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Board Members

Shawn Maine
Elizabeth Kling
Jo Schantz
Vacant
Josh Hardin

Louisa County Conservation Board – Regular Meeting Minutes

Date/Time/Location: Monday, September 14, 2026 / 3:00 pm / Hickory Hollow

Board Present: Josh Hardin, Joellen Schantz, Elizabeth Kling, Shawn Maine

Staff Present: Jacob Ewart, Lana Artz-McComb, Tanner Hollingsworth, Jake Shoppa

Public Present: Jim Rudisill

Meeting called to order at 3:04 pm

1. Agenda Approval (action)

Hardin motioned to approve the agenda, Schantz seconded. Motion passed all ayes

2. Consent Agenda (action)

Schantz motioned to approve the consent agenda, Hardin seconded. Motion passed all ayes.

3. LCCB Board Member (Willson) Update (informational)

The Court of Appeals made a ruling that said Sam shouldn't have been able to be reinstated for lost time, and that he is, effective immediately, not a member of LCCB. BOS will appoint someone to fill that position Oct 6 (originally 1/1/25 → 12/31/29)

4. Audience Consideration (informational)
none

5. Jacob Shoppa "Friends of Conservation" Presentation (informational)

Shoppa presented a proposal to create a Friends of Louisa County Conservation nonprofit to become a community led organization of volunteers to support LCC staff. Shoppa asks the Board to go over his proposal and discussion will continue at October meeting. Schantz remembers Extreme Makeover workdays in the past and that they stopped for insurance liability issues when volunteers do work. Maine indicates that finding people to volunteer is getting harder and harder. Hardin raises a concern that future BOS might see a Friends group doing work and use that as an excuse to not hire staff. Make sure that it's understood that a Friends group is NOT a replacement for employees. Kling thinks it's a great idea and many CCBs have one. TRCF is smaller and another group to help would be good. Ewart states that TRCF can work with Friends (TRCF with financial support and Friends with volunteers).

6. Environmental Education Update (informational)

Storybook Adventure complete at Virginia Grove. Langwood Bird Blind project completed by Girl Scouts. Will do a press release to summarize all projects. Starting up fall field trip season and working on grants. CCSD courtyard project picks up in October.

7. Maintenance Update (informational)
- Worked on washout and tree damage from rainstorms. Mowing picked up again and doing our best to keep up. Busy Labor Day with Snively full. Requested Sheriff assistance regarding homeless campers leaving trash/abandoned tents etc. Chinkapin shelter has been busy with many back to back weekend bookings. Worked with the forestry mulcher at Eden and Maebus for burn breaks and trail maintenance. Worked with Blue Diamond on powerake solution. Removed all hydraulics to make a manual tilt rake. Working perfectly. Blue Diamond is send a refund for the difference between a manual tilt rake and hydraulic tilt rake.
8. Administrative Update (informational)
- Ewart presents camping revenue and staff costs data regarding maintaining year round camping at Flaming Prairie. Proposed shutting down the campground at Flaming Prairie on Oct 1 to allow for waterfowl hunting at the park. Campground will reopen the Friday before Memorial Day. Board member consensus is to try it and see what happens.
- Ewart presents data on LCCB history of raising camping prices and compares LCC current prices to other counties with similar setups and nearby campgrounds. On average, LCC price of \$17/night is good for what we offer. Priced a replacement drinking fountain for Virginia Grove. Plan to write a Delta Dental Rethink Your Drink grant in March for a new drinking fountain.
9. Auction Results (informational)
- LCC made \$6700 at surplus auction on Sat 9/12. All things sold except buildings.
10. Approve/sign Management/Use Agreement with LIHS, Inc. for MS HNT (action)
- Hardin motioned to approve the Management/Use Agreement with Lihs. Kling seconded. Motion passed all ayes.
11. Approve updated rules/regs of LCCB (action)
- Ewart presented changes and noted that Sherrif Marquardt, County Attorney Parsons, and Conservation Officer Fourdyce approved.
- Schantz motioned to approve the updated Campground Rules and Regulations. Hardin seconded. Motion passed all ayes
12. Approve Agriculture Lease Agreements (action)
- Hardin motioned to approve Ag Lease Agreements. Kling seconded.
- Maine asks Ewart to push agreement item #5 – required cover crops. Ewart agrees.
- Motion passed all ayes.
13. Approve and release bid sheet for farm ground contracts ('27-'30) (action)
- Hardin motioned to approved and release Bid Sheets for Ag Leases. Schantz seconded, motion passed all ayes
14. Approve Friend of Conservation Award Winner (action)
- Ewart and staff recommends the Board present this award to the Hunter Education Team. They were recognized

by the State but yet to be recognized formally by the Board.

Kling motioned to approve, Hardin seconded. Motion passed all ayes.

15. Set Date/Time/Location for Next Regular Meeting

(informational)

- a. Monday, Oct 12, 2026 / 4:00 PM / Langwood Education Center

Followed by the Conservation Picnic at 5:30 pm.

16. Adjournment

Kling motioned to adjourn, Schantz seconded. Motion passed all ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 4:56 pm.

President

Secretary

Date Approved

President – Shawn Maine Vice-President – Josh Hardin

Secretary – Elizabeth Kling