

LARIMER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2012

Members present: David Bee, Curtis Bridges, LuAnn Goodyear, Lew Grant, Jason Kraft, Minerva Lee, Val Manning, Gail Meisner, John Rankin, George Reed, Mike Salaz, Richard Seaworth, and George Wallace. Others present: Karen Crumbaker (CSU Extension) and Linda Hoffmann (Staff liaison, Larimer County Planning & Building Division). Guest: Bill Spencer, Charles Gindler, Jack Rhyan, Nic Koontz, Todd Boldt, Alexis Smith, and Kerri Rollin.

Members absent: Brett Markham and Jon Slutsky.

- I. Val Manning called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.
- II. Introductions were made.
- III. The January 11, 2012 AAB Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved.
- IV. Alexis Smith, Deputy Assessor from the Larimer County Assessor's office discussed the property tax appraisal and assessment process for Larimer County.
- V. Consideration of a draft letter for County Commissioners to sign in support of the City of Fort Collins water policy update suggesting water sharing agreements. A final letter was presented to the County Commissioners. The letter was well received by the Commissioners, signed and mailed to the City of Fort Collins.

VI. Kerri Rollin, Larimer County Program Manager Open Lands, updated the AAB on the revisions to the Wide Open Space Master Plan. Kerri asked if there was an interest by one or two members of the AAB to sit on the Open Lands Board. She stated there is a concern about water by the Open Lands Board and felt representation on that board by a member of the AAB would be beneficial. If any AAB members with water knowledge are interested in being on the Open Lands Board, please contact Kerri by the end of May, 2012.

VII. Announcements.

- LuAnn Goodyear thought it would be a good idea for members of the AAB to attend Citizen Meetings and Commissioner Breakfasts held throughout Larimer County. LuAnn volunteered to find out when the Commissioners hold their Citizen Meetings and Commissioner Breakfast and e-mail the dates to AAB members. She will keep track of the interest by Board members to attend meetings on behalf of the Ag. Advisory Board.
- George Wallace expressed concern over the theft of the long copper electrical cable off the top of center pivot irrigation sprinklers taking place in rural areas of Larimer County. He suggested drafting a letter to the Commissioners asking them to advise the Sheriff office to make personnel aware of the situation and to increase the observation of sprinklers along their patrol routes. A motion was made and passed that George Wallace would draft a letter to the Commissioners advising them of the thefts and asking for the assistance of the Larimer County Sheriff's office.
- Gail Meisner notified the Board that the Bee Family Farm Fundraiser will take place on May 12, 2012, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Val Manning noted that many AAB members leave the meeting before it has ended. Comments were made that the meeting had a start time, but no end time, making it hard for members to plan their afternoon. It was decided that the AAB meetings would take place from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

VIII. The next AAB meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the CSU ARDEC Conference Center located at 4482 East County Road 56, near Wellington. (The ARDEC Conference Center is located on the north side of County Road 56. You will notice 3 flag poles adjacent to the building and an ARDEC sign near the entrance.)

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.