



## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025**

### **LAND USE HEARING**

There was no Land Use Hearing for the week of October 20, 2025.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS MEETING**

The Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with County Manager Lorenda Volker. Chair Pro Tem Shadduck-McNally presided. Commissioner Kefalas was present. Commissioner Stephens was excused. Also present were Sarah Martin and Tom Clayton, Commissioners' Office, and Dianne Cheney, Deputy Clerk.

Chair Shadduck-McNally opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Cindy Buckardt, President of the Larimer County 4-H Foundation, addressed the Board. Ms. Buckardt requested a review of why the Larimer County 4-H Foundation has restrictions on using facilities at The Ranch.

The Board commented that Colorado State University Extension and other entities are working to assist the Larimer County 4-H Foundation in finding other ways to fundraise. The Board reaffirmed its commitment to supporting various 4-H and other youth programs within the County.

Chair Shadduck-McNally closed public comment.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 2025:**

#### **MOTION:**

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the minutes for the week of October 13, 2025.

**Motion carried 2-0.**

3. **REVIEW OF THE SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 2025:** Ms. Martin reviewed the upcoming schedule with the Board. The Board made several additions to the upcoming schedule.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

**AGREEMENTS**

1. **THIRD ADDENDUM TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL LEASE AGREEMENT**
2. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (P25-14, WOODY BIOMASS REMOVAL & HAULING SERVICES; WEST RANGE FOREST PRODUCTS LLC)**
3. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (P25-14, WOODY BIOMASS REMOVAL & HAULING SERVICES; LIGNUM SUPPORT LLC)**
4. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (P25-14, WOODY BIOMASS REMOVAL & HAULING SERVICES; RED FEATHER EXCAVATING INC)**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

1. **WORKFORCE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY ACT PROGRAM YEAR 25 COMPLIANCE PLAN**

**MOTION**

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Consent Agenda for October 21, 2025.

**Motion carried 2-0.**

5. **COMMISSIONERS' GUESTS:** The Commissioners did not have any guests.

6. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES RECOGNITION OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY'S PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES CENTER AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2025 GARY A. DARLING AWARD ISSUED BY THE IMPACT FUND GRANT PROGRAM:** Jessica Plummer, Program Manager for Behavioral Health Services, addressed the Board. Ms. Plummer shared that the Impact Fund Grant Program has allocated \$17,700,000 over the past seven years to 77 unique organizations serving people in Larimer County. The Gary A. Darling Award was established in recognition of Mr. Darling's exemplary leadership and service in law enforcement, criminal justice, the mental health and substance use alliance, and the guidance team for the behavioral health initiative. The award highlights innovative programs, known as alternative and interventions in criminal justice, focusing on transforming solutions that create better paths forward for members of society suffering from behavioral health issues. The recipient of the 2025 Gary A. Darling award is the Colorado State University's (CSU) Psychological Services Center for its outpatient

counseling pilot program that serves individuals involved in the justice system. This program was developed in partnership with CSU's addiction counseling program. It provides mandated outpatient counseling to help individuals transition from incarceration to the community, addressing the lack of affordable options for these services. Ms. Plummer introduced Dr. Brad Connor, Professor and Director of Addiction Counseling at CSU and Kristine Majestic, Project Director and licensed addiction counselor.

Dr. Connor introduced members of the Larimer County Community Corrections Department. Dr. Connor shared that the department is appreciative of receiving this award that will be utilized to aid members of the community who need these services and often find barriers to being able to get assistance. Ms. Majestic stated that she is looking forward to seeing this initiative implemented.

Alexis Ongley, Community Corrections Director with Larimer County, shared her appreciation of the continued partnership with CSU's Psychological Services Center. The department is excited to partner on this project to aid those involved in community corrections with long term support offering care and treatment after sentencing.

The Board asked if someone could expand on the workforce development component of this project. Also, what kind of recruitment is taking place to obtain students who are looking to get a Bachelor of Social Work who might be able to bring real experience of having interacted with the criminal justice system. The Board inquired how staff intend to measure both the financial performance and social outcomes of the funds granted.

Dr. Connor shared that the addiction counseling program at Colorado State University consists of six programs that are designed to enhance workforce development. There are two undergraduate concentrations focusing on addiction counseling. In addition, there is a master's program that requires a one-year internship where students are expected to complete up to 1,000 hours of clinical service provision in the community. Interns serve in the community co-facilitating groups. This project is planning on using funds to work within the criminal justice program to provide mental health and addiction counseling services within the community. The goal is that once students have completed the program, they will continue to work in a similar program within the County.

In regard to recruitment, Dr. Connor shared that specifically within the Addictions Counseling Program the admissions process provides for expectations of achievable goals through letters of recommendation, grade point average (GPA), and a statement of purpose. These achievable expectations allow for one of the most diverse graduate programs on the CSU campus. The graduation rate is 95%, the employment rate is over 90%, and the licensure rate is around 80% with a lower rate accounting for additional post graduate time completing training hours. Data will be collected at admission, in transit, and at discharge. This data will be used to confirm that participants received the services and support they needed to return to the community with a strong likelihood of securing gainful employment.

The Board thanked Ms. Plummer and her guests for the work that they are doing to both facilitate and execute this award. The work that is being done is critical and assists in long-term solutions in getting educated staff into the workforce to assist community members in need of these services. When people work collaboratively on issues, amazing outcomes occur. County Manager Volker shared that re-entry was a principal belief of Gary Darling, and this award will allow for an important pipeline to assist participants in successful reintroduction to the community.

**2. RECOGNITION DECLARING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH 25<sup>TH</sup> AS CASE MANAGER APPRECIATION WEEK:** Nance Kelly, Human Services Deputy Division Manager, commented that case managers across Larimer County are the crucial link between residents and life-changing resources serving diverse populations through Colorado Works, the Employment First Program, the Office on Aging and Community Justice Alternatives. These dedicated professionals serve as coaches, advocates and strategists who employ personalized assessment and planning and facilitation to empower both individuals and families. The shared mission is to provide vital hands-on support to assist residents in overcoming barriers and build a foundation for long-term stability. Case managers work to break cycles of poverty and recidivism while preserving dignity and independence for vulnerable populations. Larimer County case managers serve an important role in fostering a healthier, safer and more resilient community.

Ms. Kelly recognized some of the staff that work as case managers within the community: Josh Jeffers, Program Supervisor; Jessica Bermejo, Senior Case Manager; Employment First Case Managers Catherine Lujan and Katrina Daniel; and Colorado Works Case Managers Sandy Anderson, Katie Merrill, Naomi Salazar Mercado, Kim Leslie, Kiersten Guerrero and Carl Wieder.

The Board thanked Ms. Kelly and her staff for the work they accomplish. Co-creation, working with people side by side, is important to impacting critical work within the community. Case managers connect people to resources and help them overcome systemic barriers, fostering long-term stability and positive community change. Manager Volker stated that case workers support individuals during their most difficult and vulnerable times by leveraging a wide range of resources to solve problems.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION REFEREE RECOMMENDATIONS:** Elizabeth Carter, Recording Manager, Clerk & Recorder Recording Department, thanked the Assessor's Office, the County Manager's Office and the appointed Board of Equalization referees for their collaboration and assistance during the 2025 Board of Equalization hearing process. Following the implementation of new scheduling software this year, Ms. Carter reported that 45% of petitions were scheduled online by petitioners. She expressed gratitude for the patience and understanding of the petitioners as staff implemented new software during this petition period.

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissioners convene as the Board of Equalization.

**Motion carried 2-0.**

Deirdre O'Neill, Operations Coordinator, Clerk & Recorder Recording Department, reviewed the referees' recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Equalization for the hearings held from October 9, 2025, through October 16, 2025. Ms. O'Neill shared that during this time frame, there were hearings for 92 accounts including real property, mobile homes, business personal property, oil and gas, severed mineral rights, and possessory interest accounts. There were 28 hearings conducted. Of those, 35 accounts were adjusted. Of the 35 accounts,

10 were stipulated, meaning that the petitioner and the Assessor's Office came to a mutual agreement. A total of 57 accounts were denied.

Ms. O'Neill summarized the 2025 Board of Equalization period. There were a total of 2,691 accounts and 1,244 hearings. 1,363 accounts were adjusted and of those, 567 accounts were stipulated changes. A total of 1,328 accounts were denied. The total percentage of change for 2025 was (6.64%). For the 2025 Board of Equalization period more hearings were held for commercial accounts than residential.

The Board thanked staff for the presentation and for the work and collaboration the team has done facilitating the hearing process. The Board asked how this year's percentage of change compared to previous years, and if the number of petitioners and percentage change was what was expected for 2025. The Board also recognized and thanked the referees for their work.

Ms. O'Neill shared information from the three prior reappraisal periods which occur every other year. Ms. Carter shared that the number of petitions was a bit higher than expected by both the Clerk & Recorder and Assessor's office for the 2025 reappraisal year.

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissioners, convened as the Board of Equalization, approve the recommendations submitted by the Board of Equalization referees for the hearings held October 9, 2025, through October 16, 2025.

**Motion carried 2-0.**

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissioners, convened as the Board of Equalization, adjourn the meeting as the Board of Equalization and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

**Motion carried 2-0.**

7. **COUNTY MANAGER UPDATE:** County Manager Volker briefly detailed the events of the previous week.

8. **COMMISSIONER ACTIVITY REPORTS:** The Board detailed their attendance at events during the previous week.

9. **LEGAL MATTERS:** None requested.

With there being no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Jody Shadduck-McNally  
JODY SHADDUCK-MCNALLY, CHAIR PRO TEM  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TINA HARRIS  
CLERK & RECORDER

ATTEST:

Dianne Cheney  
Dianne Cheney, Deputy Clerk

