

Climate Change Task Force Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 7, 2021- *Virtual Meeting Only*

Meeting Attendance Attached

1. Call to Order at 9:05 a.m. by Tina Osterberg
2. Welcome & Introductions- Tina Osterberg/ introduces all participants
3. Updates on CCTF activities –

Roxie Anderson - Updates

- Weather Monitoring Stations- Successfully installed monitoring station at County Road Z in Town of Wilton. Stations will be installed as time allows. Goal is to have all stations installed by end of April. Next steps will be coordination with National Weather Service and Emergency Management Coordinator, Jared Tessman, to start developing alert notification system. A public outreach event will be planned for May to provide photo opportunities and public education.
- Funding summary - A funding summary has been completed to provide update on funding received through grant program, department funding, and donations and funding spent on stations. Roxie reviewed summary, as of April 6, 2021, \$29,870 has been received and \$20,321 has been spent, there is a remaining balance of \$9,549.
- Grant Programs – Grant applications were submitted to Wisconsin Dept. of Administration for a Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief program. Proposed projects included funding requests to modernize Tri-Creek Dam flood warning system and acquire and demolish a flood damaged property in the Town of Leon. Grant awards announcements are planned for April 15th.

Alison Elliott- Updates

- Voluntary Buyouts Program: Acquisition & Demolition of 8 Properties along the Little La Crosse River - Another property has been acquired, bringing total number of properties acquired to 4 out of 8 properties. Currently in progress with acquiring 2 more properties.

Bob Micheel - Updates

- On Monday April 12 at 4:30 p.m. Brad Pfaff will be hosting a virtual listening session on conservation and agriculture
- On Monday April 21 at 6p.m. The Governor will be hosting a Budget Listening Session on CCTF & the environment.

4. CCTF Objectives – Review accomplishments and goals for 2021 (Bob Micheel). Open discussion, questions and feedback followed:
 - Ron Luethe – Accomplishment that people are aware of CCTF and how it is effecting the county. CCTF is making progress moving forward on objectives. Do not see any needs or gaps that aren't addressed by objectives.

- Wally Habegger- comments that Objective 5. “Enforcement of Land Use Decision” is very important to ensure that zoning and ordinance enforcement is prioritized. Suggestion by Land Use Planner to combine Objectives 4 and 5 since they are very similar. Enforcement would still be included as part of objective.
 - Tim Hundt- comments that he is hopeful that COVID Relief funding can possibly be directed to watershed infrastructure type of projects. Legislation is still working through those definitions.
5. Presentation: Musings on Carbon Farming – Mark A. Liebig, Research Soil Scientist, USDA-ARS, Mandan, ND *Presentation will be posted on CCTF website*
6. Open Discussion / questions -
- Bob Micheel comments on the recent Green Fire Presentation.
 - Tina Osterberg comments that seeing the change on how we used to crop land previously and now how things are done now and soil erosion. Change over in cropping is a major issue. Talking to land owners and asking if they would participate in movement.
 - Ron Luethe comments that June meeting speaker will discuss topic of landowner involvement.
 - Gillian Pomplun shared link to article on the results of the Crawford County Aerial Cover Crop program: <https://www.swnews4u.com/2021-farm-focus/>
7. Next Meeting Wednesday, May 5th 2021 from 9am – 11am
- US Senator Tammy Baldwin will be guest speaker
 - Following CCTF meeting there will be the Kickoff meeting for the **Monroe County - Climate Readiness and Rural Economic Opportunity Assessment** at the American Legion Hall, 1116 Angelo Sparta, WI, starting at 1pm.
8. Meeting Adjourned at 11:00am

Recorded by: Land Conservation Dept. Staff

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force Meeting

Date: 4/7/2021

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
Abbey Nicewander	Planner	MRRPC
Brad Pfaff	State Senator District 32	Wisconsin
Gillian Pomplun	Reporter	Crawford City Independent
Gregg Wavrunek	Regional Representative	U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin
Jessica James	Climate Initiatives Coordinator	Wisconsin Academy
Mark Liebig	Research Soil Scientist	U.S.D.A. Agricultural Research Science
Mark Van Wormer	Director Public Works	City of Sparta
Matt Hanewell	Director	La Crosse County LCD
Megan Duffy	Water Reg/Zoning Engineer	WI Dept. of Natural Resources
Ned Gatzke	Resident	Monroe County
Tim Hundt	Representative	U.S. Representative Ron Kind