

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

“Not Committee Approved”

DATE: March 12, 2019

ROLL CALL: R. GIERKE, B.MCBAIN, B. STOUT, M. SCHMITT, T. DUSELL, A
NICHOLSON

OTHERS PRESENT: Y. JOHNSON, S. ZESIGER.

Open Session: Meeting called to order @ 8:00 AM by Roger Gierke.

Minutes: McBain/Schmitt motion to approve minutes from January 8 and February 12. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 @ 8:00 A.M

Payment Approval Report: No report available.

Public Comment: None

Wildlife Damage Claim Program: Zesiger handed out wildlife damage claims. There were three claims; two were joint with Sawyer County. Gierke signed the claims presented.

NRCS Report: None.

Farm Service Agency: Nicholson reported they were closed during the government shutdown. They continue to have staffing issues. There is no county director; they may try a temporary promotion. The farm bill passed without anyway for it to be implemented. Hoping to have new programs available to the farmers by June. David Trott is the new member of the USDA Rusk/Sawyer committee.

Land Conservation Report: Runstrom has been working on non-metallic mining permitting and financial assurance requirements. Tree orders are coming in and they may be late again this year due to the weather. Projects being worked on include Goss grazing and Styczinski feed lot. Attending many meetings and training sessions. The Farm Show is March 16. The 2019 work plan will be submitted to DATCP this week.

Land Conservation and Development Department: There will be three remonumentation projects that will be completed this year. Should be able to do 1-2 more with the funding that is available. The updated job descriptions went to the Personnel committee and were approved. Pay increased need to go to County Board. All the budgets came in under the levy and we will be returning over \$40,000 to the general fund.

Conservationist: Johnson reported that 8 applications have been received. Tesky plans to interview 4-6 for the positions. Gierke will represent the LWC committee. Tesky hopes to have the new Conservationist in place by mid-April.

Animal Waste Storage Applications: None.

Out of County Travel: Stout/DuSell motion to approve Runstrom attending the tech meeting in Park Falls on March 21. Motion carried.

Adjourn: DuSell/Stout motion to adjourn at 8:45 AM. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Yvonne Johnson.