

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: November 15, 2018

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	Linda Smith (CNPS)
Richard (Hitch) McCulloch		Gary Buffington	x	
Ed Redente	x	Meegan Flenniken		
Frank Haug	x	Sean Dougherty*		
Gordon Nuttall	x	Emmy Ellison (minutes)	x	
Renee Galeano-Popp	x			

x = present

*commissioner

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – 6:04 p.m.
 - a. Introduced Linda Smith from the Colorado Native Plant Society (CNPS).
2. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - a. Linda Smith handed out brochure and described the CNPS. CNPS is planning a training session for members to learn about the EDDMapS, can include folks on LSAB.
3. AGENDA REVIEW
4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
 - a. Ed moves to approve the last meeting minutes, Frank seconds, motion passed unanimously.

5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Natural Resource events for this month: See <http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources>.
- b. Present Colorado Weed Management Association 2019 calendars – Casey
- c. County Noxious Weed Management Plan formally adopted – Casey
 - i. Will be adopted at next week’s BOCC Admin Matters meeting.
- d. County Forester reappointed pest inspector – Casey – 3-year reappointment.
- e. LSAB bylaw revisions adopted – Casey
 - i. Meeting dates changed to February and then every 3 months, also board positions will be elected at November meetings.
- f. County Forester finds potential state champion linden – Casey
- g. Parks and Open Lands fee study and recommendations – Gary
 - i. Overview of the ongoing Fee Study and related recommendations. Hired consultant (Harvey Economics – HE) to assist, considering raising fees as they have not been raised in 10-20 years depending on location, HE did analysis with assumptions. Have engaged the public rigorously through open houses, public Advisory Board meetings, media coverage/announcements, etc. Increasing costs of maintenance, staffing, public safety, etc. due to increasing populations using the resources. Plan to have pass for lower income users, possible fee for DBB (similar visitation at DBB as at HTMOS). Usage generally dictates need for fee. Sales Tax increase will not fully cover rising costs of operating/maintenance. Resource degradation is increasing. Low turnouts at Open Houses, not a lot of public feedback in general. Hope to implement fees by the end of the year. LSAB members can send opinions to Gary.
- h. Pest District termination date – Casey – has been extended 5 years.

6. UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Update on noxious weed input for 2nd edition of the Flora of Colorado – Renee (5min)
 - i. ‘Flora’ in title indicates comprehensive compendium of all plant species in any geographical area. Author Jennifer Ackerfield requested input for 2nd edition, Renee suggested adding additional Noxious Weeds as 20% of those listed in CO are not in book. Time frame for completion/publication is sometime in 2019.
- b. Identification and Management of Knapweeds in Colorado 3rd edition – Casey
 - i. Department now has Graphic Designer and Communications Specialist, photos and content are upgraded, have been reviewing with experts, close to printing. Will print before Dept. of Ag works through a couple of recent identification issues, can update later. Single copies can be distributed for free but larger needs are purchased. Used for educational purposes, as well.
- c. Forestry Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation service proposal unfunded for 2019 – Casey/Gary
 - i. Second EAB funding denial in two years, people may not understand the magnitude of the disease, some treatments available, LC removed 80 last year, environmental advocates and education will be helpful. Plan B for Dave will be

addressed internally in the short term, fees can be a barrier. Cooperating with other agencies on issue. May make one more attempt at a funding request.

- d. 2018 List A noxious weed management summary – Casey
 - i. It is possible to eradicate Noxious Weed species using Early Detection, Rapid Response (EDRR) process. Yellow Starthistle and Chinese Clematis are eradicated examples in LC, hard to say if other counties have had similar results. PowerPoint presentation outlining List A definition and management, EDRR, LC List A summary, species management, staff recommendations and Advisory Board update.
 - ii. Gross infested acres are measured by looking at total area of parcel that plant is found on, pulled plants are counted with clicker depending on plant type (some types allow higher accuracy). Follow-up visits after treatments happen as funding and time allows. Discussion of ‘mandatory,’ State gives enforcement responsibility to counties and municipalities without funding, enforcement maximum is property lien and is considered a ‘conservation/good neighbor’ issue. It was noted that List B species that are not in abundance and not contained must be treated like List A for eradication. Suppression is equated with mowing, grazing or spraying. Maps can be found by searching ‘Colorado Noxious Weeds’ and selecting the Department of Ag page; the list shows pictures and maps are included:
<https://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious?rptType=State&statefips=08>. Maps may be added to the Noxious Weed Management plan.

7. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Chair and Vice Chair election
 - i. Ernie nominates Ed as Chair, Ed accepts nomination, Gordon expresses interest in Vice Chair. Frank moves to nominate Ed as Chair and Gordon as Vice Chair, Renee seconds, motion passed unanimously.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. After the 1st of the year when new Commissioner is sworn in, LSAB should be assigned a new Commissioner Liaison.
- b. Ernie thanked Gary on behalf of the board for his diplomatic service as Director of a multiple-use program.

9. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: 2/21/2019 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 purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer or sale of any real, personal or other property interest.

11. ADJOURN – 7:33 p.m.

This meeting will be recorded and archived according to law. Votes require a quorum.

Public can view agenda and minutes at:

<http://legacy.larimer.org/boards/minutes/lsabminutes.htm>

