

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: May 16, 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 Sidney at smichl@larimer.org or 970-619-4462 if you are unable to attend.

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

x = present

*commissioner

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – 6:01 p.m.
 - a. Introduction of Sidney Michl, the new Department Specialist. Lori Smith and Dave Lentz introduced by Casey.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT – none
3. AGENDA REVIEW

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

- a. Hitch motioned to approve, Ron seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- b. Casey would like to amend 6.b.ii.2 to read: "Potentially amend leafy spurge management plan with eradication as objective outside of a containment boundary." Gordon motioned to amend the minutes as noted by Casey, Ron seconded, motion passed unanimously.

5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Natural Resource events for this month: See <http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources>.
- b. Registration for the 2019 CSU Weed Network Tour (June 20th) can be found here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-csucolorado-weed-network-tour-tickets-58378759441?aff=utm_source%3Dweb_email%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3Dnew_event_email&utm_term=eventurl_text. This is a free event that highlights cutting edge research conducted at CSU in collaboration with City and County Open Space managers along the front range, focusing on non-crop weed management and restoration of areas degraded by invasive plant species. The event is free including transportation and meals. Please share this link with anyone interested in the tour! For any questions, please contact Rachel Seedorf (rseedorf@colostate.edu) or Shannon Clark (Shannon.clark@colostate.edu).
- c. Larimer County weed enterprise entered an IGA to provide sole source weed/vegetation management to Loveland with an annual revenue cap set at \$100,000 – Casey
- d. Completed mapping feral rye (invasive cultivar) at Devil's Backbone OS to plan future treatments – Casey
- e. Adjusting/reducing service levels outside the weed district – Casey
 - i. Communication and outreach via phone calls, email, website, and CSU Extension. Emphasized continued service for neighborhood noxious weed complaints, site visits for recipients of courtesy/enforcement letters, and high priority noxious weeds outside of Weed District.
- f. Projecting nearly \$474,000 in 2019 enterprise revenue – Casey
 - i. Projected enterprise revenue has increased to \$513,000 since the agenda was sent out.
- g. Review 2018 advisory board accomplishments – Meegan
- h. Changing meeting time to 5:00 p.m. beginning in August – Casey/Daylan

6. UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. 2018 Natural Resources Financial Overview – Lori Smith, Financial Services & Admin Division Manager
 - i. 2018 Department Revenue (\$18.8 million)
 - ii. Funding Sources and Funds
 - iii. 2018 Revenue by Section
 - iv. Reservoir Operations Revenue and Expenses
 - v. Parks Capital Projects Revenue Sources for 2009-2018 (\$12.9 million)

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- vi. Sales Tax Expenses from 1996-2018 (\$80.3 million – 72% Acquiring Interest, Protecting and Improving Open Space, Natural Areas, and Wildlife Habitat and Trails; 22% Cost of Operating, Maintaining and Administering of Open Spaces; 5% Improving Existing Regional Parks including Carter, Horsetooth, Flatiron, and Pinewood; 1% Cost of Operating, Maintaining, and Administering of Regional Parks)
- vii. Extension of Sales Tax 2019-2043
- viii. Sales Tax Spent
 - ix. Weeds and Forestry Revenues
 - x. Weeds and Forestry Revenues and Expenses
 - xi. Weeds and Forestry Fund Balances
 - xii. Historic and Projected Regional Population Growth
- xiii. Renee asked about the Weed Mill Levy, it was noted that revenue comes from property tax & specific ownership.
- xiv. Ernie asked about a formalized business plan for new facility, an update for reserve target and enterprise will be discussed with the board later this year. Gordon asked to clarify fund balance vs. reserve, it was noted that the new facility budget has not yet been formally designated as a reserve.
- xv. Renee asked about user fees and shortage presented in fee study, it was noted the Harvey Economics study predicted 7% user growth, need for additional safety and maintenance/improvements. Lori clarified increase in user fees contributes to operating costs and allows more development from sales tax.
- xvi. Gordon asked about sales tax extension, it was noted that 82% of voters approved ballot language allocations.
- xvii. Renee asked about reservoir operations, Casey clarified 50/50 cost share with BOR.
- b. Colorado Department of Agriculture 2019 Noxious Weed Act Ruled Update – Casey
 - i. In process of establishing containment boundary on leafy spurge with CO Department of Agriculture per Noxious Weed Act rule change, Casey will give another update in November.
- c. 2018 Annual Report – Daylan
 - i. Brochure format intended to be more succinct, highlights on Weed District, Visitor Study, summary of finances. Distributed electronically. Thanks to Teddy for putting it together.
- d. Larimer County Pest List Review and Staff Recommendations – Casey/Dave Lentz, County Forester
 - i. CO Pest Act gives local counties power to create insect disease pest list to more effectively address the emergence and spread of new pest issues.
 - ii. Staff recommendation to remove Thousand Cankers Disease from the list due to difficult early detection/enforcement of disease and minimal population of walnut trees remain in N. CO. Outreach to foresters in City of Fort Collins, Town of Berthoud, and City of Loveland, all in agreement.

7. ACTION ITEMS

a. Pest List Recommendations

- i. Richard motioned to remove Thousand Cankers from the Pest List, Gordon seconded, motion passed unanimously with Renee abstaining.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: 8/15/2019 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 – 7:35 p.m.

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