**Coon Creek Community Watershed Council (CCCWC)**

**February Meeting**

**Coon Valley Conservation Club**

**S1005 Knudson Lane, Coon Valley, WI 54623**

**February 7, 2024**

**Eat & Greet! Food Served: 6:00 p.m.**

**Meeting: 6:30 p.m**.

1. Call to Order @6:30pm by [Nancy Wedwick](mailto:nancywedwick@cooncreekwatershed.org)
   1. Intro of all in attendance. 36 attendees in person, 6 online via Zoom
2. Marc’s Fascinating Flashbacks
   1. Marc Moilien shared Soil Conservation in WI - Read parts of interviews from Aldo Leopold & Carl Neprud from 1934
3. Secretary's Report
   1. Maggie Traastad shared minutes from the last meeting. Danika made a motion to approve the Secretary’s Report. Orlin seconded the motion. Motion passed
4. Treasurer’s Report
   1. Maggie Traastad shared for January we had $7,828.01 in debits and $27,754.01 in credits. The ending balance of the check book was $46,405.17. Large credits were the first reimbursement from DATCP for $14,864.01, the WI Idea Grant payment for December of $2,500 and the TNC grant payment of $10,000. Danika made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Orlin seconded the motion. Motion passed.
5. Updates
   1. Grants
      1. DATCP 2023 - all final documents and reimbursement requests need to be submitted by Feb. 15th. Once processed, we will get the remaining reimbursement for expenditures.
      2. DNR Grant - Waiting to hear back from DNR on application
      3. Rural Partnership - need to be spent by March 1, 2024. Working to pay some expenses for May 4th event
   2. Events/conferences
      1. Coon Creek Conservation Days - May 4th, 2024 - Mollie B. - planning committee updates
         1. Beth & Larry Servais have allowed us to use the field across the road from Dairy Supply for the event.
         2. The Spring Market will be held the same day on the event grounds
         3. Mollie B is planning a kids only event prior to the show
         4. Chelsey Myhre-Foster suggested reaching out to Cops & Bobbers for fishing equipment for the kids
         5. Reach out to Sydney Widell if interested in helping with the planning committee.
      2. DATCP Grant Workshop - Save the Date - Feb 20th in Wausau. CCCWC will have a panel presentation at the workshop
         1. There are 9 representatives from CCCWC attending the workshop, 5 panelists - Jim Munsch, Mike Breckel, James Hundt, Matthew Canter & Bree Breckel. Maggie Traastad will be moderating the panel. We’ll provide a workshop update in March.
      3. Jan. 18 NRCS dam public meeting recap
         1. Matthew Canter provided a recap of the meeting.
      4. Wisconsin Idea Collaboration Grant: first workshop March 9
         1. More information to follow at our March meeting
6. New Business
   1. Cover crops, trees and hedgerows
      1. [Kevin Traastad](mailto:kevin-maggie@mwt.net) discussed the opportunity for members to plant cover crops, trees and hedgerows this year with the grant money from TNC & DATCP. We have $4000 for cover crops from DATCP, $5000 for trees from TNC, $5000 for hedgerows from TNC, and an additional $2000 from DATCP that can be spent on trees or hedgerows. CCCWC will be paying $10.00 a tree and $3.00 a shrub for planting. CCCWC requires a tree tube with non-coniferous trees. Please reach out to Kevin with questions, or to get your name on the list. Sign up is first come for trees and hedgerows.
   2. Public Comments and Coordinated response to NRCS Draft Environmental Impact Statement
      1. Public comments are due by February 20th. Link to the public comment area is on the CCCWC website.
   3. Contracting a second watershed coordinator
      1. Nancy presented a request to the voting membership to contract with a part-time coordinator to help with specific project orientated work. Will be looking at research studies, water quality studies and social aspect of work. This is for the DNR grant. The money to pay the coordinator will but grant money that has been specifically designated for this project work. Ben Wojahn made a motion to contract with a second watershed coordinator. Danika Wehling seconded the motion. Motion passed.
   4. Hill Country Updates:
      1. How can CCCWC support Hill Country
      2. How can Hill Country support CCCWC
      3. Seed funding for Hill Country
      4. Hill Country election
         1. CCCWC needs to have 2 representatives on the Hill Country board. Brady Nigh has expressed interest, as has [Nancy Wedwick](mailto:nancywedwick@cooncreekwatershed.org). [Tucker Gretebeck](mailto:tuckergretebeck@gmail.com) made a motion to appoint Brady & Nancy to the Hill Country board. Matthew Canter seconded the motion. Motion passed.
7. Presentation: Ben Johnston on citizen science opportunities.
   1. Ben provided a great presentation with lots of good information. He even shared frog calls with us!!
8. Next Meeting date and location - Wednesday, March 6, 2024 - Coon Valley Conservation Club. Presentation from CCCWC’s very own Eric Wenninger, bringing us stories from the sugarbush, insights on caring for maple forests, and more