

MINUTES

CITY OF FORT COLLINS • BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



Land Conservation & Stewardship Board December 11, 2024 Regular Meeting – Excerpt

Members:

Ross Cunniff, Chair	Holger Kley, Member
Scott Mason, Vice Chair	Elena Lopez, Member
Denise Culver, Member	River Mizell, Member
Andrea Elson, Member	Mark Sears, Member
Jennifer Gooden, Member	

1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm.

2. ROLL CALL:

LCSB: Holger Kley, Mark Sears, Andrea Elson, River Mizell, Scott Mason, Ross Cunniff, Denise Culver, Jennifer Gooden, Elena Lopez

NAD Staff: Julia Feder, Tawnya Ernst, Crystal Strouse, Matt Parker, Mary Boyts

Excerpt related to this Council Meeting Agenda Item: Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Larimer County to purchase four conservation easements within the Livermore Conservation Project

6. ACTION ITEMS

Larimer County Partnership on the Livermore Conservation Project

Tawnya Ernst, Land Conservation Lead Specialist stated she was seeking a recommendation from the LCSB to enter into an IGA with Larimer County to purchase conservation easements on four ranches totaling 4,897 acres within the Laramie Foothills/Mountains to Plains Priority Area. Larimer County would be the lead on the project and hold the conservation easements on the properties.

Discussion

In response to Board member questions about the four parcels, location and mineral rights:

- Tawnya confirmed that the four ranches are contiguous and owned by members of one family, who will continue to ranch.
- Julia described the property locations as adjoining portions of other conservation easements, Roosevelt National Forest, State Land Board and a portion of Cherokee Park State Wildlife Area.
- Tawnya explained that while conservation easements don't prohibit mineral extraction (unless the landowner owns all the minerals outright) they do require the landowner to minimize impacts of mining operations so that they don't adversely affect the conservation values.
- Tawnya stated the properties would not be impacted by the Northern Integrated Supply Project.

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Regular Meeting

Several Board members voiced enthusiastic support for the conservation easements and the added protection of the habitat.

Member Sears made a motion that the Land Conservation and Stewardship Board recommends that City Council approve an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Larimer County to partner on the purchase of four conservation easements as part of the Livermore Conservation Project. Member Elson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved, 9-0.