

# LARIMER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

## Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2016

Present: Jason Brothers, Tim Clouse, Karen Crumbaker (liaison), Sarah Fox, Lew Gaiter, Charles Gindler (liaison), Minerva Lee, Gail Meisner, Greg Schreiner, Richard Seaworth, Jon Slutsky, Zach Thode, and George Wallace. Guest: Sam Adams and Karin Madson (liaison).

Absent: Jennifer Bornhoft (liaison), Brenda Gimeson (liaison), Debra Herston, Nic Koontz, Val Manning, Bill Spencer (liaison), and Ted Swanson.

- I. Greg Schreiner called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m.
- II. The March 9, 2016, AAB Meeting Minutes were approved.
- III. Interaction with Lew Gaiter on Ag and Community related issues.
  - The Larimer County Commissioners have not taken a position on where Poudre R1 will place a new high school in Wellington. Historically, the commissioners do not weigh in on such issues. The next quarterly meeting for Poudre R1 will be July 9, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. If anyone on the AAB has a concern on the proposed location of the new high school, they should contact Commissioner Gaiter.
  - Commissioner Gaiter stated that Larimer County does not have an Intergovernmental Agreement with the town of Wellington.
- IV. Review and input on LESA proposed changes. George, Charlie and Jason are working on proposed changes to the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) document for Larimer

County. They handed out a draft document with their proposed revisions and lead a discussion on the revisions. Any comments or feedback from the AAB should be sent to George, Jason or Charlie by June 15, 2016. The draft document, with comments and revisions, will be reviewed at the next AAB meeting.

V. Updates from AAB:

- Gail announced the Ag Safety Workshop, which was held at Centennial Livestock in Fort Collins, on Saturday, April 23, 2016, was a success. Educational programs were on tractor safety, fire extinguisher operation, ATV safety, lawn mower, weed eater and chain saw safety, animal safety, firearm safety, and electrical safety. There were about 50 in attendance. Gail felt the programs and presentations were outstanding and the kids enjoyed themselves. She expects to repeat the workshop next year and would like help from the AAB in promoting the event. Tim suggested including a presentation on pesticide safety.
- George mentioned he was concerned with the proposed sites Poudre R1 School District is considering for the new high school in Wellington. If the school chooses a site on the west side of Wellington, he feels it will affect agricultural land. Further discussion was tabled for discussion at the next AAB meeting.
- Gail asked Richard to update the board on the Day Farm and Boxelder project. At this time, discussions are underway with the Day family and their legal counsel in an effort to reach a settlement on the land costs. There is no settlement at this time. A valuation hearing is currently scheduled for November 14, 2016, if a settlement is not reached by then.
- A storm water basin of approximately 55 acres will be built on the Day farm property. The board discussed best uses for the land. Suggestions were to farm it, plant grass and fence it for grazing, or hay the land.
- Jason is the AAB liaison on the Boxelder Board.
- Zach repeated his suggestion that a member of the AAB serve as a liaison on the Larimer County Fair Board. He felt there is a perception of disconnect between the fair and agriculture. Zach will follow-up with a letter to Commissioner Gaiter requesting permission for a member to serve as a liaison and will report back to the board.

VI. Task Force working groups break out:

Housing/Immigration -- Jon, George, Greg, Bill, and Tim

Evolution of Agriculture -- Gail, Zach, Deb, Minerva, and Richard

Rural Broadband -- Val, Ted, Jason, and Sarah

VII. Announcements:

- Charlie announced the first bison calf was born on Soapstone Prairie Natural Area from the herd that was introduced last summer. Of the introduced bison, only one was lost; the rest of the herd is doing well.

VIII. The next AAB meeting will be held on July 13, 2016, at 12:30 p.m. at the CSU Larimer County Extension Office, 1525 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins, CO.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.