



Date: November 19, 2025
Time: 5:00 – 7:00 PM (PUBLIC MEETING) 7:00 – 8:00 PM (EXECUTIVE SESSION)
Location: Larimer County Longview Health Services Building 2260 W. Trilby Road, Fort Collins 80526 – Goldfinch/Sparrow Room & Zoom Webinar
Contact: Andrea Weber, Senior Administrative Specialist, weberan@co.larimer.co.us, 970-619-4462

Open Lands Advisory Board & Parks Advisory Board Minutes

OLAB MEMBERS		PAB MEMBERS		STAFF		GUESTS
Jim Wurz	V	Rob Harris	A	Daylan Figgs	A	
Debbie Hayhow	I	Joe Bakel	V	Meegan Flenniken	I	
Gale Bernhardt	I	Kathy Maher	A	Chris Fleming	I	
Wes Knoll	I	Jeannie Mounts	A	*Jody Shadduck-McNally	V	
Gary Miller	V	Andy Te Slaa	V	*John Kefalas	A	
Ward Nelson	I	Adam Crossan	A	Alex Swartz	I	
Mike Carter	A	Pete Blume	V	Justin Core	I	
Ellis Carpenter	I	Bill Prater	A	Andrea Weber (minutes)	I	
Mike Roccanti	V	Kristina Kachur	A	Ashley Krueger	I	
		Ruthie Rollins	V	Cindy Clagget	I	

V = virtual attendee

I = in-person attendee

A = absent

*commissioner

Call to Order – 5:00 pm

Agenda Review

Review and Approval of the Minutes

Ward moved to approve the minutes from the October meeting, Wes seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Information and Announcements

1. Natural Resources events for this month: <https://larimer.org/naturalresources>.
2. Coloradoan News Release: Laramie Foothills Bison Conservation Herd Celebration
3. News Release: Legend Trail Ranch Conservation Easement

Board of Commissioners Report

1. Commissioner Shadduck McNally shared updates from her trip to Washington, D.C., where she attended the National Association of Counties fly-in to advocate for rural issues. She met with senators, congressional representatives, and USDA representatives to discuss topics like FEMA reimbursements, the Secure Rural Schools Act, and rural healthcare. She expressed excitement about the progress made on bipartisan issues and discussed ongoing negotiations to secure funding for rural schools and PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes).

Discussion Items

1. Education and Volunteer Program Update – Ashley Krueger, Education and Volunteer Coordinator
 - a. An overview of the education and volunteer program's activities and goals in 2025 was presented. Ashley discussed plans for 2026, focusing on increasing community outreach, improving accessibility, and tailoring nature programs to meet diverse needs.
 - b. She shared the new jointly held training of volunteer naturalists, who are qualified to host programs on both county and City of Fort Collins open spaces/natural areas.

2. Loveland Properties Ranger Patrol IGA Update – Cindy Clagget, Visitor Services Manager
 - a. The original IGA began after the 2013 Big Thompson Canyon flood, for the county to provide ranger patrol and limited maintenance at Loveland's Viestenz Smith Park, and has grown to add other properties in the past few years. The IGA is being expanded for the patrol of additional Loveland Natural Areas. The payment by Loveland is increasing and covers all county costs for these services, primarily with seasonal staff, so as not to impact services on county open spaces or subsidize management of Loveland properties. The department will monitor the effectiveness of the expanded services and be prepared to adjust the contract as needed.
 - b. The group discussed the partnership between the county and city, noting that while the city currently relies on the county for ranger patrol and limited maintenance, they may eventually develop their own program.

Action Items (Open Lands Advisory Board)

1. Final Review Parrish Ranch Acquisition
 - a. Acquisition of an 83-acre property near Red-tail Ridge Open Space, funded by \$250,000 from Larimer County and a \$400,000 contribution from Boulder County's Open Space program, was reviewed. The property, which currently has a conservation easement allowing 2 residential buildings, will be transferred to Boulder County and the two homesites extinguished. Acquisition of the property removes the ownership gap within the middle of Red-tail Ridge Open Space, making management seamless. The acquisition is expected to close in January 2026.
 - b. Ward moved to recommend the acquisition of the property to the Board of County Commissioners. Wes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items (Parks Advisory Board)

Key Department Updates

1. Key Department Updates

Meegan Noted:

- DNR closed on the 800-acre donated Fonay Conservation Easement on October 31st.
- LC conserved 6,569 acres this year (2025), the second-highest number of acres conserved in a calendar year since the inception of the Help Preserve Open Spaces Sales Tax.
- Highlighted the "30 and Thriving" website and "Notes to Nature" project release.
- The Poudre River trail is still under construction and on track to be completed by March 2026.
- The FLAP paving project is underway at Horsetooth and Carter Lake. Construction is expected to be completed in mid-2026, or about half the expected timeframe. Lost revenue due to the project was significantly lower than expected, at around \$130,000 (or 4.5% of total revenues at these sites).

Chris Noted:

- Boat ramps are closed for the season
- DNR is facing challenges with people ignoring the closures at the Inlet Bay trail crossing area and impeding the construction work.

Other Business

Next Meeting Scheduled

December 18th, 2025 – Larimer County Longview Health Services Building 2260 W. Trilby Road, Fort Collins 80526 – Goldfinch/Sparrow Room & Zoom Webinar

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.

Adjournment – 6:21 pm

Larimer County's Department of Natural Resources Vision, Mission, and Values: Healthy Landscapes, Healthy People; Connect People, Nature, and Place; Pursue Excellence, Act with Integrity, Trust, & Respect, Focus on Collective Good, Commit to Staff Well-Being, Demonstrate Courageous Leadership.

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Larimer County will provide a reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with a disability who need assistance. Services can be arranged with at least seven (7) business days' notice. Please email us at weberan@co.larimer.co.us, or call (970) 498-7719 or Relay Colorado 711. "Walk-in" requests for auxiliary aids and services will be honored to the extent possible but may be unavailable if advance notice is not provided.

These meeting minutes were prepared with the assistance of AI technology. All content has been reviewed by staff for accuracy.