12635 County Rd G56, Suite 101 Wapello, IA 52653 P: 319.523.8381 conservation@louisacountyia.gov



Board Members
Joellen Schantz
Sam Willson
Josh Hardin
Shawn Maine
Elizabeth Kling

Louisa County Conservation Board - Regular Meeting Agenda

The Louisa County Conservation Board met in regular session on Monday, April 7, 2025 at 3:00 pm at Chinkapin Bluffs Recreation Area – Shelter

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

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

Martinez

Public Present: Jim Rudisill

Meeting called to order: at 3:05 by Maine

1.Agenda Approval - Hardin motioned to approve the agenda, Schantz seconded. Motion passed all ayes.

2.Audience Consideration - none

3.Consent Agenda - Willson motioned to approve, Schantz seconded. Motion passed all ayes Board asks Ewart to include balances for REAP, Reserve etc. in pre-meeting Board packet

- 4. Accessibility Permits- Ewart has had two requests in to Adam Parsons about permit language but hasn't heard back yet. Discussion on following the State's language including allowing 1 rider knowing that changes can be made if needed.
 - Schantz makes a motion to approve the Accessibility Permit language following the State's lead pending approval from Adam Parsons. Hardin seconded. Motion passed, all ayes
- **5.Memorial Bench and Tree Bart Boulton -** Boulton would like to make a memorial tree donation, American Chestnut, with "In memory of" sign to be placed at Virginia Grove near the playground to replace a deceased ash tree. Boulton has purchased the tree through the TRCF Tree Sales. Willson makes a motion to approve Boulton's memorial donation. Schantz seconded. Motion passed, all ayes
- **6.Amendment to LCCB Rules and Regulations Section 6 Dog Leash.** Rules and Regs need to be amended after the decision to allow The Mississippi Flyway Hunting Retriever Club to have off-leash training space at Indian Slough. Board read through new language. Willson made a motion to approve the amended language, Kling seconded. Motion passed, all ayes
- 7.Fish Habitat Stamp Grant Agreement with DNR Naturalist Sarah Martinez presented grant information to the Board regarding the project taking place at Virginia Grove pond. The goal is to provide fish habitat and water quality improvement. The grant will armor 100 ft of the bank to provide spawning ground for fish. It will also place a solar powered aerator in the pond

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to increase dissolved oxygen. Water quality must be tackled before the pond can be successfully restocked. Work is estimated to begin in July and complete within 1 year with a grant report submitted by Dec 2026. The grant agreement requires Shawn's signature. Kling makes a motion to sign the Fish Habitat Stamp Grant Agreement, Hardin seconds. Motion passed, all ayes. Ewart will get the grant agreement to Shawn for his signature.

8. Environmental Education Update -

Waiting on the receipt of the footprint drawings for the prairie shelter at Langwood. Following that, we will bid the concrete work for the shelter (TRCF) and the parking pads (CFLC). MidAmerican Cares is onboard for shelter construction when the time comes. Successful hunter ed class with 27 in attendance plus archery at MS and CCSD. We hope to hold a NASP instructor workshop in August to certify more teachers for NASP. Tommy Docks have arrived. Sign quote from Tony Wellington for CB interp signs. The United Fund Grant has enough money to pay for one sign. Wellington will build and LCC will install one sign. Artz-McComb will write a United Fund grant for the remaining 3 sign pedestals in Fall of 2025.

- 9.Maintenance Update Timber reserve complete. Burned at Indian Slough with TNC and DNR. Worked with Secondary Roads on ditch burns. Burned at a TNC property. Burned Morning Sun Elementary School prairie. Maebus property fence is complete. Luke Perkins starts today as the 6 month seasonal and mowing season is officially underway.
- 10.Director Update Eden Budget (will get to it after tax season) Jay Schweitzer would like to give us the reins for money and tracking (which is what we want anyway) This should all get done by fiscal year, so no biggie. The only holdup is we don't know how "big" we can go. I think there is ROUGHLY... \$100,000 in the account. I will find out about how much the account makes in a year, and how much interest could be, etc. How much we should be thinking about saving so we don't incur costs.
- Shop roof bid sheet
 - Will get approval and post it in early May, then accept bids for 1 month collecting on June 2
- Hired seasonal maintenance (mason cooley)
 - Accepted and ready to go may 26 (ish)

End of FY Fiscal Projections next time

o Rough estimate is 16,000 left unspent, but also 16,000 left unmade Pannier Graphics Eden Park Signs

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- o \$1,700 extra to spend and will be used to rock the parking lot.-
- **11.Eden Park planning session and committee formation.** Schantz spoke about needing a vision for Eden Park for long range planning. Ideas of smaller rest areas instead of 1 big shelter at playground. Consider a more permanent restroom instead of porta potty. Consider a pond.

Maine suggests that the next meeting be held at Eden and a committee will be established. Willson suggests referring to the master plan.

Location: Eden Weather backup:	Park LCC Office	onday, May 5, 2025; 3:00 pm ade by 11 am on May 5	1
13.Adjournment all ayes.	3:39 pr	n. Hardin motions, Kling second	ls, motion passed
Chair Approved		Secretary/Treasurer	Date

Chair - Shawn MaineVice-chair - Joellen Schantz Secretary/Treasurer - Elizabeth Kling

*Louisa County Bylaws regarding voting by the Chair/Acting Chair:

According to Article II, number 2.4 of the Louisa County Conservation Board Bylaws, "At all meetings that a full quorum is present, the board chair does not vote except to break a tie. In a three-member quorum, all persons present cast vote."