

Kossuth County Conservation Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
Water's Edge Nature Center
March 8, 2021 5:30 P.M.

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

Absent:

Guests Present:

Board Chair Rasmussen called the meeting to order.

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

The Naturalist report was submitted by Wille. Projects accomplished included installing signage for the new prairie root display, live animal maintenance, attended a wellness meeting, attended several zoom meetings, attended the board and staff meetings, held one bird feeder class for 6 people, attended the Foundation meeting, hosted an extension planning meeting and taught 3 Financial Peace classes for the county. Youth events-5 classroom programs-82 students: five field trips for 69 students; JCL event-ice fishing and snowshoeing for 15 students. 6 Facebook posts were put out with 3,386 people reached and 265 engaged.

Naturalist Wille presented information on the Summer Intern position. The board approved the proposal.

Discussion was held on the purchase of an additional evaporator pan for the sugar shack program, as the existing pan is over twenty years old. More information will be obtained before a decision is made.

Five applications had been received for the seasonal sites at Smith Lake. Three of the applications were return campers. A draw was held for the site selection for the two remaining applicants.

The board was informed the Iowa DNR wildlife habitat development grant for the Patterson Wildlife Area Wetland Enhancement project had been approved for \$68,406. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Ristau to approve the Cooperative Grant Agreement with the Iowa DNR. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was informed the USFWS had funding available through the "Partners For Wildlife Program" to assist in the Patterson Wildlife Area enhancement project. The program would provide a total of \$13,600 in cash and materials for the project. A motion was made by Eichenberger and seconded by Miller to approve the landowner agreement with the USFWS for this project. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was informed the Iowa DNR fish habitat grant for the Smith Lake Rock-faced Jetty & Spawning Beds had been approved for \$40,658. A motion was made by Ristau and seconded by Young to approve the Cooperative Grant Agreement with the Iowa DNR. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was presented the bid specs for the Patterson Wetland enhancement project. After review, a motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ristau to accept them as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was presented the bid specs for the Smith Lake Rock-faced Jetty/Spawning Beds project. After review, a motion was made by Eichenberger and seconded by Miller to approve them as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The board reviewed the bids submitted for the purchase of two new office computers. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Ristau to approve the purchase of two IMAC desk computers with warrantee and software for a total cost of \$3,600. The motion passed unanimously.

The board approved of holding the April board meeting on Monday the 12th at 5:30 p.m. at the Water's Edge Nature Center meeting room.

A motion was made by Young and seconded by Eichenberger to approve the 19 bills submitted for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

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

