

LARIMER COUNTY OPEN LANDS ADVISORY BOARD

The mission of Larimer County Department of Natural Resources is to establish, protect and manage significant regional parks and open lands providing quality outdoor recreational opportunities and stewardship of natural resource values. We are committed to fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the natural and agricultural heritage of Larimer County for present and future generations.

MINUTES

Date: July 25, 2019

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Larimer County Loveland Campus Building, 200 Peridot Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537, Poudre River Room

Contact: Please contact Sidney at smichl@larimer.org or 970-619-4462 if you are unable to attend

Members		Staff	Guests	
Bob Hewson	x	Daylan Figgs	x	
David Marvin (via conference call)	x	Meegan Flenniken	x	
Jason Brothers	x	Zac Wiebe	x	
K-Lynn Cameron	x	Charlie Johnson	x	
Ken Zornes	x	Justin Core	x	
Linda Stanley	x	Chris Fleming	x	
Mark DeGregorio		Lori Smith	x	
Nancy Wallace	x	*Thomas Donnelly	x	
Peter Kelly	x	Sidney Michl (minutes)	x	
Rick Brent	x			
Sherri Valentine	x			
Tom Shoemaker	x			

x = present

*Commissioner

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – 5:08 p.m.
 - a. Welcome new board members!
 - b. Discussion about future retreat for board members and/or opportunities for board visits to land acquisition sites.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – none

3. AGENDA REVIEW

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
 - a. Sherri asked to change 6.c. to reflect the Oil & Gas Task Force concept is a working group open to the public with *plans* for public comment. Sherri motioned to approve the last meeting minutes per her request, Linda seconded, motion passed unanimously.

5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Natural Resource events for this month: See <http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources>.
 - b. To sign up for Open Lands Advisory Board minutes, go to <http://larimer.org/subscriptions.cfm>, enter your email, click 'Subscribe,' and then check the 'Open Lands Advisory Board' box.
 - c. Applications open for 2020 Small Grants Program, due September 13th. Individual grant awards are available up to \$3,000 per project. www.larimer.org/small-grants.
 - d. Request for 2-3 OLAB members for Small Grants subcommittee; members review grant applications in the fall and select the projects to be awarded (December/January)
 - i. Tom, Rick, and K-Lynn volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.
 - e. River Bluffs Restoration Project completed
 - f. Pittington CE donation completed

6. UPDATES & REPORTS
 - a. County Oil & Gas Task Force Update – Meegan/Sherri
 - i. Overview of local topics. Info on the Task Force meetings and public comments can be found here: <https://www.larimer.org/planning/oil-and-gas-regulations/oil-gas-task-force-meetings>.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. 25-year budget projections presentation – Lori
 - i. Goals
 - ii. Base Assumptions
 - iii. 'Old' Sales Tax 1996-2018 (\$91.5 million – 71% was spent Acquiring Interest, Protecting and Improving Open Space, Natural Areas, and Wildlife Habitat and Trails; 24.7% was spent on the Cost of Operating, Maintaining and Administering of Open Spaces; 2.6% was spent on Improving Existing Regional Parks including Carter, Horsetooth, Flatiron and Pinewood; 1.7% was spent on the Cost of Operating, Maintaining and Administering of Regional Parks)
 - iv. 2018 Ending Fund Balances
 - v. Operating Fund
 - vi. Capital Projects
 1. Bob and Dave asked about partnerships in 2021 and 2022, it was noted that only known partnerships can be included in budget projections, discussion about including anticipated partnerships into presentation.
 - vii. Capital Funding Targets (\$80 million – 30% Partnerships, 29% Lottery, 27% Parks, 14% Sales Tax)
 - viii. Management and Maintenance

- ix. 'New' Sales Tax Allocation Targets (Anticipated to generate \$370 million – 48.9% Management, Maintenance and Administration of Open Spaces, Natural Areas, Wildlife Habitats, and Trails; 35.3% Acquiring Interest and Protecting Open Space, Natural Areas, Wildlife Habitat, Parks and Trails, and Restoring and Enhancing Native Plant and Animal Communities and Other Habitat Related Restoration; 12.7% Improvement of Open Spaces, Natural Areas, Wildlife Habitats and Trails; 3.1% Improvement of Carter Lake, Horsetooth Reservoir, Flatiron Reservoir and Pinewood Reservoir)
- x. Sales Tax Allocations
 - 1. Discussion about strategies for future allocations. Board member suggestion to incorporate ballot language and constraints into presentation.
- xi. Levels of Service Acres per Capita
- xii. Public Access Anticipated on 4-6 future sites, assuming charging user fees, given long term management costs to provide public access.
- xiii. Summary
 - 1. Discussion about cost of acquiring property as well as cost of long-term maintenance and operations.
 - 2. An in-depth discussion of 25-year budget projections will occur at the August OLAB meeting.
- b. Land acquisition opportunities and approach presentation – Meegan
 - i. Urgency and Fundamental Shift in Approach to Land Acquisitions
 - ii. Map of LCDNR Open Spaces, Parks, and Priority Areas
 - iii. Acquisition Opportunities Analysis and Approach
 - iv. Acquisition Opportunities Summary
 - 1. Linda asked about the potential for a regional trail along the river corridors. It was noted that LC's regional trail plan includes 15 priority trails including the Poudre River Trail. Projected development costs for LC's regional trail program are included in the summary. Discussion of defining regional trail priorities moving forward will be discussed in October.
 - 2. Sherri asked about a consideration for wildlife corridors, it was noted that "habitat priority areas" consider wildlife and corridor movement.
 - 3. Discussion about front loading land acquisitions, high capacity for acquisition and management of CE's, and partnerships among municipalities.
 - 4. Board member request to compile a map with CE's vs. fee areas.

8. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Board elections – chair and vice-chair
 - i. Nancy Wallace elected as chair, David Marvin re-elected as vice chair.
- b. Transfer of Kauffman Conservation Easement recommendation

- i. Sherri moves to recommend the transfer of the Kauffman CE to the City of Loveland, K-Lynn seconds, motion passed unanimously.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: August 22, 2019 at the Larimer County Loveland Campus Building, 200 Peridot Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537, Poudre River Room

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to C.R.S. (24-6-402(4)(a)) for discussion pertaining to the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer or sale of any real, personal or other property interest. Nancy moved to enter Executive Session, Linda seconded, motion passed unanimously at 8:06 p.m.

12. ADJOURN – 8:32 p.m.