



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025

LAND USE HEARING

There was no Land Use Hearing for the week of October 6, 2025.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS MEETING

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

Chair Stephens opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no members of the public who came forth to comment in person or online. The Board of County Commissioners, however, did receive a comment via email. Jeffrey Pomranka, Executive Director for Meals on Wheels, is requesting the Larimer County Office on Aging reconsider its decision to discontinue printing the Answers on Aging guide booklets. These guides are an essential resource for the homebound older adults that Meals on Wheels serves and for staff who support them. Mr. Pomranka stated in his email that it is important to emphasize that this guide is not only vital to his organization, but to the broader network of professionals and individuals who depend on it to connect older adults with critical support. Many clients lack reliable internet access or the technical skills required to use an on-line only version. Discontinuing the printed version diminishes the accessibility of support for those who need it most.

Chair Stephens closed public comment.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2025:

MOTION:

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the minutes for the week of September 29, 2025.

Motion carried 3-0.

3. **REVIEW OF THE SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 2025:** Ms. Martin reviewed the upcoming schedule with the Board. The Board made several additions to the upcoming schedule.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

AGREEMENTS

1. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (NON-PROJECT SPECIFIC ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES AT THE RANCH P23-19)**
2. **DRAINAGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN LARIMER COUNTY AND MHR PROPERTIES, LLC**
3. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (P25-09, ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING FIRM AT THE RANCH)**
4. **AMENDMENT ONE TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN LARIMER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA COLORADO BRANCH**

APPOINTMENTS

1. **RECOMMEND APPOINTMENTS TO THE ESTES VALLEY PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Julie Abel and Kay Boyle
2. **RECOMMENDED RESCINDED APPOINTMENT FROM THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD:** Marissa Emerson

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

1. **LETTER OF SUPPORT TO LARIMER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR EXPANSION OF WILDFIRE PARTNER PROGRAM**

MISCELLANEOUS

1. **DELEGATION OF SIGNATURE AUTHORITY TO RODEO BOARD CHAIR**
2. **LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT BYLAWS**

RESOLUTIONS

1. **FINDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS DENYING THE MOORE APPEAL**

2. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY OBSERVED FOR 2026: The Board of County Commissioners wishes to show appreciation for Larimer County employees as a demonstration of gratitude for the commitment County employees have shown to the community. The resolution is adopting the 2026 holiday schedule to include additional holiday hours in 2026 for the day after New Year's Day, January 2, 2026, and four (4) hours of holiday leave for an early closure at Noon on Christmas Eve, 2026.

M O T I O N

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that Board of County Commissioners approve the Consent Agenda for Tuesday, October 7, 2025.

Motion carried 3-0.

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

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. TO RECOGNIZE OCTOBER 2025 AS NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH: Jo Buckley and Devontay Tobe, Department of Health and Environment and Inclusion Advisory Council addressed the Board. Mr. Tobe read the proclamation explaining that Larimer County is committed to building an inclusive community and workplace that welcomes the talents of all people, including people with disabilities. Being employed is a critical part of being a full participant in the community. Individuals with disabilities add value, skills, and talent to the workplaces and community.

Anais Campbell, Advocacy Manager of Arc of Larimer County address the Board. Ms. Campbell said that employing individuals with disabilities has numerous benefits to employers, individuals, and the community and that Arc is the largest employer of those with disabilities in the State of Colorado and their vision is to integrate those individuals with disabilities in all aspects of community life. Ms. Buckley announced that Arc of Larimer County will be hosting multiple disability awareness training courses for employees throughout October, including a Disability Etiquette online training course and a Disability Acceptance training on October 14.

The Board thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication in engaging with members of the community and the significant progress that has been made internally with the Employment Advisory Council.

M O T I O N

Commissioner Kefalas moved that Board of County Commissioners recognize October 2025 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Motion carried 3-0.

The Board paused for a photo.

The Board returned to session.

2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING 2025 AS THE YEAR OF PHILANTHROPY: Claire Bouchard and Kristin Todd, NoCo Foundation. Ms. Todd announced that the NoCo Foundation is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2025 and is recognizing the thoughtful generosity and long-term investments from individual donors in the community and the strong partnership between the NoCo Foundation and Larimer County government.

Ms. Todd stated that in 1975 a group of dedicated community leaders in Fort Collins saw the need to establish a community foundation to receive gifts and make impactful grants to improve arts and cultural offerings and people's experience in the growing community. Lincoln Junior High was converted into the present-day Lincoln Center with help from the new Fort Collins Foundation, which contributed more than \$300,000 to its construction. Over the years the Foundation has grown to include five more communities and six more counties, including Larimer County and is now known as the NoCo Foundation.

Ms. Todd explained that generous donors have supported hundreds of Larimer County-based nonprofits through more than 11,300 grants totaling over 62 million dollars. The NoCo Foundation has prioritized improving the quality of life in Larimer County through community engagement efforts such as disaster fundraising, Long-Term Recovery Group leadership and funding, COVID funding, Regional Leaders and Growing Communities initiatives. Also, the 2018 Mental Health Matters campaign, the 2024 Northern Colorado Intersections Report, co-creating the Water Literate Leaders program, and leading four Larimer County community fund committees in Berthoud, Estes Park, Fort Collins, and Loveland who distribute donor funds to local nonprofits.

The NoCo Foundation recognizes the thoughtful generosity and long-term investments from individual donors in the community and the strong partnership between the NoCo Foundation and Larimer County government.

Ms. Todd reiterated the NOCO Foundation's mission to create transformational community impact by inspiring philanthropy and engaging the region. Ms. Todd mentioned the Water Literate Leaders and preserving Northern Colorado water.

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally read the Proclamation.

The Board congratulated the NoCo Foundation on 50 years of dedication and philanthropic work. The Board encourages individuals and organizations to give and that philanthropy is bigger than just the monetary investment.

MOTION

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Proclamation declaring 2025 as the Year of Philanthropy.

Motion carried 3-0

The Board paused for a photo.

The Board returned to session.

3. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025, AS INDEGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY: Laurie Kadrach, Assistant County Manager presented this Proclamation to the Board. Larimer County encourages businesses, organizations, public institutions, and County departments to recognize, cultivate strong relationships with, stand in solidarity with, and celebrate Native and Indigenous Peoples.

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally announced that the Larimer County Board of County Commissioners recognizes that the continents now known as North and South America have been occupied since time immemorial by many diverse and established Native and Indigenous Peoples. Areas of Larimer County are situated on the ancestral homelands of many tribes, including the Arapaho, Cheyenne Ute and other Tribal peoples; and was an important site of trade, gathering, and healing for numerous other Tribes and Nations; and is now home to a diverse Native community with individuals and families from many different Tribal Nations; and includes important cultural sites, landscapes and historic structures situated in Northern Colorado.

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally acknowledges that this County was built upon the homelands of the Native and Indigenous Peoples of this region, resulting in their forced displacement from their lands. Native and Indigenous peoples in Larimer County, as in all parts of the Americas, suffer from the legacy of colonization and national policies designed to erase and marginalize their presence; Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 by the United Nations International Conference on Discrimination against Indigenous Populations in the Americas and has been adopted by several Colorado municipalities.

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally stated that the County promotes closing the disparity gap for Native and Indigenous peoples through policies and practices that respect sovereignty and Indigenous self-determination aligned with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("UNDRIP"). UNDRIP establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous Peoples of the world and elaborates on the existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of Indigenous Peoples.

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally read the Proclamation.

The Board stated it is important to present and approve this proclamation acknowledging the history and important contributions of Native American Indigenous People.

MOTION

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Proclamation declaring Monday, October 13, 2025, as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Motion carried 3-0

The Board paused for a photo.

The Board returned to session.

4. PROCLAIM OCTOBER AS RESIDENT'S RIGHTS MONTH IN LARIMER COUNTY: Eliza Hensley, Ombudsman Program for Human Services. Ms. Hensley announced that each year in October the County celebrates Resident's Rights Month, which honors residents living in long-term care facilities and those receiving care in their home or the community. It is an opportunity to focus on and celebrate the dignity and rights of every individual receiving long-term services and support.

Ms. Hensley said the theme for 2025 is "Stand with Me", highlighting the importance of solidarity and support for residents who stand up and advocate for their rights, as well as the value of encouraging the community to join residents in sharing their voices. Currently, there are 1.2 million individuals living in 14,800 nursing homes; and over one million individuals living in 32,200 assisted living/residential care facilities in the U.S.

The federal Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 guarantees residents their individual rights in order to promote and maintain their dignity and autonomy. Today, the county wishes to honor and celebrate these residents, to recognize their rich individuality, and to reaffirm their right to vote and participate politically, including the right to have a say in their care.

Ms. Hensley stated that the County wishes to honor Ombudsman staff as well during this month. County staff and volunteers work daily to promote resident rights and assist residents with complaints. County staff also provide information to those who need help finding a long-term care community. The staff is made up of three ombudsmen and three volunteers who cover 14 nursing homes and 31 assisted living facilities in Larimer County.

The Board thanked staff for their important work in giving these residents a voice and honoring residents in long-term care facilities and receiving care in their home or community.

MOTION

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissions approve the Proclamation declaring October 2025 as Residents' Rights Month.

Motion carried 3-0

4. 2025 AGEISM AWARENESS DAY PROCLAMATION: : Erin Alt, Office on Aging Human Services presented this Proclamation to the Board to bring awareness to ageism for older adults living in Larimer County.

Ms. Alt spoke about encouraging the community to change how they talk about aging and older people in the community where ageism is pervasive. Ageism refers to the stereotypes (how we think), prejudice (how we feel) and discrimination (how we act) toward others based on age. There is estimated to be nearly 90,000 older adults in Larimer County age sixty and beyond who are impacted by ageism.

Ageism toward older adults affects their health and longevity, financial well-being, and the economy of Larimer County. Preventing ageism in education, employment, housing, culture, and healthcare will benefit all; and preventing ageism in education, employment, housing, culture, and healthcare will benefit all; and recognizing that it is up to all of us to ensure that older adults are respected and portrayed as capable, competent, effective, and valued in all areas of society.

Ms. Alt stated that the older population possesses vast talents and skills, having navigated challenges, built families, and contributed to society. Yet, they are often faced with barriers in employment, healthcare and social engagement. Age based discrimination can lead to feelings of invisibility and worthlessness causing withdrawal from active community participation.

The Board thanked staff for bringing forward this Proclamation and expressed their appreciation for the Office on Aging and the great work that they provide for the community. The Board reminded everyone how valuable older citizens are and the respect and dignity they deserve.

MOTION

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Proclamation declaring October 9, 2025, as Ageism Awareness Day.

Motion carried 3-0

The Board paused for a photo.

The Board returned to session.

6. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION REFEREE RECOMMENDATIONS:

MOTION

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners convene as the Board of Equalization.

Motion carried 3-0

Lindsey Jones, Recording Specialist, Clerk & Recording Department, reviewed the referees' recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Equalization for the hearings held from September 24, 2025, through September 29, 2025. Ms. Jones shared that during this time frame, there were 349 hearings conducted for 1,066 accounts including real property, mobile homes, business personal property, oil and gas, severed mineral rights, and possessory interest accounts. Of those, 445 accounts were adjusted. Of the 445 accounts, 217 were stipulated, meaning that the petitioner and the Assessor's Office came to a mutual agreement. A total of 621 accounts were denied. The year-to-date percentage of change is (-7.69).

MOTION

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally 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 September 24, 2025, through September 29, 2025.

Motion carried 3-0

MOTION

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners adjourn the meeting as the Board of Equalization and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

Motion carried 3-0

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. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** No decision expected.

Executive Session pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402(4)(a): Purchase acquisitions, lease, transfer or sale of any real or personal property.

Requested by: Daylan Figgs, Natural Resources Director, Meegan Flenniken, Land Conservation, Planning & Resource Division Manager, and Alex Swartz, Land Agent

MOTION

Commissioner Kefalas moved that the Board of County Commissioners enter into Executive Session pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402(4)(a): Purchase acquisitions, lease, transfer or sale of any real or personal property.

Motion carried 3-0

10. **LEGAL MATTERS:** None requested.

With there being no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Kristin Stephens
KRISTIN STEPHENS, CHAIR
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TINA HARRIS
CLERK & RECORDER

ATTEST:

Deirdre O'Neill
Deirdre O'Neill, Deputy Clerk

