LOUISA COUNTY CONSERVATION

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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, October 12, 2026 / 4:00 pm / Langwood
Board Present: Josh Hardin, Elizabeth Kling, Jo Schantz, Shawn Maine
Staff Present: Jacob Ewart, Tanner Hollingsworth, Lana Artz-McComb, Jake Shoppa
Public Present: Jim Rudisill

Meeting called to order at 4:16 pm.

1. Agenda Approval (action)

   Hardin motioned, Kling seconded, motion passed all ayes

2. Consent Agenda (action)
   a. Minutes
   b. Financials

   Hardin motioned, Kling seconded, motion passed all ayes

3. Audience Consideration (informational)

   None

4. Open/Approve Agriculture Lease Bids (action)

   Cairo – Hardin motioned to approve Boysen's bid for $6476.40/yr. Kling seconded, motion passed all ayes

   Chinkapin – Hardin motioned to approve Ryan's bid for $10987/yr. Schantz seconded, motion passed all ayes

   Indian Slough – Schantz motioned to approve Hayes' bid for $7830/yr. Hardin seconded, motion passed all ayes

5. LCCB Board Member Update (informational)

   No one has been appointed yet, told to wait for courts. Hopefully will be appointed at the 10/20 meeting and join for the November meeting.

6. Jacob Shoppa "Friends of Conservation" Update (informational)

   Board agrees to the idea of a Friends of Conservation organization. The next step is for Ewart to reach out to TRCF about the idea and see if they will be the fiscal agent for the new nonprofit organization. Ewart will also reach out to insurance etc regarding liability for volunteers etc.

7. Environmental Education Update (informational)

   Field trips have been going well with other special events like Hunter Ed, Ag safety day, CCSD career fair happening. Amanda has been doing Pocket Prairie programs with the libraries and programming at the Manor in CJ. Lana submitted a CFLC grant for the creation of Lessons in a Tote for checkout by teachers and other

organizations like homeschool groups. Eagle Scout project at Langwood proceeding with work hopefully happening this fall.

8. Maintenance Update (informational)

   Still mowing and doing a lot of mower maintenance. Start turning off water at campgrounds next week. Working on getting areas ready for hunting – maintaining hunting blinds and trails. Closed Flaming Prairie to camping and opened it for hunting including mulching a trail around the wetland area. No refund yet from Blue Diamond

9. Administrative Update (informational)

   Finalizing the HNT agreements with Butler and Heater. Ready to sign, waiting on legal property descriptions. Next steps would be working on the northern portion, north of CJ. CCSD hosted a cross country meet at Chinkapin. The students helped open up the trails and the meet went very well. Ewart will be participating in the County Trunk or Treat on Sunda the 18th. Also working with the DOT on Indian Slough and Hwy 61 access during the upcoming hwy 61 construction.

10. Approval of Memorial Donation - Mesler (action)

    Not a sapling and will be located near the campground or restroom at Virginia Grove. Most likely an Oak.

    Kling motioned to approve the memorial donation, Schantz seconded, motion passed all ayes

11. Approval of Fee Proposal from Martin Gardner Architecture (action)

    Referred to Gardner by the City of Wapello. Reviewed the quote of $5500 + $900 for restoration plans at the Virginia Grove school house. Board asks Ewart to look for other quotes.

    Board indicates that keeping it historic, within reason, is important. If it's going to be a rentable cabin, then that has to be taken into account because standards for restoration changes.

12. Set Date/Time/Location for Next Regular Meeting (informational)

    a. Monday, Nov 2, 2026 / 3:00 PM / Louisa County Complex

    Board holds additional discussion regarding needs and wants of the staff and public for the facilities at Langwood. Hardin wants to get rolling on a new lodge. Board requests to look at the plans that were developed last time this came up to see if they're what the current board wants.

13. Adjournment at 5:18 pm. Schantz motioned, Kling seconded, motion passed all ayes.

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President Secretary Date Approved

President – Shawn Maine Vice-President – Josh Hardin

Secretary – Elizabeth Kling