

Kossuth County Conservation Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
Water's Edge Nature Center
December 9, 2024 5:30 P.M.

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

Absent:

Guests Present: Mary Ree

Chairman Miller called the meeting to order.

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

The Naturalist report was presented by Wille: 3 public programs were given for 37 people; 39 school programs were given for 650 students, 2 other student programs were given for 61 students. Facebook posts included 10 posts with 7,236 reached and 498 engaged. Other accomplishments included attending board and staff meetings, curriculum development, live animal maintenance, attended county wellness meeting, set up and worked the WENCF soup supper, toured the Rivers Edge Nature Center at Fort Dodge.

The board was updated on the Schmidt donation including the Nebraska house and the personal items. The board was informed the house contents have been removed from the house and the site is ready for demo pending the contractor's availability. KCCB staff have also installed the area signs and a parking lot on the south side of the property.

The board was informed grant applications had been submitted for the Crail acquisition. The board also acknowledged a letter received from a concerned landowner.

The board was informed Melissa Waller, contract mower for Burt Lake wished to adjust her bid for the 2025 mowing season to \$200/time. A motion was made by Eichenberger and seconded by Ristau to approve the bid. The motion passed unanimously.

Wille and Stumme presented the 2023-2024 Annual Report. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on the 2025-2026 budget proposal. After discussion, a motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Ristau to approve the nature center budget of \$38,800 in expenses with a projected revenue of \$9,000. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Eichenberger to approve the main budget proposal of \$629,502 of total expenses with a projected revenue of \$81,000. The motion passed unanimously.

The board approved of holding the January board meeting on Monday the 13th at 5:30 P.M. at the Water's Edge Nature Center.

A motion was made by Young and seconded by Eichenberger to approve the 42 bills submitted for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

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