

## Monroe County Board OKs Funds To Finish Dam

SPARTA, Wis. — The Monroe County Board has appropriated \$275,000 to complete the Tri-Creek Watershed Multiple Purpose Dam No. 3 in the Town of Ridgeville.

Total cost of the flood retarding structure is \$1,750,000, with \$1,267,175 coming from federal funds. The State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) share of the dam project is \$168,038. This leaves \$314,787 to be paid by Monroe County.

There is currently \$225,000 available in county funds for the project. The county may use its funds plus the appropriation, or may borrow up to \$500,000 from the Farmers Home Administration.

The job of county personnel specialist was made a permanent full-time position for Virginia Huthowski of Sparta. The position was previously funded under a federal CETA grant which ends Dec. 31.

There was some dissension among the board members before a proposed \$71,800 increase over last year was approved for a total equalized value assessment for the county. The figure now stands at \$394,243,170. The rural increase in the assessment is approximately 30 per cent. The final vote was 19 to 10 in favor of the increase.

The board also voted, 19 to 7, to close the Birchwood Valley Ski Hill. The ski hill is on county-owned land 4½ miles north of Sparta on County Highway B.

Proposed costs for operating the hill for the coming season would be about \$6,000 according to David Hering, county clerk.