

RUSK COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

DATE: February 10, 2026

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

LOCATION: County Board Room– Rusk County Government Center, 311 Miner Ave East, Ladysmith, WI 54848

MEETING WILL BE ACCESSIBLE BY VIDEO CONFERENCE

To link with your computer video and/or audio: [Join the meeting now](#)

1. OPEN SESSION - CALL TO ORDER

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. SET NEXT MEETING DATE – March 10, 2026

4. APPROVE MINUTES – January 13, 2026

5. PAYMENT APPROVAL REPORT

6. AGENCY REPORTS

- a. Wildlife Damage Claim Program – James Doss
- b. Natural Resource Conservation Service Report – Amanda Peters
- c. Farm Service Agency Report
- d. Land Conservation and Development Department – Nick Stadnyk

7. LWCD – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION

- a. Animal Waste Storage Applications – None
- b. 2026 Summer Intern
- c. Restoring the Shoreline plant book
- d. Pigeon Creek Dam Update
- e. Out of County Travel
 - i. N. Stadnyk & J. Runstrom to attend the Regional Conservation Speaking Contest and Annual NWLWA meeting in Shell Lake, Wi on January 22, 2026
 - ii. N. Stadnyk to attend the Annual WI DATCP Producer Led Watershed meeting in Plover, Wi on February 24, 2026
 - iii. N. Stadnyk & J. Runstrom to attend the Annual Land & Water Association Conference in Wisconsin Dells, Wi on March 4-6, 2026
- f. Monthly Budget Review

8. ADJOURN

At any time, a quorum of another County Committee or of the County Board may be present at the meeting to observe the proceedings, but no action will be taken except by those Committee Members for the stated Committee meeting and only on noticed agenda items. Please Note: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals. For additional information, or to request this service, contact the Rusk County Clerk's Office; phone (715)532-2100

Virtual attendees requesting public comment may submit their public comment in writing to the chair prior to the meeting and it will be read aloud by the chair in the meeting.

RUSK COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 13, 2026

Roll Call: Phil Schneider (by phone), Alec Hampton, Kathy Halbur, Kurt Gorsegner

Other Staff Present: Nick Stadnyk, Heather Ellis, James Doss, Beata Haug

Open Session: Vice Chairman Hampton called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Public Comment: None.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 8:00 am.

Minutes: Motion by Halbur, seconded by Gorsegner to approve the committee minutes from December 4, 2025 and December 16, 2025 meetings. Motion carried.

Payment Approval Report: Motion by Gorsegner, seconded by Halbur to approve payment approval reports as presented. Motion carried.

Wildlife Damage Claim Program: James Doss reported 27 enrollers with 11 requesting appraisals and 10 have been approved. The most damage in 2025 was caused by deer and bears.

Natural Resource Conservation Service Report: No report.

Farm Service Agency Report: No report.

Land Conservation and Development Department: N. Stadnyk reported conservation is wrapping up reimbursements. Zoning issued 6 land use permits in 2026. Working on the budgets with Beata Haug in finance.

Animal Waste Storage Applications: No applications presented.

Out of County Travel: Nick Stadnyk to attend River Country RC&D Winter Grazing Conference in Osseo, WI on January 16, 2026. Motioned by Gorsegner, seconded by Halbur to approve the out of county travel. Motion carried.

Pigeon Creek Dam Grant Award Project: N. Stadnyk explained the grant award for the Pigeon Creek Dam project. Motioned by Hampton, seconded by Gorsegner to approve the grant award for the Pigeon Creek Dam project.

Publishing the Restoring the Shoreline plant book: N. Stadnyk presented to the committee the shoreline plant book that the department has been working on and asked about going forward with having the book printed. The committee asked for quotes to review at the next meeting.

Budget Review: B. Haug reviewed the new monthly budget format in depth; explained the purpose of reports and contents. Motioned by Halbur, seconded by Gorsegner to approve the monthly budget as presented. Motion carried.

Speaking Contest: N. Stadnyk reported that the Conservation Speaking Contest went very well. Thanked the Chamber of Commerce for donating Chamber bucks and John Hoover for the use of the Worden Avenue Exchange.

Adjourn: Vice Chairman Hampton motioned to adjourn at 8:49 am. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Heather Ellis

Report Criteria:

Detail report.

Invoices with totals above \$0 included.

Paid and unpaid invoices included.

Invoice Detail.GL account =

"220"->"221", "10063"->"10064", "10069"->"10070", "210"->"211", "209"->"210", "10084"->"10085", "1006544405000", "1006549990000"->"1006556435156", "1006556435311"->"1006556435337", "1006556435810"

[Report].Description = {<->} "1099 adjustment"

Invoice Detail.Created date = 01/06/2026-02/02/2026

Vendor Name	Invoice Number	Description	Invoice Date	Net Invoice Amount	GL Account and Title
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY	SC-750982-GE	ONLINE CLASSROOM SUBSCRIPTION, YEARLY	12/19/2025	135.00	220-65-56171-346 SWRM-OPER & EDUCATION
HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS	002859510171	CORDLESS DRILL, CHARGER, AND BATTERY	11/13/2025	172.98	220-65-56171-349 SWRM-OTHER EQUIPMENT
LADYSMITH NEWS	21421	PUBLIC NOTICE - PIGEON CREEK DAM	11/20/2025	286.65	100-84-55209-815 CO OWN DAM-PIGEON CRE
MORGAN & PARMLEY LTD	2021-120-06	PIGEON CREEK DAM PROJECT	12/09/2025	12,105.00	100-84-55209-815 CO OWN DAM-PIGEON CRE
NORTH COUNTRY TROPHIES AND AW	5537	LWCD SPEAKING CONTEST	01/06/2026	90.00	220-65-56171-346 SWRM-OPER & EDUCATION
NORTH COUNTRY TROPHIES AND AW	5541	LWCD SPEAKING CONTEST	01/15/2026	26.00	220-65-56171-346 SWRM-OPER & EDUCATION
NORTH COUNTRY TROPHIES AND AW	5543	LWCD SPEAKING CONTEST	01/20/2026	12.00	220-65-56171-346 SWRM-OPER & EDUCATION
PAK MAIL EAU CLAIRE	117082	SOIL SAMPLES TO STATE LAB - LW04-25	12/11/2025	41.91	220-63-56900-202 CONSERV PRACT-SEG COS
ROOTS TO FRUITS NURSERY	1197	LWCD - TREE SALE	01/14/2026	8,718.00	100-69-56174-348 LWCD TREE PROGRAM - TR
US DEPT OF AGRICULTURE	3005567757	USDA-APHIS-PERSONNEL	01/05/2026	15,922.82	209-61-56171-216 WILDLIFE DAM-CONTR.SER
US DEPT OF AGRICULTURE	3005567757	USDA-APHIS-SUPPLIES	01/05/2026	34.98	209-61-56171-217 WILDLIFE DAM-CONTR.MAT
VERIZON WIRELESS	6130228800	NOV 5-DEC 4, ACCT 983216421-00001, MTHLY CHRGS 61302288	12/04/2025	45.54	220-65-56171-225 SWRM-COMMUNICATIONS
WI DEPT OF AGRICULTURE TRADE &	WS2MYD0131	NURSERY DEALER LICENSE 2026	01/08/2026	51.25	100-69-56174-319 LWCD TREE PROGRAM - SU
Grand Totals:				37,642.13	

RUSK COUNTY BUDGET REPORT
LCDD

PERIOD: January - December 2025

Dept: Nick Stadnyk, Director

LAND INFORMATION & ZONING - GENERAL FUND

Category	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget	2025 YTD Total	Year-End Projected	Budget vs. Projected
Levy	1,500	2,750	1,100	1,100	1,100	-
Grants	4,321	6,015	4,000	-	-	⊗ (4,000)
Public Charges for Services	28,646	34,549	34,500	37,217	37,217	⊙ 2,717
Fund Transfers	19,420	10,775	10,262	(388)	6,634	⊗ (3,628)
Total Revenue	53,888	54,089	49,862	37,929	44,951	⊗ (4,911)
Wages & Benefits	4,600	6,774	11,912	14,393	14,393	⊗ 2,481
Contractual Services	9,723	7,101	17,000	7,022	7,022	⊙ (9,978)
Operating Expense	32,682	39,554	20,950	38,166	38,166	⊗ 17,216
Total Expenditures	47,005	53,429	49,862	59,581	59,581	⊗ 9,719

Net	6,883	660	-	(21,652)	(14,630)	⊗ (14,630)
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Budget amendment may be required per Finance Policy 29.34%

Estimated Contribution to General Fund (30,058)

LCDD Continuing Appropriation Fund end of 12/31/2024 (Audited)	9,884
Less: Applied to 2026 Budget	800
LCDD Continuing Appropriation Fund end of 12/31/2024 (Audited)	(15,428)
Estimated Continued Appropriations Fund	(6,344)

REVENUE	Budget vs. Projected	Reason For Concern & Corrective Action
Grants	Concern	Will not receive the Land & Water Shortland program grant in 2025.
Public Charges for Services	-	
Fund Transfers	Concern	Year-end fund balance reconciliation.

EXPENDITURES	Budget vs. Projected	Reason For Concern & Corrective Action
Wages & Benefits	Concern	
Contractual Services	-	
Operating Expense	Concern	Overage in the Tree-Program and county owned dam which will be offset by the continuing appropriation remaining funds.

RUSK COUNTY BUDGET REPORT
LCDD

PERIOD: January - December 2025

Dept: Nick Stadnyk, Director

LCDD SPECIAL REVENUE FUND 220

Category	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget	2025 YTD Total	Year-End Projected	Budget vs. Projected
Grants	223,598	200,456	369,800	(1,489)	192,775	⊗ (177,025)
Public Charges for Services	998	-	2,000	-	-	⊗ (2,000)
Misc Revenue	-	998	-	998	998	⊙ 998
Fund Transfers	10,168	10,411	10,000	-	-	⊗ (10,000)
Total Revenue	234,765	211,865	381,800	(491)	193,773	⊗ (188,027)
Wages & Benefits	148,146	150,372	155,075	118,824	118,824	⊙ (36,251)
Contractual Services	81,586	69,058	80,500	19,515	19,515	⊙ (60,985)
Operating Expense	18,947	12,761	146,225	22,083	25,679	⊙ (120,546)
Fund Transfers	622	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	249,300	232,191	381,800	160,421	164,018	⊙ (217,782)
Net	(14,536)	(20,326)	-	(160,912)	29,756	⊙ 29,756

Watershed Special Revenue Fund Balance as of 12/31/2024 (Audited)	13,997
Less: Applied to 2026 Budget	-
Watershed Special Revenue Fund Balance as of 12/31/2025	29,023
Estimated Total Fund Balance	43,020

REVENUE	Budget vs. Projected	Reason For Concern & Corrective Action
Grants	Concern	Watershed Project: Grant reimbursement pending for 2024 and 2025 for the USFWS and DNR TRM.
Public Charges for Services	Concern	
Misc Revenue	-	
Fund Transfers	Concern	The fund will only cover the actual contractual services and be budget mutual.

EXPENDITURES

Wages & Benefits	-	
Contractual Services	-	
Operating Expense	-	
Fund Transfers	-	

RUSK COUNTY BUDGET REPORT
LCDD

PERIOD: January - December 2025

Dept: Nick Stadnyk, Director

WILDLIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT FUND 209

Category	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget	2025 YTD Total	Year-End Projected	Budget vs. Projected
Grants	133,900	147,975	100,000	-	91,065	⊗ (8,935)
Total Revenue	133,900	147,975	100,000	-	91,065	⊗ (8,935)
Contractual Services	133,900	147,564	100,000	90,637	90,637	✔ (9,363)
Fund Transfers	-	411	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	133,900	147,975	100,000	90,637	90,637	✔ (9,363)
Net	-	-	-	(90,637)	428	✔ 428

Wildlife Damage Abatement Fund Balance as of 1/1/2025	-
Less: Applied to 2026 Budget	-
Wildlife Damage Abatement Fund Balance as of 12/31/2025	427.89
Estimated Total Fund Balance	427.89

REVENUE	Budget vs. Projected	Reason For Concern & Corrective Action
Total Revenue	Concern	Reduction in state grant is offset by reduction of the contractual services.

EXPENDITURES	Budget vs. Projected	Reason For Concern & Corrective Action
Contractual Services	-	
Fund Transfers	-	

Department Head's Signature Nick Stadnyk Date: 2/9/2026

Oversight Chair's Signature _____ Date: _____

This monthly budget report is to be sent to the Clerk's Office/Agenda Preparer for inclusion in the packet provided to the Oversight Committee and the Finance Committee.

Full approved and executed report is to be kept filed with the Finance Director.

Please refer to the Financial Procedures Manual, Chapter 6 for the full policy regarding monthly department budget reports.