



**MONROE COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
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Climate Change Task Force

Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, June 1st 2022, 9-11am
Monroe County Board Assembly Room / Virtual

This meeting was posted in compliance with open meeting laws.

1. Call to Order – Tina Osterberg began the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

2. Welcome & Introductions – Attendance list attached

3. Presentations: **Presentations can be found on the Climate Change Task Force Committee webpage, under the 2022 meetings tab at the bottom of the page:**
<https://www.co.monroe.wi.us/government/county-board-of-supervisors/boards-committees/climate-change-task-force>

- **Monroe County Flood Resilience Score Card** –MPA, CFM- Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Jackson Parr
 - Parr introduced the flood resilience score card, which is a community self-assessment with particular focus on health outcomes. Parr presented Monroe County performing on par with the rest of Wisconsin counties and explained categories where the county received a score less than 60% are areas worth focusing on in the future.
 - B. Micheel inquired about which county representative would be best suited to participate in the community rating system, Parr responded someone familiar with the federal FEMA application process would be best.
 - M. Henry inquired about the Vernon County assessment and Parr responded that the score card was completed for Vernon County and he will be presenting it at the Flood Mitigation Alliance meeting scheduled for June 22nd

- **Flood Resilience in The Coon Creek Watershed** - Final Report & EIS Modeling – UW-Madison, PhD. Associate Scientist – Ecohydrology, Eric Booth & Jackson Parr
 - Booth explained the flood resilience project led by UW-Madison is an effort in which MS Grad students tackle water resource concerns while working closely with communities. Booth also noted that the final report will be available on the UW-Madison website by the end of the week.
 - J. Esterline brought up the issue of encouraging conservation efforts on land owned by absentee landowners. E. Booth emphasized the importance of prioritizing policy change in order to connect local strategies within state/federal policy changes. M. Hanewall brought up the challenge of incentivizing carbon-capturing land management practices to individual

land owners and E. Booth introduced a new project he is working on focused on managed grazing and how to incentivize cover crops (called “grassland 2.0”). Booth explained UW-Madison recently submitted a grant to the USDA to not only study this phenomenon but also create a pilot project with available incentivizing funds. The challenge lies in formal market development, but the USDA is open to the idea.

- Attention turned to the recommendation of creating a ‘Joint Powers Board’ and B. Micheel noted the importance of analyzing the challenges of flood mitigation from a watershed stance as opposed to an individual county level and explained there are currently collaboration efforts on this issue between counties. M. Hanewall brought up the on-going challenge of budget constraints in who can respond or assist with resource concerns.
- Booth noted the formation of the Coon Creek Community Watershed Group (partially funded by the USDA), which is community-led effort. B. Micheel mentioned the group will meet tonight at 6pm

- **UW-Madison Flood Modeling Project** – *Eric Booth*

- Booth focused on the *FloodScape* Web-based tool that is scheduled to be available to the public the summer of 2023 and is intended to be primarily used by the public to assess and visualize impacts of scenarios on flooding developed through community workshops

4. Updates

- 22 brand new flood monitoring systems have come in and will be set up and installed to total 27 stations covering southern Monroe County.
- Farm Bill is coming up, there is a listening session in WI June 7th. B. Micheel emphasized the importance of the opportunity to update the Farm Bill to address relevant concerns.
- LCD interns are here and taking over the Stream Crossing Assessment Inventory project started in 2021. B. Micheel noted he and B. Fischer presented at the Town Association meeting recently to provide information on how the public can access the assessment inventory data the interns are assisting in gathering. The data is hosted through Michigan DNR and it has raw data as well as generates auxiliary data that could be used in grant proposals. The challenge among local groups centers on the actual process of grant writing.
- B. Micheel provided a report from WI DNR on [Carbon Dynamics in Relation to Prescribed Fire in the Lake States](#)
- First demo project completed with Tucker Gretebeck which involved 2 days of tree planting with tree tubes placed around each. Pictures and a video are likely to follow.

5. Meeting Schedule 2022 – Next meeting will likely be scheduled the week of Labor Day

6. Meeting Adjourned - 11:06 a.m.

Recorded by Jennifer Diamond, LCD Administrative Assistant

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force Meeting

Date: 6/1/2022

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
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 DNR
RED = Absent		

Additional Attendees

Name	Title	Agency
Abby Diehl	Intern	Vernon County
Bobbi Jo Fischer	Environmental Analysis Supervisor	WI DNR
Brandon Thill	LCD Intern	Monroe County
Brad Betthausen	Envir Analysis Rev Spec-Adv	WI DNR
Christina Anderson	Climate Specialist	WI Land & Water
Gilian Pomplun	Reporter	Crawford City Independent
Gregg Wavrunek	Regional Representative	U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin
Helena Wehrs	LCD Intern	Monroe County
Jen Schmitz	Resident	Monroe County
Jennifer Diamond	Admin Assistant	Monroe County
Joey Esterline	County Supervisor, District 15	Monroe County
Leah Peterson	Representative	State Rep Loren Oldenburg
Mary Henry	Resident	Monroe County
Matt Hanewall	County Conservationist	La Crosse County
Tim Hundt	Representative	U.S. Representative Ron Kind