



**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY JULY 1, 2020, 7:15 P.M.  
CALL: 1-312-626-6799  
MEETING ID: 857 9976 9097**

**AMENDED: 6/30/20**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85799769097>**

**Meeting ID: 857 9976 9097**

**One tap mobile**

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**Dial by your location**

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**Join by Skype for Business**

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**If you are interested in providing public comments on items on this agenda, you must submit your comments by noon on Wednesday July 1, 2020. To submit a public comment use the following email: [andrew.baker@co.rock.wi.us](mailto:andrew.baker@co.rock.wi.us)**

**Join from a telephone:**

- On your phone, dial the phone number provided above
- Enter the meeting ID number when prompted, using your dial-pad.
- Please note that long-distance charges may apply. This is not a toll-free number.
  
- Supervisors: Please identify yourself by name
- **Please mute your phone when you are not speaking to minimize background noises**
- We are new at holding meetings this way, so please be patient

Instructions for the hearing impaired –

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/207279736-Getting-started-with-closed-captioning>

**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY JULY 1, 2020, 7:15 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

1. Call Meeting to Order.
2. Approval of Agenda.
3. Approval of Minutes – June 3, 2020.
4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements.
5. Review Bills Paid.
6. Construction Site Erosion Control/Storm Water Management Ordinance: Request to Waive Double Permit Fees – MS Properties.
7. Resolution: Extending the Deadline for the Workgroup to Study High Nitrates Levels in Rock County's Groundwater.
8. Resolution: In Support of Effective Federal Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation to Mitigate the Climate Crisis.
9. Land and Water Resource Management Program: Approval of Cost Share Agreements: Roger Rebout and Sons Farm - Well Abandonment.
10. Update – Groundwater Workgroup Activities.
11. Update - Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements.
12. **Update – MS4 Permit Program**
13. Adjourn.



## MINUTES

### ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY JUNE 3, 2020, 7:00 P.M. Virtual Meeting - Zoom

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bostwick called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.  
  
**Committee Members Present:** Stephanie Aegerter, Rich Bostwick, Wes Davis, Kaelyb Lokrantz, Mike Mulligan, James Quade, Alan Sweeney and Jeremy Zajac.  
  
**Committee Members Excused:** NONE  
  
**Others Present:** Tom Sweeney, LCD; Chris Murphy, LCD; Chris Newberry, LCD Randolph Terronez, County Administration, Tom Brien, County Board Member and Kara Purviance, County Board Chair.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Mulligan moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**
3. **Election of Committee Vice-Chair:** Chair Bostwick asked for LCC vice Chair Nominations. Supervisor Quade nominated Supervisor Sweeney for Vice Chair, which was seconded by Supervisor Davis. Chair Bostwick asked if there were additional nominations, hearing none. Chair Bostwick asked Supervisor Sweeney if he would accept the nomination of LCC vice Chair. Supervisor Sweeney accepted the nomination. **Motion Carried.**
4. **Set time and day for monthly meetings:** Chair Bostwick noted the committee meetings should start at 7:15 pm and be on the first Wednesday of the month. Hearing no debate, Chair Bostwick set the time and day for the monthly meetings with a start time of 7:15 pm to be held on the first Wednesday of the month.
5. **Approval of Minutes – February 5, 2020 LCC meeting:** Supervisor Aegerter moved the minutes from the February 5, 2020 LCC meeting, seconded by Supervisor Quade. **Motion Carried.**
6. **Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements:** Tom Sweeney, County Conservationist stated this meeting would be his last Land Conservation Committee meeting do to retirement. Tom noted his last day in the office is slated for June 26, 2020. The committee thanked Tom Sweeney for his twenty one plus years serving the citizens of the county. Supervisor Davis noted the POROS Plan is currently be amended.
7. **Review Bills Paid:** The committee reviewed the bills paid. No questions were asked.
8. **Land and Water Resource Management Program - Approval of Cost Share Agreements:** Tom Sweeney reviewed the Cost Share agreements to be considered for approval. Supervisor Zajac asked why there is such a price discrepancy between two waterways. Tom Sweeney stated the price discrepancy is cheaper of the two waterways cited is grass lined and the more expensive waterway is rock lined. Supervisor Zajac moved to approve the four cost share agreements presented for approval, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**
9. **Yahara WINs Program – Approval of Cost Share Agreements.** Chris Murphy reviewed the four Cost Share agreements being considered for approval. Supervisor Davis moved to approve the agreements as presented, seconded by Supervisor Quade. **Motion Carried.**

10. **Construction Site Erosion Control/Stormwater Management Ordinance:**
  - a: **Request(s) for 6 month Extensions.** Chris Murphy reviewed the requests for 6 month permit extensions. At this time Chair Bostwick stated he will consider a single motion for the Town of Union permits EC-2019-7 & 8.
    - Permit ECSW-2019-1** Supervisor Davis moved to approve the permit extension request, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. **Motion Carried.**
    - Permits EC-2019-7 & 8 Town of Union.** Supervisor Davis moved to approve the permit extension requests, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter. **Motion Carried.**
    - Permit EC/SW 2019-2.** Supervisor Aegerter moved to approve the permit extension request, seconded by Supervisor Zajac. **Motion Carried.**
    - Permit EC/SW-2019-12.** Supervisor Zajac moved to approve the permit extension request, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. **Motion Carried.**
    - Permit EC/SW-2019-16.** Supervisor Davis moved to approve the permit extension request, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter. **Motion Carried.**
  - b: **Request to Waive Double Permit Fees – MS Properties.** MS Properties has submitted a request to the Land Conservation Committee for a waiver regarding Double Permit fees. The LCD staff has asked the Committee to table this request until their July 1, 2020 meeting due to additional information being made available. Supervisor Sweeney moved that the request be table until the July 1, 2020 meeting, seconded by Supervisor Davis. **Motion Carried.**
11. **Update – Groundwater Workgroup Activities.** Chris Newberry gave the committee an update on activities since the last meeting. Newberry noted the drafting of the Nine Key Element Plan for the City of Beloit – Rock River Sub watershed. Chris has been working with the DNR for the development of the STEPL program which will be incorporated into the aforesaid plan. The STEPL program will help to prioritize areas in the watershed for surface water quality BMPs.
12. **Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements - Update.** Tom Sweeney stated he is in the final states of the Barlass Easements. The annual field reviews are being conducted starting next week.
13. **Adjourn:** Supervisor Aegerter moved to adjourn the June 3, 2020 Land Conservation Committee meeting at 7:37 pm, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Sweeney  
County Conservationist

**Minutes are not official until adopted by the Land Conservation Committee.**

COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT  
WITH DESCRIPTION  
FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2020

Account Number	Account Name	PO#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Inv/Enc Amt
62-6200-0000-63100	Office&Misc Exp	P2000032	05/21/2020	US BANK	2020 OFFICE SUPPLIES-STAPLES	122.46
62-6200-0000-64319	Tree Purchase	P2000032	05/21/2020	US BANK	2020 TREE PURCHASE SUPPLIES	398.64
		P2001264	05/07/2020	TREE PRO	SHIPPING LESS ACCOUNT CREDIT	458.30
<b>Land Conservation PROG TOTAL</b>						<b>979.40</b>
62-6280-0000-64928	Cost Sharing	P2001303	05/14/2020	MINOTT,KAREN	WATERWAY SYSTEM LR-031.19	2,870.00
		P2001349	05/28/2020	MULLEN HOMESTEAD LLC	LR-003.20 TERRACE/WATERWAY SYS	3,368.91
		P2001351	05/28/2020	MULLEN HOMESTEAD LLC	LR-041.19 TERRACE ATCP	1,711.50
		P2001352	05/28/2020	CONDON,ALLEN J	LR-003.19 WATERWAY SYSTEM	1,293.60
<b>LWC Plan Implementation Grant PROG TOTAL</b>						<b>9,244.01</b>
62-6311-0000-64928	Cost Sharing	P2001282	05/07/2020	WELLNITZ,DAVID AND LYNETTE	YAHARA RIVER BASIN ADAPTIVE	55,600.00
<b>Yahara WINS PROG TOTAL</b>						<b>55,600.00</b>

I have reviewed the preceding payments in the total amount of **\$65,823.41**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept Head \_\_\_\_\_  
 Committee Chair \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT  
WITH DESCRIPTION  
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2020**

Account Number	Account Name	PO#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Description	Inv/Enc Amt
62-6200-0000-63100	Office&Misc Exp					
		P2000028	06/25/2020	MENARDS	RETURN 5"X1000 STR WRAP	20.99
		P2000032	06/25/2020	US BANK	STAPLES - OFFICE SUPPLIES	153.66
62-6200-0000-64319	Tree Purchase					
		P2000026	06/18/2020	ENGELS NURSERY INC	TREE ORDER - BARERoot SEEDLING	3,755.65
		P2000030	06/25/2020	LAURAS LANE NURSERY	2020 TREE & SHRUB ORDER	4,904.00
					<b>Land Conservation PROG TOTAL</b>	<b>8,834.30</b>
62-6280-0000-64928	Cost Sharing					
		P2001488	06/25/2020	LINSLEY,RICHARD J	WELL ABANDONMENT	500.00
					<b>LWC Plan Implementation Grant PROG TOTAL</b>	<b>500.00</b>
62-6300-0000-64918	Marketing					
		P2001457	06/25/2020	EDGERTON REPORTER	CLEAN SWEEP AD 2020	206.25
					<b>Household Clean Sweep PROG TOTAL</b>	<b>206.25</b>
62-6350-0000-63110	Admin Expense					
		P2001404	06/11/2020	BRABAZON TITLE TEAM GROUP LLC	RECORDING FEE	30.00
62-6350-0000-67161	CA \$5,000/More					
		P2001404	06/11/2020	BRABAZON TITLE TEAM GROUP LLC	PACE EASEMENT	294,000.00
					<b>PDR/PACE PROG TOTAL</b>	<b>294,030.00</b>

**COMMITTEE REVIEW REPORT**  
**WITH DESCRIPTION**  
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2020

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>PO#</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Inv/Enc Amt</u>
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I have reviewed the preceding payments in the total amount of **\$303,570.55**

Date:

Dept Head \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Chair \_\_\_\_\_

March 27, 2020

Rock County Land Conservation Committee  
Mr. Richard Bostwick, Chair  
440 N US Highway 14  
Janesville, WI 53546

RE: Erosion Control & Storm Water Management Permit Application Fee

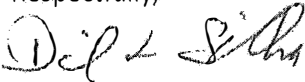
To the Rock County Land Conservation Committee,

MS Properties of Rock County is the owner of the property at 5705 N Milton-Shopiere Rd, Milton WI as of October 4, 2019. In the months following the purchase of this property some work was done on the property to prepare the site for the addition of a new shop building to the property. When the excavation work was done by Frank Silha & Sons Excavating, I was unaware that some of the area we were working in was part of the storm water area and thus I would need an Erosion Control & Storm Water Management Permit to complete the work. This property is a gravel pit and the entire property is zoned as such. The mining area is only approximately 500 feet away from the area disturbed and of course has no storm water management rules to follow. Given these facts, I thought the area disturbed would be exempt from the need for a permit as well.

It was brought to our attention when a Land Conservation employee visited the property that this particular area of the property was considered part of the storm water area. Since then we have worked with Combs & Associates to revise the plans for the area to meet the Land Conservation specifications. The new plan, with the exception of 800 SF more Bio Basin Area, is no different than the previous plan. I have also paid \$1,535 in fines for the work that was previously performed. When the application for the permit was submitted the Land Conservation staff had charged the double permit fee according to sections 4.809 and 4.1109 of the County Ordinance, before they would process the application. In an effort to keep the construction project moving forward, I have paid the double fee. I am requesting that the Rock County Land Conservation Committee consider refunding the double fee due to the situation and that I acted in good faith and did not intentionally violate any Ordinances. The work that was performed did not cause any erosion/silt to leave the site. I have complied with all requests and paid all fines since it was brought to my attention that a permit was required. The amount of the request is \$1,601.50.

Thank you for considering my request.

Respectfully,



Daniel L. Silha  
Member



RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGENDA NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

GROUNDWATER  
NITRATE WORKGROUP  
INITIATED BY

BOARD OF HEALTH AND  
AND CONSERVATION  
COMMITTEE  
SUBMITTED BY



CHRISTOPHER NEWBERRY  
DRAFTED BY

MARCH 16, 2020  
DATE DRAFTED

Extending the Deadline for the Workgroup to Study the High Nitrates Levels  
In Rock County's Groundwater

1 **WHEREAS**, the level of nitrates in Rock County's groundwater has increased over the past two decades  
2 in private and public wells, with over 30% of the county wells exceeding the drinking water nitrate health  
3 advisory of 10 mg/L; and,  
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the County Board of Supervisors passed resolution 17-5A-282 during their May 11, 2017  
6 County Board meeting establishing a workgroup composed of the following representatives, Public  
7 Health, Land Conservation, Planning and Development, UW Extension, a representative from the  
8 Agricultural Service Sector, two at large County Board members and one Farmer currently working with  
9 a research project overseen by UW-Discovery Farms to commence research on nitrate reduction strategies  
10 that are available; and,  
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the County Board of Supervisors passed resolution 17-11D-412 during their  
13 November 16, 2017 County Board meeting extending the deadline of the workgroup until  
14 December 31, 2020; and,  
15

16 **WHEREAS**, with the afore mentioned extension, the workgroup was to complete its tasks of compiling  
17 existing well water nitrate data, evaluating nitrate sources, and researching groundwater nitrate reduction  
18 initiatives and strategies being conducted in other parts of Wisconsin and the United States. After the  
19 tasks were completed, the Workgroup was to make recommendations to the County Board regarding the  
20 groundwater nitrate issues; and,  
21

22 **WHEREAS**, after numerous meetings regarding the aforesaid tasks it was determined by the workgroup  
23 that additional data from the pilot project and other locations within Rock County, are necessary to make  
24 reasonable assessment of nitrate reduction strategies; and,  
25

26 **WHEREAS**, the workgroup will not be able to meet the aforementioned deadline and requests the  
27 County Board extend the existing deadline to December 31, 2025; and,  
28

29 **WHEREAS**, the new deadline will allow the workgroup to continue developing, implementing,  
30 monitoring and expand the small scale pilot projects to reduce nitrates in the groundwater through  
31 implementation of Best Management Practices.  
32

33 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Rock County Board of Supervisors in session this  
34 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, approves the extension of the workgroup for the period of  
35 December 2020 through December 2025 for the sole purpose of researching and developing  
36 recommendations to decrease or reduce the rate of increase of nitrates entering Rock County's  
37 Groundwater.

Extending the Deadline for the Workgroup to Study the High Nitrates Levels  
In Rock County's Groundwater

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Respectfully submitted:

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Louis Peer, Chair

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Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

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Doug Wilde

---

Shirley Williams

---

Danette Rynes

---

Eric Gresens, R. PH

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Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

---

Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

---

Debra Kolste

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

---

Richard Bostwick, Chair

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Alan Sweeney, Vice Chair

---

Stephanie Aegerter

---

Wes Davis

---

Kaelyb Kokrantz

---

Mike Mulligan

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James Quade, USDA-FSA Representative

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Jeremy Zajac

FISCAL NOTE:

Per County Board Rule IV-C, County Board Supervisors who are members of additional special, single purpose or ad hoc committees are eligible for per meeting allowances and mileage reimbursement. Citizen members of such committees shall be eligible for mileage reimbursement only.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 & 59.51, Wis. Stats. Per County Board Rule IV-C., ad-hoc or single purpose board related committees may only be established with the approval of the County Board for specific purposes and term.

s/ Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

Resolution

Extending the Deadline for the Workgroup to Study the High Nitrates Levels  
in Rock County's Groundwater.

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ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

Resolution

Extending the Deadline for the Workgroup to Study the High Nitrates Levels in Rock County's Groundwater.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This resolution requests County Board approval to extend the deadline for the established Groundwater Nitrate Workgroup as per County Board Resolution 17-5A-282. The original deadline was set for December 31, 2017 and was extended in 2017 until December 31, 2020. The Land Conservation Committee and Board of Health along with the committees represented on the workgroup request the deadline be extended to December 31, 2025 to continue:

Obtaining necessary data from monitoring the groundwater at the nitrate reduction project located on the County farm and expand the project into other watersheds where data is required to make rational assessments;

The establishment of the Farmer Led Groundwater Group furthering the communication of BMPs to landowners throughout the county and whereby gaining additional data;

Develop a 9 Key Element Plan with the DNR to improve nitrate reduction strategies; and partnering with the NRCS to implement BMPs to reduce nitrates in groundwater through a newly acquired Source Water Protection Project in Turtle Creek watershed, along with a planned National Water Quality Initiative in the Southeast portion of the County and examining groundwater responses.

Continuation of the Workgroup will allow it to refine its recommendations of nitrate reduction in the County's groundwater aquifers.

The workgroup is currently meeting four to six times a year to review updates, appraise progress, and guide county departments on pending actions.

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGENDA NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisors Stephanie Aegerter  
and Kaelyb Lokrantz  
INITIATED BY



Supervisors Stephanie Aegerter  
and Kaelyb Lokrantz  
DRAFTED BY

County Board Staff Committee  
& Land Conservation Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

March 12, 2020  
DATE DRAFTED

**IN SUPPORT OF EFFECTIVE FEDERAL CARBON FEE & DIVIDEND LEGISLATION TO  
MITIGATE THE CLIMATE CRISIS**

- 1 **WHEREAS** the Rock County Board of Supervisors recognizes that rising carbon emissions are
- 2 exposing and will continue to expose Rock County citizens to the risks of increasing extreme heat in
- 3 the summers, heavier rainstorms, as well as more frequent and severe flooding; and
- 4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Rock County, being part of the
- 6 State of Wisconsin, has warmed about two degrees Fahrenheit over the past century, and annual
- 7 precipitation has increased five to ten percent over the last half century; and
- 8
- 9 **WHEREAS**, according to the National Weather Service, flooding in Rock County near the Rock River
- 10 is likely due to recent warming trends over the last 30 years, with historic high water crests in 2008,
- 11 2013, 1993, 2018 and five recent high crests in 2018 and 2019. The information is based on Rock
- 12 River recording stations at Lake Koshkonong, Newville and Afton. High groundwater levels, increased
- 13 snow pack and increased rainfall events will accentuate the probability of increased future flood events.
- 14
- 15 **WHEREAS** climate change is having and will increasingly have adverse effects on Rock County's
- 16 infrastructure, recreational opportunities, and area aquatic and land ecosystems, as well as the area's
- 17 tourism and agricultural industries; and
- 18
- 19 **WHEREAS**, action is needed at the national level to address climate change in a timely and effective
- 20 manner;
- 21
- 22 **WHEREAS** economists overwhelmingly support carbon fee and dividend legislation as sound
- 23 economic policy in its own right and the most effective, most efficient way to reduce emissions; and
- 24
- 25 **WHEREAS** carbon fee and dividend legislation would create jobs, grow the economy, save lives, and
- 26 reduce greenhouse gas emissions here in Rock County,
- 27
- 28 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Rock County does
- 29 hereby urge the United States Congress to pass effective carbon fee and dividend legislation without
- 30 delay; and
- 31
- 32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Rock County send copies of this
- 33 resolution to Senator Tammy Baldwin, Senator Ron Johnson, and Representative Bryan Steil and
- 34 Representative Marc Pocan, as well as the County's State Legislative Delegation and Governor Tony
- 35 Evers.
- 36

Respectfully submitted:

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

/s/ Kara Purviance  
Kara Purviance, Chair

/s/ Richard Bostwick  
Richard Bostwick

/s/ Tom Brien  
Tom Brien

/s/ Kevin Leavy  
Kevin Leavy

Dissent  
Louis Peer

Dissent  
J. Russell Podzilni

Dissent  
Alan Sweeney

Dissent  
Bob Yeomans

/s/ Jeremy Zajac  
Jeremy Zajac

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Richard Bostwick, Chair

Stephanie Aegerter

Wes Davis

Kaelyb Lokrantz

Mike Mulligan

Alan Sweeney

Jeremy Zajac

James Quade

FISCAL NOTE:

No fiscal impact in and by itself.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Matter of Policy.

/s/ Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats.

s/ Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rock County citizens are growing increasingly alarmed by the effects of climate change on their way of life. Citizens are aware that our changing climate is affecting Rock County agriculture, tourism, infrastructure, health, and the overall quality of life here. Rock County citizens are experiencing difficulty in planting and harvesting crops, and they are observing more frequent flooding of area rivers and streams as well as damage to roads and bridges and to business and residential structures. They are struggling to adjust to temperature extremes that threaten traditional winter and summer recreational and economic activities. Citizens understand the broader global impacts of climate change, and they want the government to act.

In a 2019 Yale Climate Opinion poll, an estimated 70% of Rock County residents agreed that fossil fuel companies should be required to pay a carbon tax; 75% of county residents agreed that carbon emissions should be regulated by the government. At two recent Janesville farmers' markets in 2019, over 200 citizens took time to write letters to their Congressmen asking for federal legislation to enact a tax on carbon. In January, 2020, the Janesville city council, in response to citizen pressure, passed a resolution calling on Congress to pass effective climate legislation.

Municipalities and counties throughout the state and country are taking steps toward sustainability and toward building resiliency in the face of our changing climate, but only a federal response can quickly and effectively reduce the carbon dioxide emissions that are causing the rise in global temperatures, a rise that, unchecked, will result in serious and irreversible threats to our way of life here in Rock County.

American economists overwhelmingly support a tax on carbon as the best approach to addressing the climate crisis. Over 3500 American economists have signed a statement endorsing carbon fee and dividend legislation as the most effective way to quickly reduce carbon emissions. Carbon fee and dividend plans put a fee on fossil fuels at the source (the port, the mine, the well). The money from this tax would be distributed regularly to citizens as a dividend. There are a number of carbon fee and dividend proposals now in the House of Representatives. All involve a rising tax on carbon. They differ in how steep that rise might be, on how that dividend money should be allocated, and on specifics of the border adjustments that are necessary to ensure American competitiveness.

All would represent what many scientists and economists see as a basic first step in a government response to the climate crisis.

In supporting this resolution, The Rock County Board of Supervisors would join the many municipalities and counties across the state and nation that have already endorsed such legislation and would amplify local citizens' calls for a meaningful response to a serious threat to our way of life.