



Louisa County Conservation Board – Regular Meeting Minutes

The Louisa County Conservation Board met in regular session on Monday, July 1, 2024 at 3:00 pm at the Louisa County Complex

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

Staff Present: Jacob Ewart, Dani Boysen, Tanner Hollingsworth

Public Present: Jim Rudisill, Matthew Hahn, Nicolette Edwards, Don Edwards, Jonas Zimmerman, Jodi Swift, Shirley Chorpening, Phil Chorpening, Sheila Keltner, Bryon Keltner, Jeff Spenner, Amy Stanbro, Nonie Crumly, Joe Crumly, Jami Sanders, Jeff Daufeldt, Mary Taylor Daufeldt, Tamara Leinbach, Mark Leinbach, Chris Ousey

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

Agenda Approval: Kling motioned to approve the agenda, Schantz seconded, Motion passed all ayes

Audience Consideration: Cabin owners that live by Odessa expressed their concerns with having the road from X61 down to Snively Campground closed during the winter months. Schantz assured them that the road will remain open in the winter but will not be maintained by Louisa County Conservation, after hearing back from the county attorney and insurance company who said that LCC would not be liable if cabin owners cleared the road of any snow.

Jacob was asked to read an email that was sent to him by Lynette Hoopes about the bench that was donated to Chinkapin Bluffs. It was attached to the board packet provided to the board members, so everyone took the time to read it. It was discussed that if the plaque is changed, the bench could stay otherwise the bench would need to be removed within 30 days.

Consent Agenda: Hardin motioned to approve the consent agenda, Schantz seconded, Motion passed all ayes

Snively Access Road Usage: No motion made. Everything will remain the way it has been.

Chinkapin Bluff Bench Signage Resolution: The bench can remain if the plaque is changed. If Lynette is unwilling to let the plaque be changed then the bench will need to be removed and will not be allowed to be placed on any of Louisa County Conservation areas. Jacob will help move the bench if that is what Lynette decides to do. Hardin made the motion, Schantz seconded. Motion passed with all ayes.

Memorial Donations Policy: A written policy will be given to the county attorney to review.

Hiring of new Natural Resource Technician: Tanner Hollingsworth was hired for the Natural Resource Technician position.

Director update: Jacob talked about adding security cameras at some of the areas and explained that it would just be for the parking lot/entrance to the area. It would not be monitored at all times, just if something happened there would be a record of who was there. Maine asked for it to be put on the next agenda to talk about it. Work is being done to redo the dock at Virginia Grove. The entryway was finished, and it would be wheelchair accessible. Hardin said that Chinkapin Bluff's shelter house looks fantastic and asked about a chimney top to prevent sparks.



Approval to transfer funds per Iowa Code 350.6: Jacob asked the board for approval to ask the supervisors for a transfer of funds to the reserve account per Iowa Code 350.6 of \$60,876.72. Shantz motioned. Hardin seconded. Motion passed with all ayes.

Transfer of \$40,000 from Reserve into Capital Improvement (Mabeus): Motion was made by Hardin to pay \$40,000 from the Reserve account to the Supervisor’s Capital Improvement account pending the supervisors approval of the transfer of funds to the reserve account. Schantz seconded. Motioned passed with all ayes.

Maintenance Report: Snively campground is closed due to flooding as well as Flaming Prairie. Cappy Russell and River Forks were also discussed as areas of concern for flooding. Dani will call ESI to have them remove the portable toilets that were placed at each boat landing.

Sandy Creek LLC update: No update

Railroad Right of Ways: Jacob brought up a map with the areas that we own that make up part of the Hoover Nature Trail. There was discussion on what pieces LCC would want to sell. The board would like Jacob to contact adjacent landowners to the smaller sections that are not near any other sections to see if there would be any interest in purchasing. Kling mentioned that she has seen in other areas where a green space was created for businesses that are next to trails and since Tyson is next to a larger section of trail, that might be a good use of that area.

Adjournment: Hardin motions to adjourn the meeting, Kling seconded. Motion passed with all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, Aug 12, 2024 at 3:00 pm at the Louisa County Complex

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.”