

# BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS MINUTES

January 16, 2019

Service Center Conference Room  
1100 S. Sherman Street  
Longmont, CO 80501

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The January 16, 2019 meeting of the Longmont Board of Environmental Affairs was called to order by Chair Kai Abelkis at 3:31 p.m. at the Service Center Water Conference Room.

## 1. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present at roll call: Kai Abelkis, Amy Schmidt, Kate Collardson, Violeta Manoukian, Wendy Jones, and Jim Metcalf

Excused Absence: Board member Kay Vollmayer

City Staff Members Present: Lisa Knoblauch, Annie Noble, Robert Love, and Heather McIntyre

Council Liaison Present: Polly Christensen arrived at 3:34 p.m.

## 2. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There was a quorum present with six board members in attendance.

## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 17, 2018, and December 19, 2018

Chairperson Abelkis asked for approval of the October 17, 2018 minutes.

**Board member Collardson made a motion to accept the October 17, 2018 minutes. The motion was seconded by Board member Schmidt. The motion passed 6-0.**

Chairperson Abelkis asked for approval of the December 19, 2018 minutes.

Board member Collardson asked for clarification about the determination of quorum. Staff member Heather McIntyre stated that she consulted with the City Attorney's Office regarding the rules of quorum for the Board of Environmental Affairs, and it was determined that there was a quorum present for the majority of the December 19, 2018 meeting.

**After clarification was given, Chairperson Abelkis made a motion to accept the December 19, 2018 minutes. The motion was seconded by Board member Collardson. The motion passed 6-0.**

**4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD**

There was no public in attendance.

With the addition of a new Board member, Chairperson Abelkis asked for everyone in the room to introduce themselves. Jim Metcalf was appointed by City Council on December 18, 2018, to the Board of Environmental Affairs. Jim has been a Longmont resident since 2014, and works as a geologist at the University of Colorado Boulder.

**5. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS**

Staff member Lisa Knoblauch submitted a revision to the agenda to include the following annual review items:

**A. Review of Board Rules & Regulations**

The Board reviewed the Rules & Regulations document and discussed ideas for possible changes or additions. These changes were recommended for further discussion later in the meeting.

**Chairperson Abelkis made a motion to approve the Board's Rules & Regulations as is for 2019. Board member Manoukian seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.**

**B. Election of Officers**

Chairperson Abelkis offered that he would be happy to serve as Chairperson again if there were no other volunteers. He then opened the floor for nominations for 2019 Chairperson.

**There being no other volunteers, Board member Manoukian made a motion to re-elect Kai Abelkis as Chairperson of Board of Environmental Affairs for 2019. Board member Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.**

Chairperson Abelkis opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson. Board member Manoukian stated that she would like to serve as Vice Chair.

**Chairperson Abelkis made a motion to elect Board member Manoukian as Vice Chair for 2019. Board member Schmidt seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.**

**C. Designation of Posting Place**

The Board reviewed the designated posting place for notice of the Board's monthly meetings. Previously approved locations were the Service Center bulletin board, the Civic Center, the Library, and the City of Longmont's Board of Environmental Affairs webpage.

**Chairperson Abelkis made a motion to approve continuing use of the 2018 approved locations as designated posting places. Board member Schmidt seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.**

**6. GENERAL BUSINESS****A. 2019 Work Plan for BEA**

Staff member Knoblauch presented a compilation of previously mentioned focus areas for the Board to work on in 2019. Those areas include renewable energy storage, sustainability education and outreach, water efficiency, 2018 I-Code implementation, Longmont's commitment to 100% renewable energy by 2030, smart growth, the City's wildlife master plan, progress reports of the Sustainable Business program, air quality monitoring, Windy Gap/water update, and code updates.

Staff member Knoblauch also stated that there is money in the 2019 budget for a Sustainability event, which the Board will be asked to play a role in planning and executing this year.

Board member Manoukian asked about the status of addressing a Participatory Monitoring Evaluation (PME) component included in the Sustainability Plan and offered to present the Board with information about the possibilities and advantages of implementing PME.

**B. Discussion about BEA Change of Name/Status**

To follow up with Chairperson Abelkis' previous request for the possibility about changing the name/status of the Board of Environmental Affairs, Staff member Knoblauch asked Council Liaison Polly Christensen to share procedural protocol for changing the name and/or status of the Board. Changing the name of the Board would entail changing the description in the municipal code, and would likely be more straight forward than changing to a different type of board.

After further discussion, Board member Schmidt suggested that the Board explore more within the bounds of the current status of being an advisory board and evaluate later the necessity of seeking a status change.

**Chairperson Abelkis made a motion to seek changing the Board of Environmental Affairs' name to the Sustainability Advisory Board.**

Board member Jones had to leave the meeting at 4:50 p.m. due to a prior commitment.

Board member Manoukian wanted to clarify that using the term "Sustainability" includes a major economic dimension to it, not just environmental. Other Board members stated that the scope of what the Board currently does already includes this dimension within the Sustainability Plan, and thus the reason for changing the name.

**Chairperson Abelkis affirmed his motion to seek changing the Board's name. Board member Collardson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.**

**C. Energy Storage Research Committee**

Staff member Knoblauch asked Council Liaison Christensen to address her interest in the Board researching energy storage. Council Liaison Christensen stated that any research the Board can do to explore energy storage and present it to City Council in order to inform them on the possibilities available moving forward. Staff member Knoblauch requested that the Board understand how energy storage will be addressed with the transition to 100% renewable electricity from Longmont Power & Communications and Platte River Power Authority prior to taking any information to City Council.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no other business items.

**8. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Staff member Knoblauch informed the Board of upcoming Sustainability Coalition meetings. Chairperson Abelkis has been the BEA representative at these meetings, but is no longer available to do so. Board member Collardson volunteered to be the BEA representative for 2019.

The request for City Council to approve becoming a member of the CC4CA is scheduled to go back to Council on February 12, 2019.

**9. ITEMS FROM BOARD**

There were no additional items from board members.

**10. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Longmont Board of Environmental Affairs is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2019, at 3:30 p.m. at the Service Center, 1100 South Sherman Street, Longmont, Colorado 80501.

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**Kai Abelkis, Chairperson**

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**Date**

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**Heather McIntyre, Recording Secretary**

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**Date**