

Climate Change Task Force Meeting Minutes

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

Meeting Attendance Attached

1. Call to Order at 9:03 a.m. by Tina Osterberg
2. Welcome & Introductions
3. Updates on CCTF activities
 - Donations & Funding: Bob Micheel Updates on last donation made by Leon Community. Roxie comments on Grant Funding/FEMA application is under review and funding opportunities.
 - Weather Monitoring Stations: Roxie Anderson updates stations in field. Working with vendor with some technical issues. Rain gauges working and are reporting data.
 - Voluntary Buyouts: Roxie Anderson updates project. Currently have acquired all 8 properties totaling 18 acres of land that will be returned to open space. Properties/locations: (2) Town of Sparta (5) Town of Leon (1) Town of Portland. Three demolitions have been completed with estimate completion of remaining demos by the end of summer.
 - Stream Crossing Inventory/Assessment: Bob Micheel comments on two interns that are completing the inventory. Jefferson, Sheldon, and Portland are completed. Interns will give a presentation next month.
 - WI Green Fire Project- Heather Stricker gave an update on the Monroe County Readiness & Rural Economic Opportunity Assessment:
 - Phase 1 - Explore Define and Initiate - Completed
 - Phase 2 - Assess Vulnerability - Analyze potential Impacts and adaptive capacity to determine the vulnerability of populations and community assets. Plan to have complete by August 31, 2021
 - Phase 3 - Define Approach, framework and strategies- Develop strategies and involve community workshops. Aug 4th meeting will kick off outreach activities which will include field demonstrations. Community workshops will be in September- need to identify venue key audience and logistics.
 - Phase 4 Implementation Stage and Re-evaluations - Vision is to complete Phases 1-3 this year and start Phase 4 Implementation next year.
 - Coon Creek Watershed- PL566: Bob Micheel, scoping meeting completed last month. Outcome of those meetings was the breached structures should be decommissioned. The existing structures that are still functioning will need to be addressed in the near future as they have aged beyond their 50 year life. Looking at watershed management and efforts to create a farmer led group. Comments on West Fork area and Public comment period is still open.
 - Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) - Bob comments on Ag Working Group, publishing expected later this fall. Will try to implement this with the Green Fire Project.

- CCTF Website- Tina Osterberg comments on Monroe County CCTF & Green Fire Webpages.
 - Other Updates
 - Bob recommends viewing the Rebuilding Paradise Documentary on Netflix – The documentary on wildfires in California parallel’s our flooding issues as related to aged infrastructure and critical decisions moving forward.
 - Marcy West: Comments about Baraboo River providing information on dam removals using on-site signage for paddlers. Examples can be found at <https://friendsoftheboo.org/baraboo-river-history>
4. Open discussion / questions – The question was posed to the participants, what changes have you noticed on the landscape related to climate change, Bob gave some examples. Please see attachment A for questions and items that were addressed in open discussion.
5. Next meeting Wednesday August 4th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Monroe County Board Assembly Room with WebEx online meeting available.
6. Meeting Adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Recorded by Adrian Lockington, Administrative Office Specialist & LCD Staff

Attachment A

Chat

from Roxie Anderson to everyone: 9:51 AM
Rebuilding Paradise documentary on Netflix

from Ned Gatzke to everyone: 10:06 AM
There were also natural values lost when dams were built and modified the natural watershed function.

from Marcy West, WEDC to everyone: 10:09 AM
To Jen's point; our neighbors to the east - Baraboo River - have a good mix of on-site signs for paddlers and information on dam removal:
<https://friendsoftheboo.org/baraboo-river-history>

from Marcy West, WEDC to everyone: 10:15 AM
Lonestar Tick found as far north as Eau Claire & surviving Wisconsin winters with ease.

from Jen Schmitz to everyone: 10:16 AM
I don't remember having those copper colored beetles before the last 2 or 3 years. They eat leaves like mad!!!

from Ned Gatzke to everyone: 10:19 AM
Dry soil has to get wetted before it can absorb more moisture. Just the opposite of saturated soil shedding more moisture (runoff).

from Ned Gatzke to everyone: 10:22 AM
I have noticed more washed out drainages and landslides. The washed out drainages seem to be carrying more water with smaller rain events.

from Ned Gatzke to everyone: 10:25 AM
I am still noting some planting up and down slopes.

from Ned Gatzke to everyone: 10:28 AM
Runoff from impervious surfaces.

from Marcy West, WEDC to everyone: 10:29 AM
Have to step off for a 10:30 meeting. So good to hear your progress (& see familiar faces) Take care all!

from dan baumann to everyone: 10:31 AM
thanks much for all the great conversation today, I need to drop off for a 10:30 engagement. I look forward to seeing folks in person in August. Be well.

from Roxie Anderson to everyone: 10:32 AM
DNR provides this brochure for homeowners in the floodplain...
https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Floodplains/documents/litf_brochure.pdf

from Gillian Pomplun to everyone: 10:33 AM
EHD invaded Crawford in 2019 Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease that kills deer

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force Meeting

Date: 7/7/2021

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
Adam Balz	County Supervisor, District 11	Monroe County
Ben Anderson	Soil and Water Conservationist	Monroe County LCD
Christina Anderson	Climate Specialist	Wisconsin Land and Water
Dan Baumann	Secretary's Director	WI Dept. of Natural Resources
Doug Rogalla	Resident	Monroe County
Gillian Pomplun	Reporter	Crawford City Independent
Gregg Wavrunek	Regional Representative	U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin
Heather Stricker	Membership and Project Support Specialist	Wisconsin's Greenfire
Jen Schmitz	County Supervisor, District 15	Monroe County
Marcy West	Director Office of Rural Prosperity	WI Economic Development Corporation
Matt Hanewell	Director	La Crosse County LCD
Nancy Vandermeer	State Representative	Wisconsin
Ned Gatzke	Resident	Monroe County
Sarah Semrad	Outreach Director	WI State Senator Brad Pfaff
Tim Hundt	Representative	U.S. Representative Ron Kind