

**Kossuth County Conservation Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
Water's Edge Nature Center
October 9, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

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

Absent: Eichenberger

Guests Present:

Vice-chairman Miller called the meeting to order.

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

The Naturalist report was submitted by Fosado for Wille. Projects accomplished included live animal maintenance, office recycling, campground recycling, attended the monthly staff and board meeting; attended the foundation meeting at Dickenson County, attended SWCD meeting. School programs-19 for 591 students; Public programs-6 for 101 people; 18 other student programs for 406 students 0 civic programs. JCL event-none. 14 Facebook posts were put out with 8772 people reached and 902 engaged.

The board was presented a bid from Deitering Bros. Inc. of Bancroft for the purchase of a Jenkins 10' snow blade to be used on the skid steer. After discussion a motion was made by Young and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the purchase in the amount of \$2,500.00. The motion passed unanimously.

The board was informed of a Water Quality Initiative (WQI) grant through the NRCS for a water retention basin near the nature center at Smith Lake. The basin would catch the runoff waste from the parking lot and filter it before it entered Smith Lake. The grant would pay 50% of the cost of the project. An estimated cost of the project was \$6,000.00. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Ristau to approve the project up to \$6,000.00 total. If it ended up being more than that, further approval would have to be obtained. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Stumme requested approval to apply for a Community Foundation grant for a permanent bags game to be installed at the south campground at Smith Lake. The concrete bags game would be purchased from Kay Park Recreation out of Janesville, Iowa for a cost of \$1,694.00. The grant request would be for \$1,200.00. A motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Ristau to apply for the grant. The motion passed unanimously.

Stumme informed the board that he had met with Rod Schmidt regarding the future land donation to the Conservation Board located in Section 10 of Portland Township. Mr. Schmidt had originally stipulated that approximately 15 acres of land lying east of 167th Avenue be named after Dave Rike and be open to public hunting. He now wishes to change that to no name recognition for David Rike and that only archery hunting be allowed on the area. After discussion, a motion was made by Ristau and seconded by Rasmussen to approve his request. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Schmidt would be responsible for amending the warrantee deed to the land.

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

A motion was made by Young and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the 31 bills submitted for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

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