

Draft MINUTES
REAP BOARD MEETING

September 8, 2011
11:45 a.m.
May Farms, Byers, Colorado

The monthly meeting of the I-70 Regional Economic Advancement Partnership was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Chairman Wil Chase, who welcomed the attendees and called for introductions.

The following Board Members were present:

Charles Bayley (alt.)	Wil Chase	Doug Claussen	Chris Deverell
Gary Duke	Ken Lawson	Frank Linnebur	Gary May
Gary May	Terry NeSmith	Matt Reay	Paul Rosenberg
Glenn Rotkovich	Tom Turrell	Jan Yeckes (alt.)	

The following Board Members were absent:

Chad Argentar	Glenn Conser	Frank Doyle	Frank Fields
Al Holcomb	Ivy Fischer	Kirk Holwell	Mike Leclair
Alice Nichol	Bob Yaich	Rod Bockenfeld	Sue Horn

Guests attending were:

John	Sampson	Sampson for State Senate
Kathy	Baker	Sampson for State Senate
Lois	Buckman	REAP/I-70 CCOC
Mark	Harding	Pure Cycle Corp.
Tom	Henley	Xcel Energy
Don	Hulse	Comanche Crossing Metro District
Jack	Keever	REAP
Melissa	Kendrick	Kendrick Consulting
Ronny	Marshall	AmericaHomeKey, Inc.
Tom	Butts	Tri-County Health Dept.
Brian	Hlavacek	Tri-county Health Dept.
Mark	Beede	Byers Community Association
Dolores	Tippett	Tippett & Woodis Farms
Steven	Vetter	I-70 Scout
Jeff	Marck	Vogel & Associates
Kevin	Hougan	Aurora Chamber
John	Fernandez	City of Aurora
Porter	Ingrum	City of Aurora
Ron	Hovland	Arapahoe County
Mike	Kopp	IREA
Aaron	Rotkovich	Lead Valley Range
Cal	Schultz	Country Gardens
Melissa	Yoder	State Land Board
Matt	Protter	State Land Board

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the June 9th and August 11th meetings were approved.

Executive Director:

Jack Keever spoke about REAP's activities over the summer, beginning with the July oil and gas community forum. From this meeting, REAP is trying to define the positive economic impacts that the oil and gas industry is bringing. Literally millions of dollars are being spent before drilling begins. The August Board meeting resulted in REAP corresponding with both Adams and Arapahoe counties, encouraging them to work together and to support REAP, and Bennett to accomplish a joint I-70 Corridor Comprehensive Plan. It is hoped that progress will continue on the "Bottom Up" plan now that the state Office of Economic Development has appointed a new director. Jack also advised attendees that CDOT is updating their rail plan and recently held a meeting in Limon to solicit input.

Guest Speakers:

State Land Board representatives, Melissa Yoder, their External Affairs Officer, and Matt Pollart who is the District Manager for the North central District which includes Adams and Arapahoe counties, gave an overview of the history, ownership, operations and revenues. Created in 1876 as a perpetual intergenerational public trust with a mandate to support public schools and public institutions, the trust now manages eight trusts for public beneficiaries, the largest being the Public School Trust. The SLB consists of five commissioners representing various interests such as agriculture, education and natural resources. As a Board along with over 40 staff members, they oversee 2.8 million acres of surface property and 4 million acres of mineral estate. For each \$1 of expenditures, the Board earns \$15 to \$25 of revenue for trust beneficiaries.

Of specific interest in the I-70 Corridor are future plans for the SLB holdings in the Lowry Range area, which consists of 26,000 acres and was part of the former Lowry Gunning and Bombing Range. Presently the uses on this land consist of oil and gas leases, water development, sand and gravel, and grazing. In 2005 the Board adopted a vision for this area that included 4,000 acres of commercial development along with water storage and conservation uses. However, in 2008 with the termination of the development contract this vision ended. In 2010 a third-party consultant was hired to form a new plan and it was agreed to start with a new slate based on market conditions. Short term plans are to focus on oil and gas leases; stewardship and responsible management goals; update natural values and conservation plans; water development and objectives; and possible alternative energy development. Missing from this list is real estate development which will be put on hold for at least the next 20 years.

Other Business:

Jack advised attendees that due to construction delays at Front Range Airport, the next REAP meeting location on October 13th, would be changed to May Farms. Jack then introduced Gary May of May Farms. With water always being a topic of concern in this area, Gary gave an update on their sub-surface drip irrigation system. He estimates that they now use 1/5th of the water that they used to use irrigating crops and produce.

Announcements:

Gary May informed the attendees that this will be their 6th year putting in a pumpkin patch at Children's Hospital. On October 15th and 16th they will also be hosting an event along with a pumpkin patch at 26th and Larimer in Denver in partnership with Green Leaf and the Denver Housing Authority. This event seeks to involve inner city children with agriculture and May Farms. Donations will also go to support the Country Kids, a May Farms Foundation formed to help connect kids with the country through educational and hands-on experiences. Also benefiting the Country Kids Foundation is the May Farms first annual "Cuisine in the Corn", which kicks off on September 17th and 18th

John Sampson a candidate for State Senate in District 25 was introduced to attendees John is a resident of Strasburg and retired from his careers as an officer with Immigration and Customs and the New York police Department.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.