

LARIMER COUNTY | ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

P.O. Box 1190, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522-1190, 970.498.5738, Larimer.org

The role of the Advisory Board is to advise the Board of County Commissioners and appropriate departments on environmental and science-related issues that affect Larimer County

MINUTES

Date: August 13, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Larimer County Courthouse Office Building, Carter Lake Meeting Room, 200 West Oak St
Fort Collins, Colorado

Contact: Shelley Bayard de Volo, sbayard@larimer.org or 970.498.5738

MEMBERS		STAFF		GUESTS
Richard Alper	X	John Kefalas*		
Daniel Beveridge		Shelley Bayard de Volo [¥]	X	
Rich Conant		Shaun May [§]	X	
Jim Gerek - <i>Chair</i>	X			
Michael Jones				
Evelyn King	X			
David Lehman – <i>Vice-Chair</i>	X			
Allyson Little	X			
Kirk Longstein	X			
George Rinker	X			
Katrina Winborn-Miller				
Chris Wood	X			

X = present; * = commissioner Liaison; † = speaker; ¥ = ESAB Liaison; § = Larimer County Department of Health and Environment

Call to Order: 6:15 p.m.

- 1. Amendments or additions to the agenda** - Defer minutes to September. Add EPA's "Serious" Ozone Non-attainment status to Roundtable
- 2. Introduction of members, staff and guests** – All present introduced themselves. Shaun May, the County's new Environmental Health Director introduced himself and noted he hopes to regularly attend the ESAB meetings.
- 3. Public Comment** – none
As a follow-up, Jim advised the Board that as a public County advisory body, its work is expected to primarily take place during scheduled meetings where the public can observe. The ESAB does from time to time formally establish subcommittees to review information and provide recommendations to the full Board, however all deliberation and decision





making needs to take place at public meetings. Consequently members should not be engaging in debate with each other via e-mail. If members have documents or references that they believe may be of common interest to other members, they can consider sharing them via e-mail. But on the advice of County attorneys, debating the pros and cons of issues should be restricted to the Board's public meetings. Jim offered to schedule timely discussion periods, consistent with the Board's overall workload.

4. Discussion Items

- a. Issue Index – Jim went through the Issue Index, which is a tool the Board uses to track the issues it takes up. The Index is categorized by issue types, under which are specific issues the board historically worked (inactive), are watching or are actively working. The Board's discussion included whether additional items/issues should be added, and which items should move from watch to inactive status. The board agreed that David L. should be added as the issue coordinator for the Board of Health.

5. Approval of Minutes – Deferred to September meeting.

6. Updates and Round Table

- a. Oil/Gas Taskforce – Richard A. provided an update on his work with the County's Oil/Gas regulations taskforce. The August meeting heard a presentation from COGCC on their well and location permitting process and then heard from Tom Butts, Larimer County Health and Environment.

Richard noted that the task force is considering doing a site visit of a typical well site. They will be reviewing draft County standards and procedures in their next meeting. The COGCC explained who they are, how the new SB 118 changed their mission and how the make-up of the Commission is now more diverse, including more health and environment focused members.

The State is responsible to set the base standards and the County can then build on those base standards.

- b. Climate Action Plan – Kirk provided an update on the County's process of developing a Climate Action Plan. Kirk and Katrina represent the ESAB on that workgroup. Thus far the group is developing a workplan and looking to write a plan that reports current climatic conditions, current greenhouse gas levels, potential future impacts the County may face with a warmer climate and measures it can take to assist the community with adapting to those impacts. The team hopes to have a draft plan completed by April 2020.

To assist with establishing baseline conditions, Kirk and Katrina are developing a protocol to collect data on current greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions county wide. They may seek ESAB input on the protocol this Fall.

- c. Environmental Responsibility Policy – Shelley updated the Board on the progress of the ERP revisions. Next steps include bringing (1) an updated Strategic Plan Goal Objective, and (2) the policy draft to the BoCC in the quarterly Strategic Plan update Work Session at the end of August.
- d. NISP – Jim reported that he, Richard A. and Shelley had attended a recent Work Session between the BoCC and Northern Water leadership regarding a potential



1041/IGA for operations ancillary to the Glade Reservoir. He noted that the meeting had largely been informational, but that both sides expressed interest in continued dialogue. Shelley showed the Board two webpages that host information on NISP:

- i. The County's NISP Spotlight Page provides links to documents pertinent to the County's draft IGA with Northern Water.
<https://www.larimer.org/planning/hot-topics/northern-integrated-supply-project-nisp>
- ii. Northern Water hosts a webpage where the public can provide comments and find information about the project components
<https://www.nisptalk.com/>

The County's 1041/IGA focuses on the re-route of State Highway 287 while maintaining access to ranches, new recreational facilities, and the construction and routing of two conveyance pipelines.

- e. Ozone – Jim noted that the federal government had just formally proposed to change the Denver Metro/North Front Range area's ozone attainment status from moderate non-attainment to serious non-attainment. A formal comment period begins August 15. Evelyn then presented the State's summary report on ozone. She pointed out that because of background ozone levels, the front range will never be able to attain the EPA standard. She argued that much has been done, like emissions testing of automobiles, which has not solved the increasing ozone problem. Evelyn questioned whether ozone is a health concern and asked board members to explain how health impacts are tracked. David explained that published research has demonstrated an association between increased mortality from respiratory causes and higher ozone concentrations. One way to track local impacts from high ozone days would be hospital admissions for asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) exacerbations. Its plausible to extrapolate the toxic effects of ozone on these subsets of patients to the general population.

7. **Agenda Topics for Future Meetings** – The September 10th meeting will host Adam Palmer, who will speak on Eagle County's Climate Action Plan.
8. **Adjourn** – Evelyn moved to adjourn the meeting with Chris seconding. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.