

# LOUISA COUNTY CONSERVATION



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## **Board Members**

Joellen Schantz  
Vacant  
Josh Hardin  
Shawn Maine  
Elizabeth Kling

## **Louisa County Conservation Board - Special Meeting Minutes**

The Louisa County Conservation Board met in special session on Monday, March 25, 2024; 3:00 pm at the Louisa County Complex.

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

**Staff Present:** Jacob Ewart

**Public Present:** Jim Rudisill (press)

**Meeting Called to Order:** at 3:00 pm by Maine

**Agenda Approval:** Motion by Hardin, Second by Schantz, Passed all ayes

**Office :** Update from Maine on supervisors meeting - supervisors soliciting bids to farm the office prairie; One person bid roughly \$500 for the year, for three years. Maine also explained the supervisors made note that it was technically county ground, so county conservation shouldn't have a say; however at the end of the meeting it was called upon LCCB to meet and discuss options around management of the prairie, with concern about number of individuals of staff time.

Shantz brought up that in the past, conservation was mowing the existing prairie, but stopped to reduce workload. She also thought there should be some sort of management plan to keep it looking nice but with signage to better indicate to the public what a prairie is, and its purpose. Hardin wanted supervisors to put the land into Conservation's name if LCCB were to be the ones managing it. An audience member raised a question about what the supervisors actually wanted, citing the newspaper article posted by the supervisors only wanted a 1-year lease. No resolution. Ewart explained the two management plans in place: Enhance the existing prairie, as is, or lease the land for 2 years with a prairie planting the third year. All plans revolve around an agreement with the USFWS; they will supply LCCB with prairie seed, but it requires a 10-year management agreement. Hardin also suggested a tree-planting to generate money for the county. All members liked the idea of prairie instead of row crop, discussion was based on logistics of county owned land, but managed by LCCB and the consequences thereof.

Hardin motion to approve proposed management plan and management agreement pending ownership of land – (died on floor)

Kling motion to recommend to the board of supervisor LCCB wants to keep and enhance existing prairie and adopt management agreement as written for 10 years – second by Schantz

Kling – Aye ; Shantz – Aye ; Hardin – Nay ; Motion Passes

Conflict issues moved next regular meeting to **Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Chinkapin Bluffs @ 3:00**

**Adjournment:** Motion by Schantz, second by Hardin. Passed all ayes. 3:55 pm

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Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved

*Chair – Shawn Maine*

*Vice-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 a vote."*