

LARIMER COUNTY LAND STEWARDSHIP 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: February 21, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Larimer County Courthouse, 200 W. Oak St., Fort Collins, CO, 2nd Floor, Lake Loveland Room.

Contact: Please contact Emmy at ellisoea@co.larimer.co.us or 970-619-4462 if you are unable to attend.

Members		Staff		Guests
Ernie Marx	x	Casey Cisneros	x	Ron Harris
Richard (Hitch) McCulloch	x	Daylan Figgs	x	
Ed Redente	x	Meegan Flenniken	x	
Gordon Nuttall	x	John Kafalas*	x	
Renee Galeano-Popp	x	Emmy Ellison (minutes)	x	

x = present

*commissioner

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – 6 p.m.
 - a. Daylan Figgs, John Kafalas and Ron Harris introduced by Ed.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT – none
3. AGENDA REVIEW
4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
 - a. Ernie motions to approve last meeting minutes, Hitch seconds, motion passed unanimously.
5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Natural Resource events for this month: See <http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources>.

- b. The Poudre River Restoration project at River Bluffs Open Space has begun and is expected to be completed in early summer – Meegan
- c. Weed Control Enterprise rate increases were approved by BOCC – Casey
- d. Update on Park and Open Space fee increases – Daylan
- e. Finalized and printed *Identification and Management of Knapweeds in Colorado, 3rd edition* – Casey

6. UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Land Stewardship Program 2018 Executive Summary – Casey
 - i. Overview of Land Stewardship Program, handouts of new LC Weed District map and 2018 LC Land Stewardship Funding.
 - ii. Discussion of Executive Summary. Within green area of the updated map, levy is 0.147 mills on the assessed value of private land. No new boundaries on new map. Mention of potential expansion of district in the future, voter issue, BOCC will weigh in as it goes toward Land Use code.
- b. Overview of 2019 Land Stewardship Advisory Board topics – Casey/Meegan
 - i. Focus of advisory board is not budget or operations but on larger policy issues as a sounding board for BOCC and citizens.
 - ii. Main topics include:
 1. Review and potential revision of Larimer County Pest List.
 2. Potentially amend leafy spurge management plan with eradication as objective outside of a containment boundary.
 3. Update Plant Materials and Revegetation Standards, bringing draft in August.
 4. Potential for broadening the Cost Share Program, will bring options to LSAB in November.
 5. Formalize Enterprise business/operation plan for attaching to Weed Management Plan.
 - iii. Gordon asked if there was a process for including citizen input for the topics. It was noted that Casey points interested parties to toward attending LSAB meetings. Also noted is that public outreach is done on particular topics that benefit most or require it. Renee noted that the LSAB board meetings are a major opportunity for voicing public opinions and Casey can be approached directly and can decide whether or not to include an idea on the agenda. Commissioner Kafalas asked about the level of cooperation between LC Weed District and local jurisdictions. It was noted that with municipalities like Fort Collins, there is a lot of communication on related issues and for other municipalities, LC Weed District conducts the weed management for a fee.
- c. Review of 2018 Noxious Weed Compliance Data – Maxine
 - i. 871 total inspections, hired seasonal who did most. Compliance strategy is in Noxious Weed Management Plan. Written compliance procedures, come from staff and the public, most EDRR species come from staff. Discussion of

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procedures. Sent 383 courtesy letters; 169 were in-district, 97 were in Estes Valley. Sent 41 grant letters; 8 were in-district, 21 were in Estes Valley. Sent 69 enforcement letters; 46 were in district, 6 were in Estes Valley. Sent 2 courtesy letters, late season, 1 in district. 69 site visits, 24 in Estes Valley were conducted as a result of a noxious weed letter. Of the 69 enforcement letters sent, only 9 required right-of-entry and only one enforcement was done.

- ii. Priority areas/priority weeds were:
 - 1. Sedona Hills area, absinthe wormwood
 - 2. Carriage Hills area in Estes, Canada thistle, diffuse knapweed
 - 3. Absinthe wormwood
 - 4. Yellow toadflax
 - 5. Perennial pepperweed
 - 6. Russian knapweed
 - 7. Leafy spurge
- iii. Colorado Noxious Weed Act gives County ability to regulate on any plant, should be able to restructure containment boundaries to fit local management goals.
- iv. Ernie had suggestion to encourage a Berthoud resident to join board in order to represent that area.
- v. Renee asked about coordination of EDDMapS. It was noted that all data in LC's database gets sent to EDDMapS, there may be duplicates.
- vi. Gordon asked about estimates of staff time required for these incidents. It was noted that LC has those numbers and Casey can follow up on those.
- vii. Ed asked to have some of the tables from Maxine's presentation distributed. It was noted that some could be included on the website for the board.

7. ACTION ITEMS

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Possible update next meeting on Western Society of Weed Science, at least one board member plans to attend.

9. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: 5/16/2019 at Larimer County Courthouse, 200 W. Oak St., Fort Collins, CO, 2nd Floor, Lake Loveland Room.

10. 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.

11. ADJOURN – 7:28 p.m.

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