wisconsin State 32nd Senate District
 - Holly Kirking Loomis- originally from Sparta, joined the Foreign Service and US State Department.
 - Bill Nussdorfer- Sparta Kiwanis Club
 - Guest Speaker at 10am - Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes
3. Flood Monitoring Stations / Voluntary Buyouts/ Grants Updates (Anderson) -
 - Flood Monitoring Station equipment overview. Tour of Data Dashboard and demonstration of data collection and management features. Currently working with the National Weather Service to create a webpage that will be accessible by the public to view the data from the flood monitoring stations.
 - Voluntary Buyout project update – FEMA sub-award 1 with matching funding from Coulee Cap has been moving forward. Three properties (of 8 eligible properties) have been acquired. Requests for proposals for demolition will be posted and project completion is set for March 31, 2021. An update on FEMA sub-award 2 and the alternate properties will be provided at the March meeting.
 - Grant application update -
 - Submitted FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities planning grant application. Grant funding request for \$40,000 to purchase 10 flood monitoring stations, 25% local match will be required.
 - The DNR Surface Water Program should be announcing grant awards in March. Two grant applications were submitted last November for the Little La Crosse River and Upper Kickapoo River watersheds. Each application requests \$10,000 for the purchase of flood monitoring equipment.
4. **10:00am - Presentation:** Wisconsin Climate Change Report – Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin Mandela Barnes and Wenona Wolf
 - Welcome and Introduction, Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes thanks Bob Micheel for the invitation. Comments that he was able to visit Monroe County and attend a CCTF meeting last year. In addition, he was able to tour some of the flood damaged areas from the 2018 flooding events.
 - Begins with the comment of setting new energy goals. Governor Evers plan for clean energy by 2050. Now have federal government on board for clean energy by 2035. Their goal outpaces our goal but we can look for that support.
 - Discusses the groundwork for the report and have about 55 climate solutions. Will be updating State Statues to implement these goals.
 - Developing resilience plan that would help identify those most at risk for flooding. Create partnerships and tools to build community resilience plans.
 - Statewide plans and support is needed. Building healthy and productive communities.
 - State budget proposal will be released on February 16th.

Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes opens up for Q&A

- Comments on Carbon Footprint, Flooding, Broadband, Mappings and Budget
- Tina thanked Lt. Gov. Barnes for his presentation and agrees with the suggestion to host Lt. Governor on annual basis.

5. Open discussion/questions

- Cedric comments on the budget and how it will affect us. State Senator Pfaff responds on the budget and legislature. State Senator Pfaff agrees with addressing questions of “Where do we go from here? The State Budget is due June 30th – committees will be working until May. Suggestion to host a panel discussion at a future CCTF meeting and center discussion on climate change adaptation needs in the region with a goal to forward recommendations as CCTF group. Gillian suggests including Vernon and Crawford Counties in future discussions. Sarah Semrad from State Senator Pfaff’s office would be a point of contact.
- Grassland 2.0: Grassland initiative and what program and or projects are in conjunction? Had a meet and greet, next meeting will give more details.

6. Stream Crossing Inventory Proposal (Luethe)

- Sub-committee within CCTF will perform a stream crossing inventory of Monroe County to assess the following: current state of the crossings to determine whether structures are adequate or if they need to be improved for better flood resiliency/fish passage.
- Monroe County Highway Department has completed a certain level of inventory work on the County crossings but more detailed inventory is needed for the evaluation. Hope to secure funding to hire 1 or 2 interns to complete the data collection, DNR can provide training. Some funding sources have been identified. Looking for townships involvement.
- Bob has drafted a proposal and is awaiting feedback from DNR and highway department. Plan is to standardized inventory process as much as possible. Tentative plans to start inventory this summer (2021).

7. Review CCTF Objectives and future goals (moved to future CCTF meeting date)

8. Other News -

- Bob comments on the CCTF apparel form and taking orders until February 5th.
- Megan Duffy, Water Management Engineer for the DNR, comments on the FEMA funding being provided to update flood mapping. Monroe County will be included in the process. Project planning is in preliminary steps. The DNR will be using County’s LIDAR Datasets to improve hydrologic modeling. Atlas 14 precipitation data will be used for hydrologic modeling, forecast & predicted conditions cannot be used for flood mapping. Project will be led by Ruth Ann Fowler, Floodplain GIS Mapping Specialist with the DNR. Hydrologic modeling will be done by early 2023, depending on funding from FEMA. Flood map revision process can take another 3 years to complete and certify. Contact Megan if there are questions and she can direct you to the appropriate person.

9. Next Meeting – Thursday, March 4th, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Virtually

10. Adjournment at 10:52 a.m.

Recorded by: Adrian Lockington
Administrative Office Specialist

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force Meeting

Date: 2/3/2021

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
Gillian Pomplun	Reporter	Crawford City Independent
Robert Nigh	WFBF Board Director	Governor's Task Force on Climate Change
Marcy West	Executive Director	Kickapoo Valley Reserve
Matt Hanewell	Director	La Crosse County LCD
Ned Gatzke	Resident	Monroe County
Jen Schmitz	County Supervisor, District 15	Monroe County
Abbey Nicewander	Planner	MRRPC
Cathy Zapotocny	Senior Forecaster	National Weather Service
Bill Nussdorfer	Kiwanis	Sparta Kiwanis Club
Holly Kirking Loomis	Deputy Political / Economic Counselor	U.S. Consulate General Sao Paulo
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
Mary Henry	Board Supervisor	Vernon County
Monique Hassman	Watershed Planner	Vernon County LCD and VSN
Lisa Trumble	Env. Analysis & Review Specialist	WI DATCP
Dan Baumann	Secretary's Director	WI Dept. of Natural Resources
Megan Duffy	Water Reg/Zoning Engineer	WI Dept. of Natural Resources
Brad Pfaff	State Senator District 32	Wisconsin
Sarah Semrad	Outreach Director	WI State Senator Brad Pfaff
Mandela Barnes	Lt. Governor	Wisconsin
Wenona Wolf	Deputy Chief of Staff and Policy and Legislative Director	WI Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes
John Hierl	Executive Assistant and Constituent Services Specialist	WI Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes
Dhrtvan Sherman	Constituent Services Intern	WI Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes