

LARIMER COUNTY OPEN LANDS 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: January 23, 2020

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Larimer County Loveland Campus Building, 200 Peridot Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537, Poudre River Room

Contact: Please contact Sidney at smichl@larimer.org or 970-619-4462 if you are unable to attend

Members		Staff		Guests
Bob Hewson		Daylan Figgs	x	7 members of the public
David Marvin	x	Meegan Flenniken	x	
Jason Brothers		Ken Brink	x	
K-Lynn Cameron		Charlie Johnson	x	
Ken Zornes	x	Justin Core	x	
Linda Stanley	x	Steve Gibson	x	
Mark DeGregorio	x	*Thomas Donnelly		
Nancy Wallace		Sidney Michl (minutes)	x	
Peter Kelly	x			
Rick Brent	x			
Sherri Valentine	x			
Tom Shoemaker				

x = present

*commissioner

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – 5:03 p.m.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - a. A member of the public presented a handout outlining support for Class I e-bikes on natural surface trails and recommended LCDNR review current e-bike regs.
3. AGENDA REVIEW
 - a. Ken will give an update on the management agreement for Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park and Prairie Ridge Natural Area.

- b. Sherri will provide an update on the Oil and Gas Task Force and rulemaking.
4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
- a. Linda moved to approve last meeting minutes, Pete seconded, motion passed unanimously.
5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS
- a. Natural Resources events for this month: See <http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources>.
 - b. To sign up for Open Lands Advisory Board minutes, go to <http://larimer.org/subscriptions.cfm>, enter your email, click 'Subscribe,' and then check the 'Open Lands Advisory Board' box.
 - c. Submitting application to Northern Front Range MPO Multimodal Options Fund (MMOF) to help offset Timnath and Larimer County's portions to construction of the Poudre River Trail – Meegan
 - i. LCDNR's share of the GOCO grant was \$430k and our anticipated trail development cost is around \$2M. LCDNR is applying for MMOF funds for \$400k, which if received, would offset ~40% of our trail construction cost when combined with the GOCO grant.
 - d. Submitted concept paper to GOCO special opportunity grant for land conservation projects in the Laramie Foothills – will learn if invited to submit full application by mid-February – Meegan
 - i. Concept paper was due in December. In partnership with Fort Collins, we requested \$1.3M towards three land conservation projects. Expect to hear if we are invited for full submittal in February.
 - e. Red Mountain Open Space inholding acquisition partnership with Fort Collins – Daylan/Meegan
 - i. Partnership agreement was approved for this 800-acre acquisition, DNR will receive \$1.13M towards the purchase price.
 - f. Regional Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 19th at 5:00 p.m. at the Larimer County Loveland Campus Building – Meegan/Daylan
 - i. Focus will be on regional planning efforts per the state-led NOCO 2050 initiative. OLAB will hold a condensed meeting following.
 - ii. Pete mentioned the concept of using mobile mass data to track visitation trends. Discussion about usefulness of emerging technologies for regional planning efforts.
 - g. Discussion with Ag Advisory Board update – Daylan
 - i. Daylan shared an update on recent conversations with the AAB, explaining that we have a shared goal of conserving agricultural land. DNR will be working on ways that the two boards might work together to implement the concept of agriculture districts being discussed in the Larimer County Land Use Code update that incentivize conservation.
 - h. Glade Reservoir recreation management and 1041 process and timeline – Daylan
 - i. Northern Water will submit their application for the 1041 process by March and a proposal will be presented to the board that month for recommendation to

the BOCC. Staff will give an overview of 1041 powers and discussion will be focused on the recreation component of the project. A more detailed conversation will occur at the March meeting.

6. UPDATES & REPORTS

- a. Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park and Prairie Ridge Natural Area management updates – Ken
 - i. Ken explained the County and City of Loveland have an MOU that was established after V-Smith was rehabilitated from the flood. Per the agreement, the County performs daily grounds/restroom cleaning and patrol and Loveland runs education programs and manages large maintenance issues. An expanded agreement will now include ranger patrol only at Prairie Ridge. Loveland will also adopt the County's Open Space trailheads and trail systems regulations.
 - ii. Mark asked if Larimer County receives compensation for the agreement, Ken clarified the agreement covers our costs. Rick mentioned a need for contiguous regulations in the area, Daylan agreed and reiterated the County's regional planning efforts.
- b. County Oil & Gas Task Force update – Sherri
 - i. The task force is currently meeting to take record votes. Next meeting is scheduled February 19th for the Planning Commission public hearing on draft regulations.
 - ii. Pete asked if the draft regulations are tied to SB 181, Sherri affirmed.
- c. 2019 Quarter 4 Board Report – Daylan
 - i. The 4th quarter report was sent out in the January meeting packet. One change for next year will to be include quarterly (vs. annual) visitation numbers.
 - ii. Sherri asked if the quarterly reports are being made in lieu of monthly area reports. Daylan explained quarterly reports allow a broader reporting of DNR and aid in the creation of annual reports. Meegan noted DNR hired a new Community Relations and Public Information Supervisor who will produce the quarterly reports beginning in 2020.
 - iii. Ken gave an update on the standardized cabin design highlighted in the report. The Architects' Studio was hired to develop a standardized design focused on durability and insect-resistance. The first of these are anticipated to be built and open to the public at Horsetooth Reservoir in 2021 with the goal of replicating/adapting designs at other DNR locations (including Hermit Park Open Space).
 1. Rick asked if the cabins will be built off-site, Ken answered the SIP panels will be, but the cabins are too large to accommodate off-site assembly. Cabins will be 400 sq. ft. and cost \$100k per unit to build.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

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/openlands_advisory_board.cfm



8. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Online public notice of board and commission meetings
 - i. Linda moved the Open Lands Advisory Board (OLAB) to designate www.larimer.org as the place for posting notice of public meetings, and if exigent or emergency circumstances prevent the online posting at such location, public notice shall be physically posted at the bulletin boards located at the north and south entrances to the Larimer County Courthouse Offices Building at 200 West Oak Street, Fort Collins, Colorado, in accordance with Colorado's open meeting laws. Ken seconded. Dave opened the motion up to discussion per Sherri's request to amend.
 - ii. Sherri moved to amend the motion to read, "OLAB designates www.larimer.org as the place for posting notice of public meetings, and if exigent or emergency circumstances prevent the online posting at such location, public notice shall *continue to* be physically posted at the bulletin boards located at the north and south entrances to the Larimer County Courthouse Offices Building at 200 West Oak Street, Fort Collins, Colorado, in accordance with Colorado's open meeting laws." All in favor, amended motion passed unanimously.
- b. 2020 Small Grants for Community Partnering recommendations – Jenn (15 min)
 - i. Jenn gave an overview of the Small Grants for Community Partnering Program. Larimer County received 16 applications for the 2020 grant cycle with requests for up to \$3,000 per project. Jenn presented the 7 projects recommended for funding for a total of \$20,588.80 (Audubon of the Rockies, Colorado Youth Outdoors, The Growing Project, Hearts and Horses, Raisin' Roots Farm, Traut Elementary, Wildland Restoration Volunteers). The 2020 Public Relations Plan will include grant announcements, a formal press release, and a social media campaign. Jenn mentioned she is also considering hosting a grant workshop next year for those interested in the program.
 - ii. Sherri asked if the recommendation for Colorado Youth Outdoors' project presents a conflict of interest given its association with an OLAB member. The board discussed they have supported CYO in the past and the associated member did not submit the application. So long as that member is recused from voting and does not receive personal financial benefit from the grant, it was agreed that there isn't a conflict.
 - iii. Rick moved to approve \$20,588.80 to fund the 2020 Small Grants for Community Partnering program, Pete seconded, motion passed unanimously.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Dave asked to revisit the Small Grants discussion and the ethics of the recommendation. Daylan clarified the recommendation does not go to the BOCC, it is internal to DNR. If OLAB is concerned with the decision, Daylan offered to contact the County Attorney's Office to verify whether there is a conflict. If so, DNR will not fund that project, otherwise the recommendation will move forward.

10. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: February 19, 2020 at the Larimer County Loveland Campus Building, 200 Peridot Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537, Poudre River Room
11. 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. Pete moved to enter Executive Session, Ken seconded, motion passed unanimously at 6:48 p.m.
12. ADJOURN – 7:03 p.m.

