



Louisa County Conservation Board – Regular Meeting Minutes

The Louisa County Conservation Board met on Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 3:00 pm at Chinkapin Bluffs Recreation Area. Prior to the Meeting, the Board viewed the renovated shelter and restroom facilities including new concrete, tin roof on both the restroom and the shelter, tin walls and a tin ceiling at the shelter.

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

Staff Present: Lana Artz-McComb, Noah Robb, and Jacob Ewart

Public Present: Jim Rudisill, Randy Schlutz, Mike Reid

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

Consent Agenda: Schantz motioned to approve the consent agenda, Hardin Second, Motion Passed all ayes

Director Report: Ewart asked the Board if they would like to continue using Creelman Firewood for the campgrounds. Board said yes. Ewart met with the DOT regarding Indian Slough and the hwy 61 construction. Indian Slough will be getting hit; however, VERY minimal property loss (<1 acre likely). - Indian slough property will be bought with cash. They will simply buy it from us as if we were a private entity. Then, they will mitigate all they need to through their own sources (banks, likely). They will not give us money/land for mitigation on the land they took. They could... use our land as a “bank” and give us improvements as projects. Moving forward, they may contact us (2025?) to improve our land as a mitigation project. They are instructed to use a bank if there is a bank open. There is one open right now but could need more.

Spoke with Mike Heller and Scott from Harrison County regarding easement wording for Honey Creek Mitigation Bank. The entire easement document is negotiable including fees, future costs, etc.

Met with Andy Robbins regarding Snively Campground. Odessa Wildlife Unit is funded by Habitat money, and legally CANNOT manage a campground. The state level parks system has been asked if they will take it back and they won't. If we shut it down, it will be shut down forever. Per the lease agreement “At the expiration of term or if either party cancels the county will yield possession of the premises to the DNR and will, within 90 days, remove all improvements, structures, and equipment thereon from said land”. (permanent structures could stay if written approval), “said premises at the time...shall be in as good order and condition as when the same was entered upon by the County”. USACE has marked the area with pins indicating that essentially the entire campground falls on USACE ground and therefore LCC will track and report all expenses and revenue for Snively.

Columbus Concrete provided the lowest estimate for the CFLC Grant work at Virginia Grove to provide a paved sidewalk to the accessible fishing doc. Hopefully complete this late next week but the current wet weather may cause a delay.

Met with Selena and Vicki to get a full understanding of the Reserve Account and make sure all numbers are matching up. Everything is verified and balances are correct.

Board of Supervisors chose Management Plan B for the Complex Prairie. Two years of farming followed by re-evaluation for prairie with USFWS. LCCB will continue to manage the landscape at the complex



Maintenance Report: Robb reported the installation of a donated bench at Chinkapin, met with leaseholders about food plots, and working on cleaning up wind fall at areas. The dump truck is fully repaired and aligned. Luke Perkins (6 month seasonal) started on Monday.

Environmental Education Report: Artz-McComb reported that LCC received a 17ft aluminum canoe as a donation and it will replace one of the Langwood canoes that has a broken rib. She will take care of switching the registration at the courthouse. Summer camp registration begins next week and field trip season begins this week. She's working with SWCD to submit a grant for creek signs throughout the county which will hopefully lead to an increase in water quality and watershed public programs particularly around Long Creek. She invited the Board to reach out if anyone would like to volunteer on 6/1 for Langwood Adventure Day.

Snively Lease Contract: Background was provided in Ewart's Director Report. LCC is already under a signed management agreement with the DNR from 2009 through 2032. The Board would like the winter maintenance/cabin owner use of the Snively Hill road on the next agenda.

Honey Creek Mitigation Bank Easement: Mike Heller needs a motion for "To start negotiations process for accepting the easement for the Honey Creek Mitigation Bank Site owned by Sandy Creek LLC"

Motion by Hardin, Second by Kling, motion passed all ayes.

Ewart asked for two Board members to be designated as contacts for negotiations moving forward. Kling and Maine will be the contacts. The final easement will be read and voted on by the full Board.

Mike Reid, landowner to the east of the easement area which is the only area where future public could access the land, made the following statements to the Board.

Reid asked "What is LCCB's plan with the Honey Creek area?" Reid's concerns are directly related to traffic and public use. Where would a parking lot go? How many people would be coming in and out of the single lane county road off of 61? He understands that LCCB does not now how long the mitigation bank will be open but he wants the record to show that he is concerned about what will happen. "Put yourself in my place where everything that you planned for and worked for could be disrupted" Re public access "most people are fine, some people are not". "I like green space but I have issues with public access of the area, traffic on the road, and traffic around his property".

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, May 6th 3:00 pm at Snively Campground.

Motion to adjourn by Hardin, Second by Kling, Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Chair

Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved

Chair – Shawn Maine

Vice-chair – Joellen Schantz

Secretary/Treasurer – Elizabeth Kling

LOUISA COUNTY
CONSERVATION



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Board Members

Joellen Schantz
Vacant
Josh Hardin
Shawn Maine
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."

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