



Meeting Minutes April 29, 2026 Spring Presentation Meeting

I. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Mark Stickel at 6:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call

OSAB ATTENDANCE:

Mark Stickel
Paul Orland
Janene Fiest
Chilisa Shorten
Marc Volland

Excused:

Sandra Wolfe

III. Introduction of new members

- Chilisa Shorten, representing Unincorporated Adams County
- Janene Fiest, representing Unincorporated Adams County
- Sandra Wolfe, representing Thornton

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 22, 2025

A motion to approve Meeting Minutes, dated October 22, 2025, by Marc Volland, seconded by Paul Orland. The following vote carried the motion:

Aye: Mark Stickel, Paul Orland, Janene Fiest, Chilisa Shorten, Marc Volland

Nay: 0

VI. Presentations by applicants applying for Open Space Grant Funds – Spring 2026

Full Applications – 14 Requests.

1. WESTMINSTER: VOGEL POND OPEN SPACE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN – Hayden Parrish, Joe Reale and Eric H.
2. THORNTON: WATER WISE DROUGHT DEFENSE – Kendrick W.
3. THORNTON: SPORTS COURTS AND SAFETY REPORTS – Heidi Z.
4. FRIENDS OF THE FRONT RANGE WILDLIFE REFUGES: NATURE PLAY AT ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, sponsored by Commerce City - Vanessa T.
5. STRASBURG PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT: PEE WEE SPORTS FIELD – Angie G.
6. NORTHGLENN: PARKS BARN ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT – Jesse M.
7. NORTHGLENN: LARSON GLENN MINI-PITCH PROJECT – Jesse M.
8. HYLAND HILLS PARKS AND RECREATION: CARROLL BUTTS PARK PHASE II – Steve H.
9. HYLAND HILLS PARKS AND RECREATION: BALLFIELD CONCESSIONS & RESTROOMS IMPROVEMENTS – Steve H.
10. COMMERCE CITY: COMMERCE CITY OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT – Lisa N.
11. ADAMS COUNTY: WATER RIGHTS ACQUISITION – Aly C.
12. BIRD CONSERVANCY OF THE ROCKIES: PRAIRIE PARTNERSHIPS: CONNECTING PEOPLE TO NATURE FROM THE GRASSLANDS TO THE CITIES, sponsored by Adams County – Becky H. and Sarah D.
13. BENNETT PARKS AND RECREATION: SECURITY FOR SAFETY – Leila S.
14. TOWN OF BENNETT: CIVIC CENTER PARK BALL FIELD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT DEDICATED HYBRID/ELECTRIC SYSTEM – Denise T.

Mini Grants - 8 Requests

Presentations not required for Mini Grants

1. THORNTON: BEAT THE HEAT - TAKE A SEAT
2. BRIGHTON: PARK RULES AND INFORMATIONAL SIGNAGE
3. NORTH METRO LITTLE LEAGUE: NMLL FIELD UPGRADES AND EQUIPMENT – NORTHWEST OPEN SPACE, sponsored by the City of Northglenn
4. ADAMS COUNTY: NATURAL HERITAGE SURVEY FOR ADAMS COUNTY
5. WESTMINSTER: GRIT AT IRVING STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN
6. BENNETT PARKS AND RECREATION: WELCOME DESK
7. STRASBURG PARKS AND RECREATION: USA 250 COMMUNITY MURAL
8. HYLAND HILLS PARKS AND RECREATION: BELL ROTH PARK SHADE SHELTER

VII. Public Comment

Michelle Suebert, Park Ranger – State of Colorado, spoke in support of Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges, full application #4.

VIII. Break

IX. Annual Election of OSAB Chair and Vice Chair

Bylaws Pg. 1 ARTICLE III: MEMBERS A.

The annual election shall be held at the first public meeting following the Board's annual reorganization. A non-Board member shall convene and conduct this election until all officers are elected, at which time the newly elected Chair shall conduct any further business to come before the Board.

1. Nominations:

Marc Stickel nominated himself for Chair and Paul Volland for Vice Chair

2. Vote:

Aye: Mark Stickel, Paul Orland, Janene Fiest, Chilisa Shorten, Marc Volland

Nay: 0

X. County Attorney's review of Colorado's Open Meetings Law

Doug Edelstein reviewed the Open Meetings Law

XI. Matters from the Board

None

XII. Matters from the Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Arts Department:

- May 7th: Share Back Ceremony Breakfast 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the Waymire Dome
- Byron led a discussion with OSAB members on prioritizing grant applications, the importance of acquisitions versus maintenance projects, funding limitations, and the process for ranking and recommending projects to the Commissioners, emphasizing the OSAB's role in aligning with strategic priorities and community needs.
- Acquisition Versus Maintenance Priorities: The OSAB discussed the shift from open-space acquisitions to maintenance-focused projects, noting that acquisitions are increasingly rare due to high costs and limited available land, yet remain a top priority for Commissioners and the OSAB.
- Funding Availability and Project Ranking: Byron explained that available funds may not cover all projects, making ranking and prioritization critical. Leftover funds roll over to the next cycle, and maintenance projects are generally ranked lower unless they include accessibility or sustainability components.
- Eastern County Investment Focus: The Commissioners have highlighted a preference for funding projects in the eastern part of the county, including Bennett, Unincorporated Adams County, and Strasburg, with ongoing efforts to acquire trail corridors and open-space properties in these areas.
- Rae-Anne reviewed upcoming deadlines: Question's from OSAB to Applicants, Due Date for Scoring

XIII. Adjourn

Mark Stickel made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Marc Volland.

2. Vote:

Aye: Mark Stickel, Paul Orland, Janene Fiest, Chilisa Shorten, Marc Volland

Nay: 0

Upcoming Dates:

July 7: *(Pending availability of the BOCC)* – A **study session** is scheduled with the BoCC. Staff present the OSAB's recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), and the BOCC makes the final funding decision.

July 14 or July 21 *(Pending availability of the BOCC)* – **PUBLIC HEARING**

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: 4430 South Adams County Parkway

Brighton, Colorado 80601

Public Hearing Room

Public acknowledgment and the distribution of a Grant Agreement between the Adams County Open Space Program and successful grant applicants who will be receiving reimbursements.

Grantees' attendance is requested. Notification will be sent to applicants once the schedule is confirmed.

Notice of Meetings, Agendas, and Minutes are posted here:

[Advisory Board | Adams County, CO](#)

All dates are subject to change. Please check back regularly for updates.

For all program information, visit:

[Open Space Sales Tax Program | Adams County, CO](#)

Link to Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-8XILTqd3Fc>