

LARIMER COUNTY | BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

P.O. Box 1190, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522-1190, 970.498.5700, Larimer.gov

Environmental and Science Advisory Board MINUTES

Date: November 5, 2025

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Hearing Room, 200 West Oak St., Fort Collins, Colorado

Contact: Heidi Pruess, pruesshb@co.larimer.co.us, 970-498-7138

MEMBERS		STAFF		GUESTS
Rodger Ames – Vice-Chair	X	John Kefalas *		
Tasha Carr	X	Heidi Pruess ‡	X	
Anna Cloud - Chair	X			
Jeremy Cooper				
Leo Grassens	X			
Matthew Haag	X			
Azmal Hossan				
Kathryn Inman				
Joe Izaguirre III				
Michael Lee Jones	X			
Jared McGlothlin				
Nicole Poncelet-Johnson	X			
Cathelyne Powers				
Timothy Skolds ^Y				
Nathan Teich	X			
Chris Wood	X			

X = present; v= present virtually; * = Commissioner Liaison; ‡ = ESAB Liaison; § = Climate and Sustainability Program; ^Y=Youth.

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

- **Amendments or additions to the agenda** – None.
- **Introduction of members, staff and guests** – Guests and Environmental and Science Advisory Board (ESAB) members introduced themselves.



- **Commissioner's Update** – None
- **Approval of Minutes** – October 2025 minutes were amended with minor edits. Rodger Ames motioned to approve the minutes as amended, and Leo Grassens seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Updates and Round Table**
 - Reminder of upcoming officer elections at the December meeting. Description of the role of Chair was provided and members were encouraged to express their interest.
- **Discussion Items**

Working Session - ESAB members split into three discussion groups to determine what, if any, recommendations should be crafted for Board of County Commissioner consideration. Notes from each worksession were captured by members and are represented below:

 - Carbon capture / sequestration and circular economy- did not occur due to lack of expert members present
 - Land use / 1041 - Sub-group discussed the existing 1041 evaluation criteria, as presented previously by County staff, through the lens of Smart Growth criteria areas and agreed with staff recommendations of new 1041 topics due to those criteria. Questions regarding 1041 authority for new technologies (e.g., data centers) that may not be covered in State law were posed. The sub-group requested additional information from County Community Planning to explore some of the questions and give specific examples of the current review process on these topics.

Smart Growth Criteria	Potential Additions to 1041
Reduce Water Use	Data Centers, Mining
Protect Air Quality	Mining
Reduce Greenhouse Gases	Data Centers (or any industry requiring more than 5 MW), Mining, Waste Water Treatment Plants
Protect Groundwater and Water Quality	Geothermal, Large scale groundwater production and ASR well fields, End of life processing facilities

Considerations with regard to cumulative impacts and 1041 criteria included:

Cumulative Impacts Realized	Topics that could create Cumulative Impacts
Health	Viewshed, Heat, Air, Water, Light, Sound, Mental Health
Economic	Disadvantaged community, Property Values, Job Creation
Environmental	Heat, Water, Habitat, Fragmentation

- Air toxics and ozone - Sub-group discussed the primary question and purpose of air quality monitoring to identify the sources of pollution to determine why our area is in non-attainment status and to inform public health issues. The sub-group determined that a good path forward would be:
 1. A 1-2 page summary of historical effort of data collection and then make some recommendations regarding data analysis and next steps for continued monitoring.
 2. This sub-group will reach out to the CSU monitoring team and Environmental Health to discover when they could provide an update and what if any recommendations or additional exploration around air quality would be helpful (including a summary of environmental education and outreach).
 3. Expanding the monitoring timeframe to follow regulatory evaluation protocols would be a recommendation to consider.
- **Agenda Topics for Future Meetings** – The December meeting will cover an update on the Climate Smart Future Ready initiative and Office Elections and year-end appreciation will occur.
- **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.