

# AGENDA

CITY OF FORT COLLINS • BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



## Land Conservation & Stewardship Board

Regular Meeting/Hybrid in person/ Zoom

1745 Hoffman Mill Road/Main Office Conference Room

February 8, 2023

**Public Participation (Phone):** If you do not have access to the internet, call the Board Staff Liaison, Katie Donahue, at 970-416-8067.

Please indicate that you want to participate in the Board public participation by phone and give your name and phone number. If you get a voicemail message, please leave the same information.

Once you have given this information (in person or by message), a staff person will provide you with the phone number and code that will allow you access to the Zoom meeting. As listed above, the meeting will be available beginning at 5:30 pm . For public comments, the Chair will ask participants to click the “Raise Hand” button to indicate you would like to speak at that time – phone participants will need to hit \*9 to do this. Staff will be moderating the Zoom session to ensure all participants have an opportunity to address the Committee. Once you join the meeting: **keep yourself on muted status.**

**Documents to Share:** If residents wish to share a document or presentation, the Staff Liaison needs to receive those materials via email by 24 hours before the meeting.

Individuals uncomfortable or unable to access the Zoom platform or unable to participate by phone are encouraged to participate by emailing general public comments you may have to Katie Donahue, [kdonahue@fcgov.com](mailto:kdonahue@fcgov.com). The Staff Liaison will ensure the Board receives your comments. If you have specific comments on any of the discussion items scheduled, please make that clear in the subject line of the email and send 24 hours prior to the meeting.

### CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

1. ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS
2. AGENDA REVIEW
3. COMMUNITY MEMBER PARTICIPATION
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
5. ACTION ITEM

Annual election of board officers

LCSB

5 min

Spring Cañon Waste Way Ditch

Matt Parker

15 min

February 8, 2023

# MINUTES

CITY OF FORT COLLINS • BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



## Land Conservation & Stewardship Board

February 8, 2023

### Regular Meeting – Excerpt

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#### Spring Cañon Waste Way Ditch

**Matt Parker, Senior Supervisor Resource Management** began by introducing Justin Fredrickson, Agricultural Technician II, highlighting his integral role in the department's conservation agriculture efforts and his knowledge of Natural Areas water operations. Matt Parker then provided a brief background of the Spring Cañon Waste Way Ditch and the rationale for incorporation.

The Natural Areas Department became a 2/12<sup>ths</sup> owner of the Spring Cañon Waste Way Ditch and its water rights with the acquisition of Eagle View Natural Area in 2002. The other 10/12<sup>ths</sup> are owned by four others along the Ditch. Unlike most ditches in the region, this Ditch is not "incorporated." This means that its owners own fractional interests of the Ditch and water right. This makes coordination for work on the Ditch cumbersome because work on the Ditch must generally be approved by all of the owners. The City and other owners would like to make an administrative change to a ditch company to help address these challenges.

Matt Parker shared map with the LCSB to both locate the ditch and point out it does not come off the river or creek, rather it is formed by natural seepage and from other wastewater. It flows generally south each across Eagle View Natural Area.

#### Discussion

Vice Chair Cunniff asked if there was any water quality issue, i.e., nitrates or phosphates, since the source of water is primarily run-off. Matt Parker stated he is not aware of any issue. He then confirmed for Member Piesman there is no input to the ditch from the Larimer County landfill outflow. Matt Parker and Justin Fredrickson listed the other fractional owners as Island Lake Marine, Forestar Development and Southwinds Ranch.

Several Board members asked about potential risks associated with incorporation and the potential for Natural Areas' interests being overruled. Matt Parker stated the risk is small because fractional owners act on their own behalf while company members are obligated to act on behalf of the ditch. In response to Vice Chair Cunniff's concern about bank maintenance, Matt Parker explained the ditch is largely free of trees as it runs along Eagle View, but that Natural Areas would ardently protect the trees on the west side of the property. Justin Fredrickson noted the added benefit of liability protection as a company member.

Member Kramer asked if there was any opportunity with this ditch to add to in-stream flow of the Poudre River. Matt pointed out the terminus is at the Arthur Ditch, so no direct connection to the river, but he was not sure. Matt Parker pointed out that Natural Areas is interested in securing water rights that make economic sense and are tied to natural areas managed land.

***Member Piesman made a motion that the Land Conservation and Stewardship Board recommend the City to pursue the incorporation of the Spring Cañon Waste Way Ditch, including conveying the city's interest in the ditch and water rights in exchange for shares in the ditch company. Chair Elson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously, 7-0.***