



# OPEN LANDS ADVISORY BOARD (OLAB)

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 23, 2015

5:00- 8:00 PM

Civic Center Municipal Bldg • Council Chambers • 500 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Loveland CO

*The mission of the Larimer County Open Lands Program is to preserve and protect significant open space, natural areas, wildlife habitat, and develop parks and trails for present and future generations. These open lands provide opportunities for leisure, human renewal and protection of our natural and cultural resources.*

### Members Present

Paul Alaback	Town of Berthoud
Jason Brothers	At-large
Suzan Fritchel	At-large
Gerry Horak	City of Fort Collins
Pete Kelly	At-large
David Marvin	At-large
Ward Nelson	Town of Estes Park
Carl Sorrentino	At-large
Nancy Wallace	Planning Commission

### Staff Present

Gary Buffington, Natural Resources Director
Kerri Rollins, Open Lands Program Manager
Charlie Johnson, Senior Land Agent
Alex Castina, Land Agent
Chris Fleming, Open Space Operations Manager
Zac Wiebe, Fund Dev & Spec Proj Specialist
Sandy Werkmeister, Department Specialist

### Members Absent

Trudy Haines	At-large
Hugh McKean	City of Loveland
Mary Banken	At-large

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- a. Nancy Wallace called the meeting to order and welcomed new board members Dave Marvin, Pete Kelly & Jason Brothers, who each told the Board about themselves.

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT - none

3. AGENDA REVIEW – a couple of additional information items. Kerri clarified that the CWCB grant application is a grant match request.

#### 4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Suzan Fritchel and second by Carl Sorrentino to approve the June 25, 2015 meeting minutes as submitted in this month's packet. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Kerri distributed the Commissioners office 2014-15 Community Report. Let us know if you would like more to share with others.
- b. The Estes Valley Land Trust and the Town of Estes both responded to the Cascade Cottages challenge grant and are contributing \$25,000 each. Coupled with our \$50,000 grant, we are collectively contributing \$100,000 to this purchase in Rocky Mountain National Parks 100<sup>th</sup> year – congrats to all!
- c. Green CE property tour was well attended and a great success! Sandy shared some photos. At the tour, Mr. Green shared that he donated the money from the conservation easement to the children's hospital in Denver.

- d. The Colorado Open Space Alliance (COSA) – an umbrella organization for government funded programs around the state – conference will be in Snowmass this year, 9/14-9/16. Please review details at [www.coloradoopenspace.org](http://www.coloradoopenspace.org) and let Kerri or Zac know if you are interested in attending. The department covers the cost for a couple of Board members each year.
- e. Fort Collins hosted a tour for Larimer County and Loveland showing their restoration work of converting 40-50 acre strips of land from dry land wheat to native grassland pasture in the Loveland/Fort Collins corridor. They are about 2/3 of the way done.
- f. Larimer County will lead the local GOCO Inspire Initiative grant application, due 8/26. The core team includes Cities of Fort Collins and Loveland, Boy & Girls Clubs, UC Health, Big Thompson and Poudre School District and CSU. The Boys and Girls Club in northwest Fort Collins is shaping up to be the Hub for the pilot project we will submit.
- g. The [Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement \(SDEIS\)](#) for the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) was released on June 19. Public comments are due on September 3. Larimer County staff are reviewing the document and plan to submit comments.
- h. Reports from the Open Space Operations Managers – no questions
- i. Kerri reported that the Horn property closed on July 10.
- j. Sales Tax Report from prior month – no questions

#### 6. DISCUSSION & UPDATES

- a. Alex presented on the state of agriculture water in Larimer County and the possibilities of alternative water transfer mechanisms.

#### 7. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Motion by Suzan Fritchel with a second by Ward Nelson to approve \$20,000 toward a CWCB grant. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Election of Officers  
The Board voted in Nancy Wallace as Chair and Suzan Fritchel as Vice Chair.
- c. Deters Trail Easement Final Review  
Motion by Gerry Horak and second by Carl Sorrentino to recommend purchase of the Deter trail easement as a portion of the Poudre River Trail project. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. [A Bigger Vision for the Big T: A Recreation and Conservation Assessment](#) – Zac Wiebe presented the final plan, highlighting final edits.  
Motion by Ward Nelson and second by Gerry Horak to recommend adoption of the “A Bigger Vision for the Big T: A Recreation and Conservation Assessment” to the Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 8. Regular meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Gerry Horak to move into Executive Session, pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(a) for discussion regarding the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest. Motion carried unanimously.