**Recap of January 5, 2022 CCCWC Meeting**

At our January meeting, we were treated to great presentations, discussions and supper. Thanks to Bruce and Zach King for cooking and serving dinner.

Regarding funding, we received good news from Ben. We were awarded $20,140 from the DATCP grant and a budget was handed out. We also received $40,000 from the Ho-Chunk Nation through Vernon County. Thank you to the Ho-Chunk nation and the county. We are very grateful.

We heard excellent presentations by Matt Albright of Vernon County Land and Water Conservation and Christina Hesselberg of La Crosse County Land Conservation on grade stabilization structures. From both, we learned a great deal about the purpose, construction and structure of dams. There were two major takeaways. First, dams serve to stop erosion, reduce water flow and improve water quality, and provide a water source for wildlife. Second, dams alone are not enough and perform better when layered with other strategies that promote infiltration such as:

* Contour strips
* Adding hay
* Permanent grass buffers
* Cover crops
* No till farming
* Grass waterways
* Grass headlands

The best practice is to use a combined approach to prevent erosion and improve water quality.

Thanks to everyone for your ideas and participation.