



Date: March 26, 2026
Time: 5:00 – 7:00 PM (PUBLIC MEETING) 7:00 – 8:00 PM (EXECUTIVE SESSION)
Location: Larimer County Longview Health Services Building 2260 W. Trilby Road, Fort Collins 80526 – Goldfinch/Sparrow Room & Zoom Webinar
Contact: Andrea Weber, Senior Administrative Specialist, weberan@co.larimer.co.us, 970-619-4462

Natural Resources Advisory Board Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS		BOARD MEMBERS		STAFF	
Adam Crossan	A	Kathy Maher	I	Andrea Weber (minutes)	I
Andy Te Slaa	V	Kristina Kachur-Webb	A	Daylan Figgs	I
Debbie Hayhow	I	Mike Roccanti	I	Meegan Flenniken	I
Ellis Carpenter	I	Pete Blume	I	Chris Fleming	I
Gale Bernhardt	I	Rob Harris	V	Jody Shadduck-McNally*	V
Gary Miller	V	Ruthie Rollins	V	Justin Core	V
Jeannie Mounts	A	Ward Nelson	I	Jennifer Almstead	I
Jim Wurz	I	Wes Knoll	I	Zac Wiebe	V
Joe Bakel	I				

V = virtual attendee

I = in-person attendee

A = absent

*commissioner

Call to Order –5:02 pm

Agenda Review

Review and Approval of the Minutes

Jim moved to approve the minutes from last meeting, Pete seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Information and Announcements

1. [Natural Resources events for this month.](#)
2. To sign up for updates, go to <https://apps.larimer.org/subscriptions/?sub=boardlink>, and select the “Sign Up” button under “Commissioners’ and Boards & Commissions Meetings”.

Board of Commissioners Report

1. Board of County Commissioners Report
 - a. The Board of County Commissioners are currently navigating budget adjustments due to a slight decline in sales tax revenue while advancing several high-priority community initiatives.
 - b. Key upcoming events include a Town Hall at The Ranch to discuss the Master Plan and new event facilities, as well as a series of talks in May for Mental Health Awareness Month focusing on the “healing power of nature.”
 - c. Regarding regional safety, the Board has approved fire restrictions, supported by a digital tool that allows residents to check specific restrictions by address, with a scheduled re-evaluation on April 28.
 - d. The County is increasing its advocacy for forest health, with representation on the Governor’s Mountain Pine Beetle Task Force and ongoing efforts to secure congressional discretionary funding for safety features and open space accessibility.

Discussion Items

1. Grants and Partnerships – Jennifer Almstead

- a. Jenn presented an overview of grants and partnerships for 2025, highlighting key land conservation projects including the 6 conservation easements in the Livermore area and Red-tail Ridge Open Space expansion.
- b. Since 2018, the department has leveraged \$26 million in county funds to secure an additional \$40 million through grants, partnerships, and landowner donations towards land conservation projects. This reflects a high-level return on investment, with \$1.50 secured from external sources for every Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax dollar.
- c. In 2025, the department successfully secured over \$700,000 for capital construction and habitat restoration projects, including ADA-compliant upgrades at Rotary and Skyline day use areas and habitat restoration at Red Mountain and River Bluffs open spaces.
- d. Management grants were also secured to support Early Detection Rapid Response of noxious weeds countywide and Aquatic Invasive Species inspections.

Action Items

1. Adoption of Natural Resources Advisory Board Bylaws

- a. Mike made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners the adoption of the Natural Resources Advisory Board Bylaws. Joe seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- b.

Department Key Updates

1. Key Department Updates

- a. Daylan reported revenue performance was above expectations due to increased visitation from favorable weather and the successful implementation of the text-to-park program.
- b. Chris noted the department is entering its peak visitation season and hiring seasonal staff.
- c. Meegan reported the Poudre River Trail is nearing completion with a grand opening scheduled for June 13th, having recently earned the Colorado Lottery Starburst Award for excellence. Additionally, major paving through the FLAP project is on track to be completed before Memorial Day to minimize visitor impact.
- d. Meegan provided an update on Department efforts to employ preventative treatments to signature pine trees in developed open spaces beginning in May.
- e. Meegan reported that we've submitted nominations of 3 State Land Board properties with high conservation and landscape connectivity values into the Stewardship Trust Program.
- f. Restoration designs for Boxelder Creek at Red Mountain Open Space and Fossil Creek at River Bluffs Open Space are moving into final design and initial implementation phases, supported by recent grant funding.

Other Business

Next Meeting Scheduled

April 23rd, 2026 – Larimer County Longview Health Services Building 2260 W. Trilby Road, Fort Collins 80526 – Goldfinch/Sparrow Room & Zoom Webinar

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 – 5:53 pm

Larimer County's Department of Natural Resources Vision, Mission, and Values: Healthy Landscapes, Healthy People; Connect People, Nature, and Place; Pursue Excellence, Act with Integrity, Trust, & Respect, Focus on Collective Good, Commit to Staff Well-Being, Demonstrate Courageous Leadership.

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.

These meeting minutes were prepared with the assistance of AI technology. All content has been reviewed by staff for accuracy.