Kossuth County Conservation Board, Regular Monthly Meeting
Water's Edge Nature Center
July 13, 2026 5:30 P.M.

Present:	Eichenberger; Miller; Rasmussen; Ristau Beenken; Schmidt; Wille
Absent:	Stumme; Young
Guests Present:	Mary Ree

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 5:29 p.m.

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

Mary Ree brought concerns to the board about management and access to Buffalo Creek Nature Preserve.

The Naturalist report was presented by Wille: 6 public programs were given for 93 people; 0 school programs were given, 16 other student programs were given for 382 students; JCL event was end of year campout with 10 attending; Facebook posts included 19 posts with 39,054 reached and 24,469 engaged. Other accomplishments included attending board and staff meetings, curriculum development, live animal maintenance, campground weekend duty, met with Flynn the Algona Publishing intern, attended Soil and Water meeting, campground recycling, empty monofilament tubes, fill little lending libraries.

An update was given on Phase 2 of the Lake Restoration. Staff attended a zoom kick off meeting July 13, 2026. A recap on Phase 1 was discussed along what Phase 2 goals are. A schedule was discussed. More data collection and fieldwork will begin.

Update was given on the Exceptional Opportunities maintenance position. Staff are waiting on a start date and paperwork to be completed by HR.

Operations Supervisor Schmidt presented needing to set locations for the monthly posting of board meeting agendas for public access. A motion was made by Eichenberger to post the agenda on the front door of the Nature Center and on the Facebook page, Miller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Naturalist Willie presented the Algona Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program for Maintenance Tech Beenken to attend. Willie stated she will apply for the scholarship of $300, if not awarded scholarship the cost is $600. Motion by Ristau to apply for scholarship but, to also attend program regardless of receiving the scholarship; Miller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on potential Eagle Scout projects that Chairman Rasmussen was approached on. Gaga ball and monofilament tubes were ideas to be added to Siems Park.

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

A motion was made by Eichenberger and seconded by Ristau to approve the 56 bills submitted for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ristau and seconded by Eichenberger to adjourn at 6:35pm. The motion passed unanimously.