



Date: November 21, 2024
Time: 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
Location: Horsetooth Area Information Center, 4200 W. County Rd. 38E Fort Collins, CO 80526, Mountain Lion Room & Zoom Webinar

LAND STEWARDSHIP ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

MEMBERS		STAFF		GUESTS
Patrick Bickley	A	Casey Cisneros	I	
Brenda Engles	I	Daylan Figgs	A	
Ryan Blake	V	Meegan Flenniken	I	
Ronald Harris	I	Jody Shadduck-McNally*	V	
Jesse Dillon	V	Andrea Weber (minutes)	A	
Michael Hayes	I	Carolyn Rasmus	I	
Janae Malpas	I			

V = virtual attendee

I = in-person attendee

A = absent

*commissioner

Call to Order – 5:06 pm

Public Comment

Agenda Review

Review and Approval of Last Minutes

Brenda moved to approve the minutes from last meeting, Janae seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Information and Announcements

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

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

Q3 Board Report

- Highlights: Canyon Edge Open Space public tours and property processing information, restoration projects, Weed Enterprise work in the Laramie River Valley

Open Meeting Laws Guide

- The quorum for LSAB is the majority of appointed members.

Updates/Discussion Items

Board of County Commissioners Update

- The county is in the final stages of budget season, with approval expected in December. The state is considering budget cuts between \$1 billion and \$1.2 billion.
- The Water Master Plan has been presented, with the Planning Commission aiming for approval in 2024.

Disaster Recovery Integrated Weed Management Cost-Share - Casey

- Following the Cameron Peak Fire in 2020, DNR's Land Stewardship program utilized state funding from the federal government to assist affected landowners with weed management. Resources included cost-share dollars for hiring contractors and purchasing herbicides.
- There is an interest in expanding this program with the Alexander Mountain Fire that occurred in summer 2024. The Colorado Department of Agriculture is applying for funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Fuels Mitigation fund. Larimer County would pilot an expanded program incorporating proactive fire mitigation treatment plans.
- Colorado State Forest Service will develop Forest Health Plans with landowners, identifying opportunities for collaboration with Land Stewardship on weed mitigation and eradication.

Continued Success Managing Invasive Exotic Annual Grasses

- Collaboration with four other Front Range agencies on landscape-level restoration of open spaces.
- The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant supports efforts to manage cheatgrass, promoting native grassland and shrubland reestablishment.
 - Project areas include Eagles Nest Open Space, Devil's Backbone (~1,400 acres treated), and Canyon Edge open Space (~1,000 acres treated).
- Treatment prevents cheatgrass seed germination for 5-7 years, while the seed bank remains viable for 4-5 years.
- A WGS researcher is studying grassland ecosystem carbon cycles. Findings indicate that grasslands, rather than forests, serve as the primary carbon sinks in the region.
- Meegan noted that post herbicide treatment, grazing has been reduced for the short term to encourage native species recovery and establishment.

Action Items

Recommendation for addition of meadow hawkweed to the Larimer County Noxious Weed List

- Ron made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners the addition of Meadow Hawkweed to the Larimer County Noxious Weed List. Michael seconded. Majority in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Bylaws

- Ron made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners the adoption of the revised Land Stewardship Advisory Board Bylaws. Michael seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Next Meeting Scheduled

February 20th 2025 @ Horsetooth Area Information Center (HAIC) at 4200 W. County Rd. 38E, Fort Collins CO 80526

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 – 6:20 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.