

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.

MINUTES

Date: February 14th, 2023

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Rm. 333 Lake Estes, 200 W. Oak Street, Fort Collins, CO 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	CSU
Daniel Beveridge	X	Shelley Bayard de Volo [¥]	X	Dr. Jeffrey Collett
John Bleem	X			Dr. Emily Fischer
Tasha Carr	X	Dept of Health and Environment		
Jim Gerek	X	Lea Schneider		
Ted Hendrickx		Chris Manley		
Allyson Little	X			
Barry Noon	X	Community Planning and Development		
Kaitlin Rainsberger		Matt Lafferty		
George Rinker	X			
Travis Rounsaville	X			
Shelby Sommer – Vice Chair	X			
Catriona Smith				
Katrina Winborn-Miller	X			
Chris Wood				

X = present; * = Commissioner Liaison; ‡ = Speaker; ¥ = ESAB Liaison; ° = Facilities;

§ = Environmental and Sustainability Program; ° = Fleet

Call to Order: 6:08 p.m.

- Amendments or additions to the agenda** – Move request to assign a member to serve on the pollinator policy development team up to the first item on the agenda.
- Introduction of members, staff, and guests** – The members introduced themselves.
- Public Comment** – No public comment.
- Discussion Items**

- Request and approval for ESAB member to serve on the County Pollinator Policy development team. Matt Lafferty introduced the topic of the County's plan to develop a policy to





recognize the important of pollinators. He and Meegan (DNR) are drafting the policy and they will be looking for reviews from the Agricultural Advisory Board and the ESAB. The rough timeline to complete the policy and have it adopted by the BOCC is June 2023, which is National Pollinators Month. Tasha said she would be interested in working on the task. Ally also expressed interest as did Barry. Jim motioned to assign Tasha as the committee lead, and Ally and Barry as committee members. Travis seconded. All were in favor of the motion, which passed. Commissioner Kefalas noted that the State's Pesticide Applicator Act is up for sunset review in 2023 and protection of pollinators is anticipated be part of that review.

- ESAB Air Quality Monitoring Proposal Status – Rodger provided some background on the ESAB's involvement on this topic and then introduced the guests. Dr. Jeff Collett then presented some background on the Ozone problem and the front range non-attainment status. He noted that he is a member of the Regional Air Quality Commission (RAQC). Chris Manley then discussed the programs that the County is currently funding in 2023. They explained that before implementing the proposal for VOC monitoring, the County Health Department needs to identify and secure a site to locate a regulatory NOx monitor. This monitor will be in addition to the current Fort Collins West and CSU regulatory ozone monitors. The goal is to locate the additional monitor in the southern part of the county. Ally asked whether the location needs to be on County owned property. Chris M. noted that there are criteria for where to locate the monitor, which includes the need for access, room enough for the structure(s), power, cellular data and it needs to be far enough away from emission sources to not be dominated by those sources. Chris M. showed a map with potential locations, one of which is by Fossil Creek Reservoir, where the City of Fort Collins has to place theirs. Other locations were Timnath and on Hwy 34 at the Mouth of the BT Canyon. Once they identify the location, which has to be approved by the CDPHE, they can consider also implementing the VOC monitoring equipment. They are hoping to have a site located later in the year and deployed in 2024.

Barry asked about whether the goal here is to determine temporal trends in ozone, VOCs and NOx, and Rodger, Jeff and Emily noted that it was not, but rather to inform emission control strategies. Commissioner Kefalas asked what should he know in terms of budgeting for the 2024 budget? He will be looking to follow up with Chris M. and Lea on that. Funding the full proposal in 2024 might be best. There was discussion of doing some pilot data collection this summer that could be done using a mobile monitor equipment. Could help inform the best location for the NOx monitor.

- CC4CA County Membership, County Environmental Policy Update, EDI efforts, Colorado EnviroScreen, Xcel Partners in Energy Update – Heidi presented on several ongoing topics that her program is engaged in. The Colorado Counties for Climate Action (CC4CA) is updating their Policy and as part of Larimer County's membership with the CC4CA it also needs to update its Environmental Policy so that it aligns with the CC4CA's. That was done this year, but it will be revisited once the CC4CA policy is updated sometime in April. Heidi asked that the ESAB look at both policies to identify areas where alignment may need to be adjusted. Rodger noted that he will look to add it to the April or May meeting agenda.

Heidi then presented on the State's EnviroScreen Tool. This tool is a way for entities to assess their community for various measures of equity, diversity, and inclusion. Things like income levels, race, housing burden as well as a combination of factors. The tool provides a comparison of our county to others on a scale of least to most and ranks it in percentile among all Colorado counties. This is the second iteration of the tool, and the State continues to refine



it using more data. The Internal Climate Action, Resilience and Education (ICARE) Team will be testing the utility of this tool on one of the projects they are developing. More to come on that.

Tasha provided her update on the Climate Smart and Future Ready community meeting that she attended. She sits on the Public Outreach, Education and Coordination (POEC) group. Their charge is to look to frame messaging to the community on the recommended actions from the other groups. Tasha noted that they engaged in large breakout groups that worked on responding to questions with sticky notes. She noted that they had a lot of questions to address, but not a lot of time to really think about and discuss them. They were looking for consensus on the topic of climate change, but Tasha noted she would have liked to see more of a focus on areas of agreement among the diverse group of attendees. Consensus is probably not attainable, but there are likely areas of agreement that can move things forward. Tasha ended suggesting that a goal should be to promote climate literacy, maybe reframing the process to focus on resiliency, and look for areas of agreement.

- Request for ESAB member to serve on the RFP review team for the County's Water Master plan
Rodger presented the request from Lesli Ellis, Director of Community Planning and Development. Prior to the meeting there were some discussions as to who might serve, and Travis expressed an interest without having a professional conflict of interest. Travis asked when the process might start and how long will it go? Shelley noted that the process has been delayed and won't start until end of March or early April – might go 6 weeks? Rodger requested a motion to assign Travis. Ally motioned and Jim seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

5. Approval of Minutes – January minutes will be approved at the March meeting.

6. Updates and Round Table

- Bylaws committee – The committee was assigned last meeting. Jim noted he would serve as the committee chair, but since he was not in attendance last meeting they post-poned the vote to tonight's meeting. Shelley relayed the names of members who said they would serve: Jim as chair, and Chris W., John and Ted as committee members. Rodger asked for a motion to approve this committee. Barry motioned, and Ally seconded. The motion passed.
- Commissioner's Update – Commissioner Kefalas had three items. Health Dept's Community Health, Well-Being, and Resilience Dashboard. Its a new dashboard for the community to see and get information on eight areas of community health. This was an outcome from the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan. There will be a webinar next Thursday 11:00-1:30. Next, The Regional Air Quality Commission (RAQC) has a new grant program to support the purchase of commercial grade lawn care equipment. The county could apply for up to \$50K with a 20% match. It will also be open to other commercial operations in the future. The Commissioner welcomed ESAB input on water issues, as he is planning to do some town hall meetings on the subject. Proposing a series of water related roundtables where presenters will be invited to discuss topics like the Colorado River Basin, climate change and water supply. Maybe do quarterly throughout the year.
- Update on NISP and Chimney Hollow Reservoirs – Travis attended the four-states irrigation council meeting. A major topic of discussion was the Bureau of Reclamation's "State of the State". There was not a lot of information shared and everything seems to be in flux right now. There was no talk about transbasin curtailment, but that idea should be part of any water



planning right now. Commissioner Kefalas noted the County's water master planning. By fall, there should be a consultant on board. Zach Thode, Agricultural Advisory Board Chair, will be speaking at the March 3rd Poudre River Forum. Travis is attending and can provide an update at the March Meeting. At the 4-states meeting Northern Water was in attendance and provided some updates on Glade and Chimney Hollow Reservoirs.

Glade Reservoir was discussed in the context of irrigation. Discharges would be conveyed through delivery pipelines, while the rest would be conveyed within the Poudre River as part of the river flow enhancement program. There was some extended discussion on the merits of the NISP Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan. Travis went through the map of the NISP project to show the conveyance routes. He then talked about the geotechnical aspects of the dam site and pointed out that there is a video on Northern's website that goes through the Geotech study. Last, the re-routing of Hwy 287 is anticipated in 2025, with the reservoir build to follow.

Chimney Hollow Reservoir was then discussed. Travis talked about the construction that is currently happening. They are constructing the core of the asphalt dam now. This is the only asphalt dam in the country and currently the construction site is operating the largest mine in the state of Colorado because they are pulling their aggregate from on site. Travis noted Northern Water is willing to come and give a presentation to ESAB.

7. **Issue Index** – Was updated with tonight's discussion.
8. **Agenda Topics for Next Meeting** – Next regular meeting will be March 14th, 2022. Discussion items TBD.
9. **Adjourn** – John moved to adjourn, and Tasha seconded. The meeting ended at 9:00 PM.