

**Kossuth County Conservation Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
Water's Edge Nature Center
December 11, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

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

Absent:

Guests Present:

Chairman Eichenberger called the meeting to order.

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

The Naturalist report was not available.

The board was informed the Iowa DNR Water Recreation Access Cost-share (WRAC) grant to replace the boat ramp at the Plum Creek Dam area had been approved and the agreement papers had been received. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Miller to approve the WRAC cooperative grant agreement for the amount of \$13,229.00. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board was presented the proposed nature center budget for FY 2024-2025. The proposed expense was \$39,040 and the proposed revenue was \$8,000.00. A motion was made by Ristau and second by Rasmussen to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was presented the main budget proposal for FY 2024-2025. The total expense requested for the administration, operations and education was \$680,478.00. The proposal included a salary increase of 4%. The total general fund income was \$76,000. After discussion, a motion was made by Ristau to approve the proposed budget with a salary increase of 3.2%. The motion failed for lack of a second. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the budget proposal as presented including the 4% salary increase. The motion passed with Young, Rasmussen and Eichenberger voting yes and Ristau voting no. Miller was not present for the vote.

The board approved of holding the January board meeting on either Monday the 8th or Tuesday the 16th at 5:30 pm depending on claim dates at the Water's Edge Nature Center.

A motion was made by Young and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the 47 bills submitted for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

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