

**Kossuth County Conservation Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
Water's Edge Nature Center
April 10, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

Present: Eichenberger; Miller; Rasmussen; Ristau; Young
Beenken; Stumme; Wille

Absent:

Guests Present:

Chairman Eichenberger called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Young to approve the March meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

The Naturalist report for March was submitted by Wille. Projects accomplished included live animal maintenance, curriculum development and office recycling, attended the monthly staff and board meeting, School programs-32 for 645 students; Public programs-3 for 160 people; 0 civic programs. JCL event-tree tapping with 6 attending. 20 Facebook posts were put out with 18,331 people reached and 1,501 engaged. Wille reported that 68 gallons of syrup had been produced this syrup season.

The board reviewed the bid for playground equipment for Siems Park from Boland Recreation at a cost of \$21,668 delivered. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on the Seasonal Maintenance Technician position and the efforts to fill the opening. Stumme recommended hiring Mark Jordan. A motion was made by Ristau and seconded by Young to approve the hiring of Mark Jordan at a salary of \$18/hour. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was informed the Water's Edge Nature Center Foundation (WENCF) had received a donation and would like to donate funds for the entire cost of paving the nature center parking lot and entrance road. Stumme presented bids for asphalt from Blacktop services of Humboldt and Heartland Asphalt Inc. from Mason City. After discussion, a motion was made by Miller and seconded by Rasmussen to accept the donation from the WENCF and approve the low bid of \$162,458.71 from Heartland Asphalt Inc. of Mason City. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board was informed Rod Schmidt had his attorney prepare a warrantee deed for the board to review regarding the donation of approx. 80 acres of land in Section 10 of Portland Township, Kossuth County. The deed included his requests for future management and signage on the property. After reviewing the deed, the only change needed was the correct spelling of a name listed on the deed. After discussion, a motion was made by Miller and seconded by Young to accept the donation. The motion passed unanimously.

The board approved of holding the May board meeting on Monday, the 8th at 5:30 pm at the Water's Edge Nature Center.

A motion was made by Young and seconded by Ristau to approve the 34 bills submitted for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ristau and seconded by Young to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.