

**Kossuth County Conservation Board**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**Water's Edge Nature Center**  
**January 13, 2025 5:30 P.M.**

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

Absent:

Guests Present:

Chairman Miller called the meeting to order.

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

The Naturalist report was presented by Wille: 3 public programs were given for 38 people; 15 school programs were given for 300 students, 1 other student programs was given for 22 students. Facebook posts included 10 posts with 5,905 reached and 1,147 engaged. Other accomplishments included attending board and staff meetings, attended Soil and Water meeting, nature center recycling, cleaned the basement shelves, updated computer files, updated photos for My County Parks website, reserved Star Lab from AEA.

The board was updated on the Schmidt property. The house and outbuildings at the building site had been demoed and the rubble burned and buried. The Quonset building still remains and will be used as a storage building for equipment. Items of value from the house and other buildings have been moved to the maintenance shop and nature center basement. A garage type sale will be held in February for the items the KCCB does not have a use for.

The KCCB staff will be communicating with the wetland display staff via a phone conference call on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Discussion will be held on the details of the wetland display construction.

Discussion was held on the 2025-2026 budget proposal. The director informed the board that the KCCB budget had been presented to the Board of Supervisors. They requested the board to reduce the salary request from 6% to 4% for employees. After discussion, a motion was made by Young and seconded by Ristau to approve a 4% salary increase for all full-time employees. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was presented updated job descriptions for review and approval. After review, a motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Eichenberger to approve the descriptions as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The Director requested employees Kris Thul and Ryan Schmidt be added as authorized signers on the Kossuth County Conservation Board checking account with Iowa State Bank. A motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Ristau to approve this authorization. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was informed Tom Ristau had been reappointed to serve as board member from District 1.

A motion was made by Eichenberger and seconded by Young to approve the annual rotation of officers for 2025. This motion included Steve Young as Chair; Megan Rasmusen as Vice-Chair and Tom Ristau as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

The board approved of holding the February board meeting on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 P.M. at the Water's Edge Nature Center.

A motion was made by Eichenberger and seconded by Young to approve the 30 bills submitted for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

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