

**Kossuth County Conservation Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
Water's Edge Nature Center
September 12, 2022 5:30 P.M.**

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

Absent:

Guests Present: Mike Mack; Bob Lappe; Bob Smith; Amy Frankl Brandt; Michelle Balmer

Chairman Ristau called the meeting to order.

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

The Naturalist report was submitted by Wille. Projects accomplished included live animal maintenance, curriculum development, attended the monthly staff meeting; attended the Soil and Water meetings and 75th Anniversary tour and dinner, attended the Foundation meeting, stained the outdoor learning gazebo; POK open house. School programs-0 for 0 students; Public programs-3 for 35 people; 14 Facebook posts were put out with 9,454 people reached and 978 engaged.

The board was informed the KCCB staff is working in partnership with the WENCF on a new bee display in the library. The WENCF will be funding the project.

Iowa DNR lake Restoration staff Michelle Balmer presented information on the Iowa DNR's Lake Restoration program. The condition of Smith Lake was discussed and possible options to improve the water quality and fishery. No decisions were reached at this time.

The board was informed Navigator Pipeline has requested approval to cross the Ledyard ROW tract as part of the CO2 pipeline being considered in the northern part of the county. The board discussed the request and determined an easement would be required. A motion was made by Young and seconded Miller to wait until the Iowa Utilities Board approves the project before making a decision on the easement. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on the Conservation Reserve Account fund and retaining interest from that fund. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Rasmussen to request all interest from the Conservation Reserve Fund be credited to that fund. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on the disposal of old tables and chairs from the nature center meeting room as new ones had been purchased. A motion was made by Eichenberg and seconded by Young to sell the old equipment at a price of \$10/table and \$5/chair. The motion passed unanimously.

The board also discussed the disposal of old deer stands that had been removed from county property. The board approved of the KCCB staff setting a price and selling them on a first come first served basis.

The board was informed Operations Supervisor Mike Smidt had submitted his resignation effective September 5. A motion was made by Eichenberger and seconded by Young to accept the resignation. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Stumme presented the Operations Supervisor job description advertisement to the board for approval. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Eichenberger to approve the job description as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Board member Rasmussen agreed to serve on the hiring committee with the Director.

A motion was made by Eichenberger and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the 39 bills submitted for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

The board approved of holding the October meeting at 5:30 on Monday the 10th.

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