

Monroe County Natural Resource and Extension Committee  
Regular Monthly Meeting- November 8 2016  
Monroe County Ag Service Center -820 Industrial Dr., Sparta, WI

**Committee Members present:** N.VanWychen, J. Schroeder, D. Pierce, M. Halverson, D. Hall, D. Olson

**Also Present:** B. Micheel (LC), C. Ziegler (Forestry), C. Mulder (LC), B. Richardson (LC) J. Roll (History), M. Mickelson (DNR),  
E. Eggert (UW-EXT), B. Halfman (UW-EXT)

The meeting notice was posted in compliance with the open meeting law.

**Call to Order:** Chairman VanWychen called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Public Comment Period:** There was no public comment.

**Approve Minutes from the October 11th NR & Extension Meeting:** The committee reviewed the minutes. A Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by *D. Pierce, seconded by D. Hall Motion carried, 6-0.*

**Deke Slayton/Bike Museum:** No Report

**Local History Room/Wegner Grotto:** J. Roll presented report (attached) to the committee and reviewed the October expenditures.

1. Discuss/approve budget adjustment to History rooms Operating Expense;  
*D. Pierce motion to approve budget adjustment, second by M. Halverson. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Land Conservation Department:**

1. Review October Expenditures: B. Micheel reviewed expenditures, report attached.
2. County Conservationist Report: B. Micheel presented the departmental report (attached) to the committee. Bob informed the committee the Land Conservation Department's server has been down the last 13 days with no access for email, etc. Bob also discussed in detail the debris removal from the PL 566 Dam. Bob mentioned the resource evaluation regarding the Tri-Creek watershed. The Agricultural Advisory Team December meeting start date is being moved to January.
3. Soil & Water Conservationist Report: C. Mulder discussed her activities- mentioning the design for Leroy Baldwin and a survey for Larry Hoeft streambank restorations. She also mentioned the training she attended in Mt Horeb on October 3 and how well attended in learning the proper use of different field equipment. B. Richardson spoke of the different projects on-going and completed for 2016 with work on 2017 surveys. Bryce discussed the nonmetallic mining financial assurance. (reports attached)
4. Approve Cost Share Agreements: Rainbow Valley Farms agreement for grade stabilization structure totaling \$8000 brought to the committee for approval.  
*J. Schroeder motion to approve, second by D. Pierce. Motion carried 6-0*
6. Approve Fishing Easement: None

**NRCS Report:** No Report

**DNR Reports:**

1. Private Lands: C. Walroth
2. Warden: M. Michelson

**Forestry & Parks:**

1. **Forestry & Park Updates** C. Ziegler presented his department report (attached).
2. **Discussed privy at Angelo Wayside** C Ziegler discussed the groundwater from an artesian well mixing with contents of the privy at the Angelo Wayside and mentioned a couple of options. To replace with a single prefab 10x10 building or set up a portable unit seasonally. Chad was also told of RAPP Fund that was set up for dredging in the past and as no longer used could be used for projects in that area. Nodji asked Chad to continue researching.
3. **Review Forestry & Parks Expenditures** C. Ziegler reviewed the monthly expenditures.

The FSA representative D. Hall left meeting after his obligation was completed.

**County Farm Education Funds – Discussion of potential projects - No discussion**

**Extension Office Business:**

1. Review of October Expenditures
2. 4H & Youth Development Report (Goede) - report attached
3. Family Living Report (Eggert) -report attached
4. Agriculture Report (Halfman) - report attached.

**Motion made** by D.Pierce to accept Agent reports and review of expenditures, seconded by M.Halverson.

**Motion carried** 5-0-1.

The next meeting will be held December 13th at 8:30 a.m. at the Monroe County Ag Services Center in Sparta.

**Motion to adjourn:** was made at 10:05 a.m. by D. Pierce, seconded by J. Schroeder. Motion carried, 5-0-1.

*Recorder: Connie Holz/*

# November 8, 2016 LCD- Staff Reports

## **Bob Micheel- County Conservationist**

### **LCD Business:**

- PL 566 Dam-21 & 23 debris removal
- Monroe County ground water spring and seeps inventory last month
- City of Tomah pursuing adaptive management

### **Construction:**

- Neal Green- Grade Stabilization Structure

### **Agricultural Advisory Team (AAT)**

- Set date for first meeting

### **Meeting Schedule:**

- Natural Resource & Extension Committee Meeting- December 13th
- Discovery Farms Conference
- CAFO Hearing MDS

# November 2016 Activity Report

## Bryce Richardson

- **Construction**
  - Completion of one Grade Stabilization Structure, 200 lin ft of Diversion and 3300 lin ft of Streambank Riprap.
  - Ongoing Grade Stabilization Structure and Roofed Barnyard construction.
  - Landowner contacts regarding projects for 2017.
  - Currently 12 projects that need to be surveyed for 2017 construction.
- **Nonmetallic Mining**
  - Attended Nonmetallic Mining Advisory Committee Meeting as State Land Conservation Employee Representative.
  - Started Annual Quarry inspections.
  - Answered questions from operators regarding Financial Assurance amounts, and revised a current Financial Assurance amount for an industrial sand mine. (Ave. Reclamation Cost per acre for industrial sand mines is \$10,000 per acre)

# November 2016 Activity Report

## Christina Mulder

- **Construction**
  - Design for Leroy Baldwin streambank restoration will begin
  - Survey for Larry Hoeft streambank restoration
- **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**
  - Michael Austad in Wellington Township is enrolling in a 15-year agreement to buffer a stream that begins on his property.
  - Nearly all of Monroe County is eligible for CREP, spread the word! Only the Little Falls Township is ineligible.
- **Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)**
  - Working with landowner Mark Henthorne to produce data of eligible & ineligible FPP participants in the Glendale Township. Mark is working with the township residents and DATCP state office to try and get Glendale zoning. If the township gets zoning, the FPP tax credits will increase from the current \$5/acre to \$10/acre.
  - Future Family Farmland LLC in the Jefferson Township has applied for the program.
  - Merv Vaassen has applied for FPP in the Glendale Township.
- **Conservation Field Training**
  - WI Land & Water held a training in Mount Horeb on October 3<sup>rd</sup> which mostly county conservationists, technicians, and NRCS employees attended. It was geared toward learning the proper use of field equipment (clinometer, GPS, levels, penetrometer), evaluating resource concerns, and developing solutions.



**County Historian's Report, October 2016**  
Submitted by Jarrod Roll, Director / County Historian

**Highlighted Projects and Activities**

- Generated the 2016 Annual Fund materials (wrote and printed); organized Annual Fund mailing party; researched, edited, and finalized the mailing list
- Designed Christmas Village display layout, acquired construction materials, researched display supplies and decorating ideas, began display fabrication and installation
- Provided educational programming to high school students and Sparta Montessori School students both at LHR and in the classroom
- Sent update of indexes and historic images to Webteam; also redesigned the Home Page header
- Provided Pioneer Games at Colors of Kendall festival
- Designed flyer to promote the Christmas Village display
- Created scavenger hunt for Star Wars Reads day
- Uninstalled the "Star Wars: Nostalgia Awakens" display
- Attended the Wisconsin Council for Local History Annual Conference in Wis Dells
- Processed recent donations to the Local History Room collection: assigned and marked object numbers, assigned locations, typed up item histories
- Regular tasks: provided research assistance to the public (via email, telephone, mail, and in person patrons); provided customer service to museum visitors; assigned storage locations, cataloged, and photographed artifacts removed from displays and those recently donated; balanced LHR financial books and draft monthly report; checked fire extinguishers; processed new donation offerings; conferred with Alli Karrells about museum issues and activities; attend Ag/Extension meeting

**In addition to the projects listed above, I supervise the following volunteer and support staff:**

- Agnes Jenkins: indexing newspapers
- Dennis Burek: photo scanning projects; data entry projects; assist with clerical duties
- Barb Reedich: research Monroe County in WWI; answer research requests
- Hannah Scholze (Museum Services Associate )
- John Lasko: represents and promotes LHR at public events
- Jane Schmidt: indexing newspapers
- Jim Ebert: indexing newspapers
- Sandy Waltermann: creating a master index of Monroe County graduates
- Barb McGreevy: rehousing county court records; other duties as assigned

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## Forestry & Parks Report (November) – Ziegler

### Forestry:

- Timber Sale setup & Administration
- Buckthorn & red maple spraying
- Habitat Conservation Plan compliance audit (WDNR)
- Firewood permits
- Disabled Hunter Access
- Fort McCoy Training lease and Snowmobile Trail Permit
- Wrap up: oak work shop
- Tri-Creek Planning

### Parks:

- Fall preparations
  - Cutting/bucking dead trees (65)
  - Winterizing Campsite Water
  - Mulching leaves
- Tile Repair/sealing shower building



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Bill Halfman, Agriculture Agent

### **Agriculture Extension Update October 11, 2016 to November 8, 2016**

Farm visits were conducted coordinated with UW Extension Ag Engineer David Kammel to provide two dairy operations with ideas and plans for modernization of their facilities.

The Ag Agent attended the Ag, Natural Resources and Education Divisions annual professional development conference that was held in OshKosh this year from October 18 through the 20<sup>th</sup>. It provided an opportunity to network and plan out upcoming educational programs and workshops.

The Ag Agent attended the County Farm Bureau Board meeting and the County DHIA board meetings.

A farm transfer workshop webinar on organizing discussions among family members and steps in the succession and transfer process was held on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

The corn nitrogen rate plot was harvested. The results looked interesting. Analysis of the data is being done at this time. A Cashton HS student is cooperating with us on this project. She will use it for JSBS competition.

Waterhemp that is resistant to glyphosate and ppo inhibitors has been identified in Monroe County

The Cow-calf Enterprise Budget Spreadsheet is completed.

Farm visits were made to evaluate enterprise opportunities, diagnose some late season crop problems, and help people evaluate options for feeder calves this fall.

### **Upcoming Events- more to be added as they get finalized**

Nov 9 UW SW District Dept Head- Madison  
Nov 10 County Dept Head  
Nov 11 Pest Mgt Update- Sparta  
Nov 16- Sparta Garden Club  
Nov 17 Farm Transfer Webinar  
Nov 30- Soils and Fertilizer Update- Sparta  
Dec 9 Heart of Farm – Warrens  
Jan 10-12 Crop Management Conference  
Jan 26-27 Driftless Beef Conference- Dubuque  
Feb 3 Bovine Well Being Conference- Stratford  
Feb 16 Winter Crops Update- Sparta  
Feb 23 Cattle Feeders- Sparta



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Erin Eggert  
Family Living Agent

## Family Living Update October 11 to November 8, 2016

- Fall Family Living Conference
  - Wednesday, Oct 12 through Oct 14<sup>th</sup> I attended the family living conference in Madison. We discussed Building our Capacity for a Healthier WI and how to framework our work around health. It was a really interesting meeting that I learned a lot from. We then had our department meeting and a promotions workshop along with that.
- Food Pantry Project
  - We finished our Fall Inventory Pantry Assessments. We have one more round of assessments to do in February-ish and then we are done with all pre-work. Then we will apply to the WI Partnership Grant and hopefully get funding to continue that work.
  - My intern has started working on the grant for us, which will really help us when it comes time to apply for that.
- HCE
  - Had their Fall Fest which I attended. I continue to work closely with HCE by developing their newsletters and attending meetings. I may be doing a presentation to them in April as well.
- StrongWomen
  - Fall classes are going really well. We have a lot of people that are really starting to feel the benefits. I had a woman this past week tell me that she just went to visit her doctor and she's lost 13 pounds since starting the program, her blood sugar is down, her cholesterol is down, and her blood pressure is down. It's great to see and hear about those kind of results! I also had one woman who wrote a testimonial (included here) which we shared on our SW WI website.
  - We ordered t-shirts and those have been delivered.

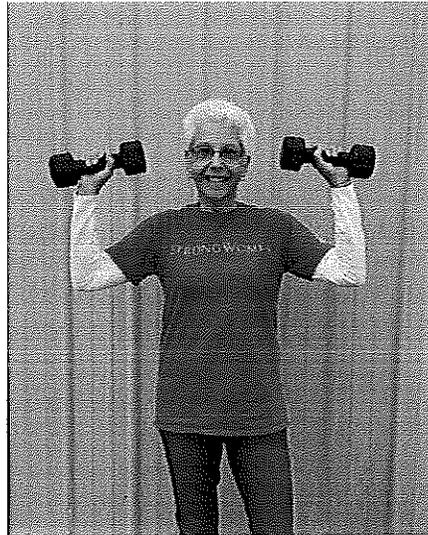
- I've started planning for our winter session starting in January. I am toying with the idea of creating a StrongBodies class so men can participate. I surveyed my women currently to see if they would be comfortable with having men in class (5-20% means 2-6 men in each class), 55% said they wouldn't have a problem with it, 30% said they would have a problem with it, and the rest said it would depend on how many men were in class with the number deemed as "acceptable" as 6 to ½ the class. So I'm debating as to whether I just make one class in each location a StrongBodies class, and if so which class time? Still thinking about that.
- Statewide: Had a training to help develop the Advanced StrongWomen training for online use. This would allow StrongWomen instructors to take the Advanced training via their computer to help save cost and time. It's a long process to get it all online, but we're excited about doing this too.
- Healthy Fair Food Project
  - My intern has completed processing this data and is working on developing a report and/or handout now. So I will share that with you when it is completed.

### **Continuing Events**

- Newspaper articles to Tomah and Sparta newspapers
- Continuing to post and promote the facebook site and Pinterest site

### **Upcoming Events**

- WI DPI- 2016 Stepping up School Wellness Conference 11/15/16
- UWEX Healthy Living Team Meeting 12/6/16



I am a Strong Woman.

If you would have told me I could say that 6 months ago, I would have told you it was not possible. Six months ago, I had just finished daily 30 Radiation treatments to my abdomen/pelvis, and two weeks of daily chemotherapy. I finished treatment at 109 pounds on my 5'6" frame, hairless and profoundly weak. I was having issues with continence, difficulty eating and felt like I had lost control of every aspect of my life.

I had seen an article about a class being offered by the UW Extension called Strong Women in the Tomah Journal and asked my Oncologist about it. She indicated I could give it a try, however, she would put lifting restriction on me and monitor my weight. I think she, and I were both a little skeptical about my ability to participate due to my deconditioned state. My husband was optimistic.

I met Erin, my instructor, at the opening session. She was aware of my situation and talked to me about a program of gradual conditioning. I was particularly worried about my loss of upper body strength and balance. I started that session lifting 2# hand weights, and hanging onto my chair for dear life during balancing exercises. I was literally exhausted after the first weeks' sessions. Erin was there as my best cheerleader, encouraging me along the way. I came back for week two, and then three, and more. Over the weeks, I did gain strength and balance. I ended the first 12-week session lifting 8# weights and being able to perform the balancing exercises with little chair stabilization.

I am now in my third set of classes. I am physically stronger, and able to do my normal daily activities without fear of falling. More importantly, I gained control of in my life. I discovered that my body and mind are resilient.

I discovered that I am indeed a Strong Woman.

-Deb Mulrain, Monroe County



## Joshua L. Goede

### National 4-H Agent's Conference

The Agent had four days of incredible professional development. He is still digging through all the great programs that he learned about. There are two of exceptional interest to him. A STEM/eLearning hybrid lesson being designed in Alabama. There is also a youth directed publicity campaign focused on media skills. Thank you for the support and ability to go.

### Chartering Process

The annual Club Chartering Process is wrapped up for the year. There are now 10 chartered community clubs, two 4-H Organizations, and a Military after school club in Monroe County.

### Agents for Change

The Agent met with CouleeCAP and members of the Sparta Middle School Counseling team to plan future growth the Agents for Change Movement. A 2017 United Way Grant was also written to apply for program support.

### Reporting

The Agent is continuing to enter reports into the online system. There are many great programs and activities to report on this year. One bright spot the numbers of enrolled 4-H members rose from last year by 7 members.

### Wake Up Call

The Agent through collaboration with the Monroe County Safe Communities Coalition helped as a tour guide on the Wake-Up Call event held at Jones Plaza in Sparta. The event was a mockup of a teenager's bed room. There were 50+ red flags that could indicate teen drug or alcohol use. The event was open to the public through the end of October. Between private group tours and public hours the even hosted over 230 visitors from the county and the surrounding area.

### Fall Forum

The Agent traveled to Green Lake with 5 Monroe County youth to the Annual Fall Forum. The event is a valuable leadership forum. The youth and adults that attend go to two seminars and a round robin activity room to see what is happening in other 4-H programs. The past attendees have gained much through attending. This year we will have 5 youth attending.

### Advanced Space Academy

The Agent is in full swing planning for the 2017 Advanced Space Academy. We will travel the last week of January 2017. The 13 WI 4-H members are excited to start the correspondence about the program and what to expect.

## Continuing Programs

- Community Learning Centers
  - Working in Nov. with the National 4-H Science Experiment of Drone Discovery and aeronautics.
- Jr. Leaders
  - Schedule set Officers Elected
  - Agents for Change local 4-H training postponed until Dec.
- Youth Protection Program
  - Materials prepared for next 6 adults entering the system.

### COMING SOON

- Family Achievement Banquet Nov. 12, Wilton Community Center