



# Resource Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAB)

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Meeting Address: Boulder County Recycling Center • 1901 63rd Street, Boulder, CO 80306 • [www.BoulderCounty.gov](http://www.BoulderCounty.gov)

## Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – June 28, 2023

### **Board Members Present:**

David Snapp – CDPHE (Chair)  
Zan Jones – EcoCycle  
Lauren Folkerts – City of Boulder  
Angie Gilbert – CU Recycling  
Neal Lurie – Resource Central  
Dan Hoback – Town of Erie  
Alexis Bullen- Town of Superior  
Cody Lillstrom – Boulder County Resource Conservation Division  
Eric Loof – Western Disposal  
Charles Kamenides – City of Longmont  
Kathy Carroll – Town of Lyons  
Matt LeBeau – At Large  
Lizzie Szorad – City of Lafayette

### **Board Members not Present:**

Meghan Wiebe – At Large  
Leah Haney – Town of Nederland  
Bridget Johnson – Jamestown  
Kayla Betzold – City of Louisville  
Mircalla Wozniak – At Large  
Tim Towndrow – Republic Services

### **Guests:**

Chandra Valenza – Boulder County RCD  
Jamie Harkins – City of Boulder  
Andrew Sawusch – Town of Erie  
Sean McCoy – City of Longmont  
Eryka Thorley – Town of Erie  
Richard Andrews  
Laurie Johnson

### **1. Call to Order / Introductions**

David Snapp called the meeting to order at 4:48 p.m.

### **2. Approval of May 24, 2023 Minutes**

David asked if the May 24, 2023 meeting minutes could be approved. Cody Lillstrom motioned to approve, seconded by Lizzie Szorad, followed by a unanimous RCAB approval.

### **3. Circular Economy Center Discussion – Laurie Johnson**

Laurie Johnson was present to discuss the Circular Economy Center.

Laurie created a non-profit called Circular Colorado two years ago. Circular Colorado is working on systems for collection of materials that aren't currently collected, and end markets. They want to work to create markets so material doesn't leave Colorado.

Circular Colorado started by finding end markets for asphalt shingles and gypsum. When the Circular Economy Development Center bill got passed ([Waste Diversion And Circular Economy Development Center | Colorado General Assembly](#)), Circular Colorado applied and won the opportunity to create and administer the Circular Economy Development Center.

The goal for the center is to expand three existing markets for materials currently being recycled and create three new markets for materials that are currently going to landfill.

For the expansion of markets that involve currently recycled materials, Circular Colorado will create markets in Colorado, or at least the region, for those materials so they don't leave this economy.

One of the options for a new market is "shingle to shingle" and they are working with CDPHE to see if they can get that going. The other options are to be determined by a gap analysis.

The Circular Economy Development Center will hopefully be housed at the new Globe Park out at NREL. The "center" consists of staff, stakeholder facilitation and the creation of satellite offices. Creating two satellites the first year which will be in Colorado Springs and Grand Junction.

Laurie emphasizes that they'll be creating circular models for different sectors like transportation, manufacturing, and higher education. It's time to bring all the sectors together to create circular economies.

David opened the meeting to questions from the board.

Matt LeBeau asked what the other two new markets could be. Laurie talked about needing a gap analysis to do a deep dive into what the inputs and outputs for manufacturers are. The stakeholder process helps ascertain what materials are the biggest issue for different sectors. The new markets are unknown right now. Matt then asked if they think expand beyond the three new materials as they see fit. Laurie explained that even doing three is super aggressive because of all the logistics and details behind each market. The first year will be mapping out the plan and doing a "plug and play" of where everybody fits in this economy.

Zan Jones asked what the criteria are for the new markets. Laurie replied that the stakeholder engagement will help dictate that. It's not so much about how much money they can make but how it will benefit for Colorado. Zan suggested another criteria to think about is what the biggest environmental benefit is since we are amidst a climate crisis. Organics has many environmental benefits but that is not something Circular Economy will focus on as there is already a market there and it is a closed loop. They will talk with stakeholders about what is happening with the economics of organics in Colorado.

Eric Loof asked about the funding side of the business and how they plan to clear hurdles to cover infrastructure cost. Laurie answered that their initial funding came from founding supporter spots, and they are currently doing fundraising. Funding for the center and the bill comes in part from the Front Range Waste Diversion (FRWD) and Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity (RREO) grants.

David asked if they have an idea of how they will approach businesses to set up operations for the circular economy center. Laurie replied that because of the work Circular Colorado has already done, they have relationships with some businesses already that puts them down a good track. They are working with lots of tech and start up companies. The center is looking at transportation as part of all of this as they need to figure out how to entice business to come here even though we don't have many trucking lanes in Colorado.

#### **4. Universal Recycling Ordinance – TASP application**

Cody Lillstrom shared that he received notice that the RCAB application for help from TASP with a Universal Recycling Ordinance was not being recommended at the "staff

level” to proceed. David shared that the FRWD board subcontracted out to a group to look through the TASP applications.

Alexis Bullen mentioned that the Town of Superior application was also not recommended to move forward. They will be getting feedback and possibly apply in the next round.

Zan mentioned that there is lots of criteria being juggled and there were several applications. TASP is looking at who needs the most help and prioritizing those applications.

David asked the board if they want to go forward with creating a universal recycling ordinance internally. Or if they want to work on a different priority. He suggested people look at the previous priorities we listed at the retreat and decide what to work on next.

## 5. **Community Updates**

**Charlie Kamenides for Longmont:** Longmont presented the first public reading of the universal recycling ordinance. There is a multi-year phase-in starting with recycling for commercial and multi-family units of a certain size and greater. Comments from the public were supportive. Organics will be in the future, possibly a year or so afterward depending on infrastructure.

Matt asked Charlie if residential already had recycling in Longmont. Charlie answered that Longmont by municipal code provides services that include trash and recycling to residents, organics is opt-in. This ordinance will help with commercial side of recycling.

**Neal Lurie for Resource Central:** They started an experiment to see if they could increase Construction & Deconstruction diversion by increasing fleet of vehicles and staff. This experiment is proving to be successful. There has been an increase of 20-30% program participation.

Resource Central is also getting a new mural from Street Wise Arts and bring public art to the facility.

**Zan for Ecocycle:** Ecocycle is working on a phase 2 toolkit for the Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. The toolkit contains alternatives to Styrofoam. There is lots of progress being made and more to come.

## 6. **Adjourn**

David adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.