

**RUSK COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

***“Not Committee Approved”***

**DATE:** February 14, 2017  
**ROLL CALL:** A. RATHSACK, G. SWOVERLAND, R. GIERKE, L. LIEFFRING, J. BILLER, A. NICHOLSON  
**OTHERS PRESENT:** J. KRELL, C. TESKY, M. KOEHLER.

**Open Session:** Meeting called to order @ 8:00 AM by Alan Rathsack

**Minutes:** Gierke/Biller motion to approve minutes from Jan 10, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 @ 8:00 A.M

**Payment Approval Report:** Gierke/Biller motion to approve payment approval report. Motion carried.

**Wildlife Damage Claim Program:** Zesiger had reported to Krell that there was one more bear damage claim that came in late. The payment is \$812.

**NRCS Report:** Koehler reported that sign up for Conservation Stewardship Program is done. There were 3800 acres signed up in Rusk County. 8 were forest application with forest management plans. They are already in MFL. Funds have not yet been released for tag alder application. Alder shearing contracts have not been able to get done because swamps haven't froze up well. A signed contract with a company to do the shearing will suffice for "starting the project" under federal regulations.

**Farm Service Agency Report:** Nicholson reported that the county committee had held their first meeting. There are federal training modules that they are required to attend. Signup is open for ARC/PRC. Text alerts are available for farmers that would like to receive notice of upcoming deadlines.

**Land Conservation Report – J. Krell:** Krell reported on the speaking and poster contest. There were 6 speakers and 30 posters. 3 of those won trophies at the 10 county NW Area contest on February 3. He is still working on Phosphorous trading with Hawkins and now Weyerhaeuser, too. Tree sales are currently open in the office. Krell discussed 2017 priorities including doing animal waste storage inspections. 87 waste storage facilities have been identified and many are idle. (not used for more than 24 months) Funding is available assist property owners in closing these abandoned facilities..

**Land Conservation and Development Department:** Tesky has advertised for intern positions and has been putting together remonumentation projects, along with end of the year reports.

**Out of County Travel:** NW area Technician's meeting in Eau Claire for Runstrom. Lieffring/Gierke to approve out-of-county travel. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:** Biller/Lieffring motion to adjourn at 8:30 AM. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by CeCe Tesky