

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

### **March Meeting**

### **Coon Valley Conservation Club**

**March 12, 2025**

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

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call @6:30pm

Discussed recent bird sightings. Lots of geese, cranes, and even a few spring robins!

2. Marc's Fascinating Flashbacks

3. Secretary's Report

Minutes from the Feb. 5 meeting were adopted

4. Treasurer's Report

~\$24,000 due to the council from DATCP

\$10,000 to be paid to the council from The Nature Conservancy for tree, shrub, and edge of field cost share

5. Updates

- a. Conferences

- i. Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection

Sydney Widell and Marc Moilien attended on behalf of the CCCWC. They were joined by Brad Robson (Monroe Co), as well as other Hill Country affiliates.

Highlights included reports from other councils on tool sharing projects, farmer mentorship directories, regional collaborations between Producer-Led groups. Also noted that the state is developing its budget for the next biennium, which would allocate funding to the PLWPG program. There have been bipartisan calls to increase funding to the PLWPG program.

- ii. Wisconsin Wetlands Association

Sydney Widell attended this conference in La Crosse. Of note was a conversation about ways to prioritize and budget for culvert replacement, and also a presentation making the case for integrating natural flood management practices into culvert work. There was also a presentation on new efforts in Monroe County's portion of the Little La Crosse to address flooding at a watershed scale through collaborations with the DOT. Generally, it was a wonderful few days spent in very good company. Sydney is very grateful to have gotten to attend!

- b. Hill Country Watershed Alliance: Looking for a CCCWC member to join the board

Brad Robson reminded the council that HCWA was set up to facilitate regional collaboration and connect smaller watersheds with bigger partners. Brad asks if anyone is interested in representing the CCCWC on the HCWA board. There are no takers.

- c. Coon Creek Confluence

Tucker introduces “Dinner with Mollie,” a pre-show event that will involve Westby FCLA, Mollie B., and other entertainment. Between now and mid-April, it will be important to sell tables for the dinner event.

6. New Business

a. Strategic Planning Recap

Nancy was not available to give this update

b. CCCWC Board Elections: April 30 2025

Four seats will open this May! The council accepts applications from anyone with a vested interest in the Coon Creek Watershed.

c. Annual Report

The final draft is available now. Many thanks to all the members who offered feedback!

d. Other announcements

7. Presentation on watershed community health from Kati Thompson (Gunderson behavioral health; CCCWC) and Carla Lundeen (Great Rivers 211; CCCWC)
8. Next meeting date and location – 6:00 April 2, Coon Valley Conservation Club. Presentation on precision agriculture tools from Anna Karels, Pheasants Forever.