Grant awarded for Banner Creek building project

(KNZA)--An additional grant has been awarded for the construction of a multi-purpose community center at Banner Creek Reservoir, west of Holton.

The Friends of Banner Creek Reservoir Board of Directors, in a news release Tuesday, announced they were awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Johnsonville Member Giving Drive for the project.

Employees of Johnsonville nominate local non-profit organizations for the potential grant, and then vote to select the organization to receive the grant funds.

The building will include a kitchen, gathering area for 125-150 people, restrooms and a basement, which will be a designated storm shelter.

The original building construction estimate from April 2020 was \$320,000. The release says with tremendous community support, the Friends of Banner Reservoir raised half of the estimated project costs, \$160,000.

In October of last year, they were awarded a \$160,000 matching state grant.

Due to delays created by the COVID-19 pandemic, the grant announcement date was pushed back about a year and a half. Material and construction costs have increased during the delay.

The release says they are in the process of finalizing their building plans and preparing to request bids.

Even with in-kind donations, the release says additional funds will be necessary to complete construction of the building.

The Friends of Banner Creek Reservoir Board of Directors include Aaron Deters, Eric Deneault, Barb Dillner, Deb Dillner, Lana Dillner, Richard Iverson, Rob Ladner, and Beth Nelson.

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