

LARIMER COUNTY | ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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The role of the Advisory Board is to advise the Board of County Commissioners and appropriate departments on environmental and science-related issues that affect Larimer County.

Environmental and Science Advisory Board

MINUTES

Date: March 12th, 2024

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Rm 333 Lake Estes, 200 West Oak St., Fort Collins, Colorado and Virtual by Zoom

Contact: Shelley Bayard de Volo, sbayard@larimer.org or 970.498.5738

MEMBERS		STAFF		GUESTS
Rodger Ames – Chair	X	John Kefalas *	X	
Tasha Carr	X	Shelley Bayard de Volo ‡	X	
Anna Cloud		Shane Atkinson £	X	
Jim Gerek	X	Heidi Pruess §	X	
Matthew Haag	X			
Ted Hendrickx				
Allyson Little				
Lark Murphy	X			
Andrew Newman				
Barry Noon				
Nicole Poncelet-Johnson	X			
George Rinker				
Shelby Sommer - Vice-Chair				
Natalie Walsh	X			
Katrina Winborn-Miller	X			
Chris Wood				

X = present; * = Commissioner Liaison; ‡ = Engineering; † = ESAB Liaison; § = Climate and Sustainability Program; £ = Legislative Analyst

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

1. **Amendments or additions to the agenda** – Shane Atkinson is presenting tonight with the commissioner. Bylaws discussion.
2. **Introduction of members, staff and guests** – members and guests introduced themselves.





3. **Public Comment** – None

4. **Commissioner's Update** – The Commissioner discussed the status of ESAB recruitment and the BOCC workplan. Tomorrow night is a joint meeting of the PCC/BOCC for an update on the Water Master Plan. There are three PCC hearings for the Thorton Pipeline 1041 application process and then there will be four BOCC meetings scheduled. The Commissioners will be visiting the Platte River Power Authority Rawhide facility. There will be a work session next week on a Health Department proposal to fund air quality monitoring through providing additional funds left over from tax revenues. The proposal includes the study that ESAB put forth in 2022. There is an upcoming event at CSU on the CSFR. Heidi added that the event will highlight the transition away from planning and moving into an action and implementation phase. Heidi will attend the April ESAB meeting to provide the update.

Shane discussed how the BOCC prioritizes legislation. Shelley brought up on the screen the Commissioner's webpage that has a link to the 2024 Legislative Agenda. Shane explained some of the information in that agenda document (found here <https://www.larimer.gov/bocc>). Through various means, Shane works to bring attention to the bills that are relevant to the County.

The commissioner asked about how advisory boards should be engaged, recognizing the time constraints of only meeting monthly? Most bills move through the legislative process quickly. One member of the AAB has engaged by reviewing a select number of Ag related bills. Rodger noted the ESAB could engage, but they would have to work out how to prioritize which bills to consider. Nicole noted that she keeps track of water quality bills and she could notify Shelley/Rodger when she comes across something she thinks is pertinent. Jim suggested that the ESAB could use its issue index as a framework and adopt a resolution that the Issue index could be shared with Shane, and then he could coordinate directly with issue coordinators as needed. There was continued discussion on how the ESAB could engage.

Discussion Items

- Bylaws Subcommittee work – Jim requested clarification of how he and his subcommittee should work on updating the bylaws. Shelley explained how they should work on the draft she prepared where she attempted to meet the direction given to her from the Commissioner's Office. She noted that once the ESAB finalizes their draft it will go to the County Attorney's office, who will likely edit it some more and reformat it to meet their requirements. The Board can vote to approve their draft at the April meeting.
- Adopt ESAB Workplan - Shelley pulled up the BOCC workplan to show members. The Commissioner explained some of his priorities, and then also highlighted some of the priorities of the other two commissioners. The Board then looked at their draft workplan and added items to Q3 and Q4. The Board will vote to adopt this workplan in April when they have a quorum.
- Update on Air Quality Monitoring Advisory Committee (AQ-MAC) – Rodger was able to attend the meeting last month. The committee approved them moving forward with using the equipment to do some monitoring. They will do monitoring in disadvantaged communities on the North College corridor and East Mulberry corridor.



There was also a presentation on the EnviroScreen Tool. Heidi noted that the CSFR program is also using the EnviroScreen Tool. Rodger deferred doing a demo to a future meeting where those more experienced in using the tool could do a demo.

5. **Approval of Minutes** – The Board does not have a quorum in attendance tonight. The February minutes will be approved in April. No members had edits or comments that they voiced.
6. **Updates and Round Table**
 - Assign Environmental Stewardship Awards Committee – Rodger noted that the Board will need to appoint a committee to review the stewardship awards nominations. The board cannot do that tonight because they do not have a quorum.
 - Suggestions from members on future presentation topics – Matthew suggested that he and Chris might talk about their respective company's Integrated Resources Plans.
7. **Issue Index** – See above.
8. **Agenda Topics for Future Meetings** – ESAB JK to come back next meeting with some bills.
9. **Adjourn** – Nicole motioned to adjourn, and Andrew seconded, all were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

YEAR 2024 WORKPLAN - DRAFT

This workplan provides the general direction the Environmental and Science Advisory Board (ESAB) considers taking in 2024. Because conditions or priorities in the County can change, a considerable degree of flexibility needs to be maintained.

Overall: The ESAB strives to inform, and be informed about, County government-related policies, decisions, issues and actions that have environmental, community and economic implications. Refer to the 2023 Annual Report for a description of the Work Planning Process. The table below presents the ESAB's priorities by quarter:

Future Schedule for Regular Agenda Items	
Q1	• 2023 Annual Report – Adopt and submit to BOCC through County Manager • 2024 Workplan – Adopt and submit to BOCC through County Manager • ESAB Bylaws – Review and revise • Environmental Stewardship Awards – Nomination Period • Climate Smart and Future Ready Participation • Larimer County Water Master Plan (WAG) participation • Air Quality and Monitoring Advisory Committee (AQ-MAC) Participation
Q2	• ESAB Bylaws – Adopt Revisions and send to County Attorney • Environmental Stewardship Awards – Award Period • Climate Smart and Future Ready – Participation • Larimer County Water Master Plan participation • Air Quality and Monitoring Advisory Committee (AQ-MAC) Participation • New Member Recruitment and Interviews • EnviroScreen tool review • 2024-2028 Strategic Plan • Forest Health
Q3	• New Member Onboarding – Training and Orientations • Air Quality and Monitoring Advisory Committee (AQ-MAC) Participation • Climate Smart and Future Ready – Participation • Water Quality issues in underserved communities in unincorporated LC • PRPA Integrated Resource Plan • Discuss/review regional air quality monitoring (particulate, ozone, air toxics). • Larimer County Water Master Plan participation • Transportation Master Plan • Front Range Passenger Rail • 2024-2028 Strategic Plan • Forest Health
Q4	• Larimer County Water Master Plan WAG participation • Air Quality and Monitoring Advisory Committee (AQ-MAC) Participation • Climate Smart and Future Ready – Participation • Forest Health • 2024-2028 Strategic Plan • 2024 Annual Report • ESAB Officer Elections