



OPEN LANDS ADVISORY BOARD (OLAB)

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 26, 2017

5:00- 8:00 PM • Civic Center Municipal Bldg • Council Chambers • 500 E 3rd 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 Absent	Members Present	Guests	Staff Present
Jason Brothers Pete Kelly Jeff Hindman Marilyn Hilgenberg	K-Lynn Cameron Suzan Fritchel Gerry Horak David Marvin Ward Nelson Carl Sorrentino Sherri Valentine Nancy Wallace	Brian Hays	Gary Buffington Kerri Rollins Meegan Flenniken Charlie Johnson Chris Fleming Dan Rieves Tim Meyer

1. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

3. AGENDA REVIEW

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

Motioned and seconded to approve the *August 24, 2017 meeting minutes* as submitted in this month's packet. Motion carried unanimously.

5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. **At your next board meeting, please instruct all members (who have not done so already) to go to future.larimer.org/user and click the link to "Sign Up" to create their user account.** Let them know that we are going paperless, and this is a critical step for future correspondence. See attached flier for more information.
- b. Annual Regional Open Space boards meeting is November 8 at the Loveland Senior Center, beginning at 5pm. Please mark your calendars. If needed, a board meeting will be scheduled after the regional meeting.
- c. Construction of the Front Range Trail is anticipated to be complete by Mid-November, a ribbon cutting with the press is scheduled to highlight the completed project.
- d. The Natural Areas Conference was held in Fort Collins Oct 10-12. Staff that attended presented symposium sessions, mentored student attendees and led field trips.
- e. Wright property, both fee and CE acquisitions, closed on September 22 with partnership dollars from both Fort Collins and GOCO.
- f. September was a busy community engagement month. About 1,000 people were reached through Nature's Harvest Fest (despite rainy weather), 6 guided hikes, 3 campground programs, 2 school field trips and a guided tour. Additionally, there were 4 volunteer events hosted throughout our parks and open spaces.

- g. Awarded grant from Colorado Parks & Wildlife’s Wetlands for Wildlife program for \$153,370 toward the Poudre River restoration project at River Bluffs Open Space. The grant matches DOLA’s \$1.3 million awarded grant and the \$360,000 from open space sales tax dollars.-Danielle
 - h. We received 16 bids for the Long View Trail regional construction and the bid was awarded to Castle Rock Construction. Construction is scheduled to begin February 18 through summer. Meegan
 - i. COSA conference was a success – thanks to Alex, Steve and Heather for presenting at the conference! Kerri
 - j. Blue Grama Awards for Fort Collins and Larimer County at COSA; Loveland’s CPRA Columbine Award for Innovation. Kerri Rollins & Heather Young received individual accomplishment awards.
 - k. The trail crew expects to complete the final section of the Limber Pine Trail this late fall! This trail is a part of the Master plan for Hermit Park. Trails will link the Saddle area through Hermit’s Hollow across to Kruger Rock and on to Homestead Meadows. 2.8 miles were done this year.
 - l. The South Shore area of Carter Lake will be temporarily closed for upgrades to the campground, parking areas, boat ramp and other facilities from Sept. 11, 2017, to spring or early summer of 2018.
 - m. Sales Tax Revenue Distribution Report
- Natural Resources [events/registration](#) and [NR News](#)

6. UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Open Space Operations District Reports
 - a. Big Thompson District: Visitations were at capacity in both regions. \$100,000 in FEMA funds were received. Patrol boats, emergency equipment and training was accomplished with the funding.
 - b. Red Mountain District: Work is being done to help stabilize historic buildings on both Soderberg & Red Mountain. Pre-hunt season meeting was a success.
- b. Lions Open Space Restoration Presentation/Update – Danielle (see electronic packet for materials). Restoration began in 2015 & finished in 2017. FEMA gave less than anticipated so project is short some funding. Remaining concerns are plantings and management of the area. Requesting \$90,000 to compensate for the shortfall and to complete the planting and management.
- c. Hermit Park Open Space development proposal (pages 4-11 – 4-16 of the [Hermit Park Master Plan](#)) – Chris Fleming (see electronic packet for materials.) Funding will create more day use facilities at the Saddle trailhead, Hermit’s Cabin and at the Kruger Rock Trailhead. Requesting \$100,000. Requesting funding from GOCO & FEMA. This request is contingent upon GOCO & FEMA funding.
 - a. The Saddle: Accommodating for bikers & hikers, 24 parking spaces, a vault toilet, a small pavilion and picnic tables.
 - b. Hermit’s Cabin: Education and campfire area, outdoor classroom, parking, an amphitheater area and stabilizing the cabin.
 - c. Kruger Rock: Parking.
 - d. Bear boxes in the campgrounds and bear aware stickers.
- d. Forks Park development project proposal – Meegan (see electronic packet for materials). After the flood a conservation assessment was done in 2014/15 to consider which of the county’s 116 parcels in the Big Thompson canyon will be reopened/utilized. The Forks area is one chosen to be

- re-created. Total cost is estimated at \$880,000. CDOT will contribute \$730,000. Requesting \$150,000 for construction + \$5,000 for plantings.
- a. 15 nose in car parking lot with ingress and egress. 4 large vehicle slots and a turnaround area for public school bus will be included. Landscaping will create a barrier between the parking lot and highway.
 - b. Vault toilet.
 - c. Landscaping.
 - d. River restoration.
 - e. South Shore at Carter Lake Campground project update – Dan (see electronic packet for materials) As a part of the 2007 Master Plan, South Shore Campground at Carter Lake is being developed further. Requesting \$316,784. CTF Lottery and Bureau of Reclamation will also provide funding. CTF must be a matching amount.
 - a. 22 campsites will be added to the current 30.
 - b. Parking for 30 more trailers at the boat ramp.
 - c. Parking lot for Sundance trail.
 - d. Future plan for a 30 slot parking lot that will help connect South Shore Campground and Chimney Hollow.
 - f. Acquisition & Development sheet

7. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Recommendation to approve Lion's Open Space project request of \$90,000 Motion K-Lynn Second Gerry Passed
- b. Recommendation to approve Hermit Park project request of \$100,000 Motion Gerry Second Ward Passed
- c. Recommendation to approve Forks project request of \$155,000 Motion Nancy Second Carl Passed
- d. Recommendation to approve Carter Lake South Shore project of \$316,784 Motion Carl Second Suzanne Passed

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Recommendation to County Manager to approve the Fossil Creek Management plan. Motion Sherri Second Suzanne Motion Passed.

8. 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 the Board moved into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

9. ADJOURN - The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.