

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

“Not Committee Approved”

DATE: September 17, 2019
ROLL CALL: R. GIERKE, B.MCBAIN, B. STOUT, T. DUSELL, M. SCHMITT
OTHERS PRESENT: S. ZESIGER, N. STADNYK, A. RICHARDSON

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

Minutes: Schmitt/McBain motion to approve minutes from May 14. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 @ 7:30 A.M

Payment Approval Report: Payment approval report was passed around. Schmitt/Dusell motion to approve. Motion carried.

Wildlife Damage Claim Program: Zesiger discussed wildlife damage claims to date. There are 27. Recent claims have all been for bear damage to stored feed. Brief discussion was held regarding tagging of bears.

NRCS Report: No report.

Farm Service Agency: Richardson discussed pre-plant claims to date and high volume of claims. Richardson also commented on the start of the Dairy Margin Coverage program. There was general discussion about the loss of dairy farms in the County. Richardson also discussed the specifics of the Market Facilitation program which provides payments to offset losses from the current tariffs. There are 3 rounds of payments, the first of which has already been paid. The 2nd and 3rd payments are optional depending on the market. Interviews were held for the open Director position and a candidate has been selected.

Land Conservation Report: Stadnyk reported on the status of grant applications and the reason and plans for obtaining a certified crop advisor training. 2020 budget and status of 2020 DATCP allocation were discussed. There was also discussion of the plan for moving maintenance of county owned dams and aerators from Forestry to Land Conservation. Stout/Schmitt motion to approve moving forward with the transfer. Motion carried.

Land Conservation and Development Department: Stadnyk reported on the transition of the Department Head and the plan for moving ahead.

Animal Waste Storage Applications: None.

Out of County Travel: None.

Adjourn: Schmitt/McBain motion to adjourn at 8:40 AM. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Nick Stadnyk