



**Date:** February 19, 2026  
**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	I	Daylan Figgs	I		
Ronald Harris	I	Meegan Flenniken	I		
Jesse Dillon	I	Jody Shadduck-McNally*	V		
Michael Hayes	I	Andrea Weber (minutes)	I		
Brenda Engles	I	Maxine Guill	I		
		Lesli Ellis	V		

V = virtual attendee      I = in-person attendee      A = absent      \*commissioner

## Call to Order – 5:00 pm

## Agenda Review

### Review and Approval of Last Minutes

Michael moved to approve the minutes from last meeting, Patrick 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.
- Meegan announced that Kelly Pruitt, the new Land Stewardship Manager, started on January 26th. She highlighted Kelly's extensive experience in open space and weed management programs.

### Updates/Discussion Items

- Board of County Commissioners Update
  - Commissioner Shadduck-McNally provided updates on demographic changes in Larimer County, where population growth projections have slowed and may reach 500,000 by 2060.
  - She shared her appointment to the Mountain Pine Beetle Outbreak Task Force, which will address the significant tree die-off expected to impact Colorado forests this summer and in 2027.
  - The Commissioner mentioned her involvement in legislative activities, including testifying on bills related to land use and water, and highlighted the county's response to fiscal constraints and drought conditions.
  - She provided updates on her upcoming trip to meet with congressmen to discuss rural schools and health initiatives, as well as her involvement in various committees focusing on PFAS and water issues.
- Q4 DNR Board Report
  - Staff reviewed the Quarter 4 DNR board report, which highlighted the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax and county's Open Space Program. Also noted were the financial

performance of the combined Weed District and Enterprise funds, with revenue exceeding expenses by 1.9. The discussion concluded with a note of the potential to adjust fees annually based on CPI and to ensure a 90-day reserve.

3. 2025 Noxious Weed Compliance Update and Discussion – Maxine
  - a. Maxine detailed the 2025 Noxious Weed Compliance procedures for managing noxious weeds on private lands, including compliance inspections, enforcement actions, and cost-sharing programs. She shared the 2025 noxious weed compliance activities, including 755 inspections and 580 cases, with 38% property owner response to enforcement letters.
4. 2025 Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) Review and 2026 Strategy – Maxine
  - a. Maxine noted staff will continue to follow up on 485 compliance cases from 2025 into 2026, including 4 List A and 5 high-priority List B EDRR noxious weed monitoring inspections, and process new complaint cases as they arise.
  - b. There are plans to remove baby's breath from the EDRR watch list due to a lower grant funding for monitoring; however, garlic mustard will remain on the watch list, as it is typically on the same properties as orange hawkweed.
  - c. DNR received an EDRR grant from the state to conduct this work, and will be dedicated a full time supervisor to oversee crew work in the field.
5. Review 2026 LSAB Work Plan – Meegan
  - a. Meegan discussed the 2026 LSAB Work Plan, which includes quarterly updates on topics such as compliance, financial reviews, and resource management to be discussed throughout the year.
  - b. Ron requested staff to add mountain pine beetle outbreak update information to an upcoming agenda.

#### **Action Items**

1. Recommendation for adoption of the 2026 LSAB Annual Work Plan
  - a. Jesse made a motion to recommend adoption of the annual work plan. Michael seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Other Business**

#### **Next Meeting Scheduled**

May 21, 2026 @ Larimer County Horsetooth Area Information Center 4200 W. County Road 38E Fort Collins, CO 80526 - Mountain Lion 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 – 5:54 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](mailto: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 for accuracy by staff.*