



Date: June 3, 2025
Time: 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Location: Larimer County Natural Resources Administrative Offices: 1800 South County Road 31, Loveland, CO 80537, Bison Room & Zoom Webinar

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

MEMBERS		STAFF		GUESTS
Bill Prater	A	Chris Fleming	I	
Jeannie Mounts	V	Daylan Figgs	I	
Kathy Maher	I	Steve Gibson	I	
Kristina Kachur Webb	A	Cindy Claggett	I	
Adam Crossan	A	*John Kefalas	A	
Pete Blume	A	Andrea Weber (minutes)	I	
Robert Harris	I	Jon Plybon	I	
Ruthie Rollins	I			
Joe Bakel	I			
Phil Stout	A			

V = virtual attendee

I = in-person attendee

A = Absent

*commissioner

Call to Order – 5:30 pm

Agenda Review

Review and Approval of Last Minutes

Minutes from the last meeting were tabled until the next meeting due to a quorum not being met.

Information and Announcements

Natural Resources events for this month: <https://larimer.org/naturalresources>.

To sign up for Parks Advisory Board updates, go to <https://apps.larimer.org/subscriptions.cfm>, enter your email, click “Subscribe,” and check the “Parks Advisory Board” box.

March 2025 Tax Distribution Letter

- Daylan noted sales and use tax revenues are performing better than anticipated and show signs of recovery.

Updates and Reports

Park District Updates - Steve/Cindy

- Cindy

- Reported wildlife activity around the Carter District, with a rattlesnake in the campground, leashed miniature donkeys on the trail, and a leashed house cat at V-Smith Park.
- Maintenance staff are conducting ongoing summer prep, including buoy deployment, mowing, tipi setup, new boat dock installation, and trenching for underground electric lines to support Starlink at Pinewood for the Text-2-Park.
- Rangers are actively engaged with visitors and enhancing education efforts.
- Steve
 - Reported that the Ranger Excellence School (RES) took place in May in Estes Park and marked the 15th year of the program. Attendees included DNR seasonal rangers and rangers from across Colorado and the US. Instructors included staff from DNR and other agencies in Colorado. Classes covered a wide variety of topics, including a presentation by the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program, pepper spray certification, and Emergency Medical Responder.
 - All boat ramps are open. Volunteer Ranger Assistants (VRAs) on paddleboards have been effective and helpful in providing paddleboarders and kayakers with safety information.
 - Chip sealing has begun at the Sunrise day use area and will continue at the Horsetooth Area Info Center (HAIC) once completed.
 - The ranger boat ramp has been relocated below the HAIC, which brings it closer to the building and allows for quicker and more effective emergency response time.
 - Rangers have been addressing a significant number of DUI cases and are using the ANS lines as an opportunity to make friendly, educational contact with reservoir users on safe driving.
 - Board members expressed excitement over the newly completed 1.8-mile Bay-to-Bay trail. The trail crew noted this was one of the most challenging projects they have undertaken, but the build was successful.
 - The Marina Lottery for Horsetooth was completed, with 18 names submitted to the marina. The Carter Marina Lottery was completed, with 35 names submitted to the marina. Several new individuals received slips at the Carter Marina this year.

Quarter 1 Board Report

- Daylan provided an overview of the report, including an increase in conservation easements secured by DNR and other partner entities, and the successful addition to Red Tail Ridge. Solar panels have been installed on several park buildings and pavilions. A new invasive species, Meadow Hawkweed, was identified and officially added to Larimer County's Noxious Weed List.

Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Update – Jon Plybon

- The main purpose of this project is to pave existing infrastructure, transitioning from gravel to paved roads and parking lots. It will also assist with erosion issues. Stormwater management is a significant aspect of the project.
- \$15.5 million is the project budget. DNR's budget is \$3 million.
- In previously paved areas, the old asphalt will be ground and milled back into the process.
- Project website: www.engage.larimer.gov/flapcarterlake
- Campground projects will close the campgrounds Monday-Thursday and allow access Friday-Sunday.
- Construction schedule 2025-2027
 - 2025 Carter Lake: Eagle Campground access roads, Big Thompson day use, Quarry parking lot
 - 2026 Carter Lake: CR 31 auxiliary lanes, North Pines
 - 2026 Horsetooth Reservoir: Inlet Bay, South Bay
 - 2027 Horsetooth Reservoir: South Bay, CR 38E auxiliary lane

Visitor Services Manager Updates

Board of County Commissioners Update

Discussion Items

Action Items

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Update

Northern Water Conservancy District Update

- Cindy reported that only 12 feet remain to complete the Chimney Hollow Dam, and water is expected to begin filling the reservoir in July. Chris added, DNR will be responsible for recreation management at the reservoir, and the department has already begun laying out trails on the surrounding open space.

Board Members Reports

Director's Report - Daylan Figgs

- This will be the final Parks Advisory Board meeting held as a standalone session. The next meeting will be a joint session with the Open Lands Advisory Board, scheduled for July 24th at the Longview Behavioral Health Center. A sign-in sheet will be available at the entrance for both board members and staff. While both Commissioner Liaisons have been invited to attend, it is not yet confirmed whether they will be present.
- The Text-2-Park project is fully operational, and the installation of Starlink at Pinewood will significantly improve access in the area. The project has already paid for itself.
- The department has hired a new Business Operations Manager, who will begin later in June, and a Senior Accountant, who is set to start in July.

Next Meeting Scheduled

July 24th, 2025 at Larimer County Longview Behavioral Health Center: Trilby Rd. Fort Collins, CO & Zoom Webinar – Goldfinch/Sparrow Room

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 – 6:33 pm

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 primarily prepared by staff, with the assistance of AI technology to support formatting and clarity. All content has been reviewed for accuracy.