



**Garden  
Spot of  
Colorado**

## PORT COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

**Town Board Room  
807 Mountain Avenue  
Town of Berthoud, Colorado  
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 6:00 p.m.**

**This is an IN-PERSON meeting at the location and time noted above.**

This meeting will be streamed live on YouTube. The live stream is accessible by visiting [www.berthoud.org/stream](http://www.berthoud.org/stream)

### A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chair Lauren Roth.

### B. Roll Call

- Lauren Roth – Chair (Present)
- Carolyn Hobson – Vice Chair (Absent)
- Anna Murphy – (Absent)
- Callie West – (Present)
- Michael Brennan – Member (Present)
- Eleanor Hasenbeck – Secretary (Present)
- Kari Wiesen – Member (Present)
- Cloud Clark – BYAC Liaison (Absent)
- Karl Ayers – Trustee Liaison (Present)
- Keith Knoll – Staff Representative (Present)

*Lauren Roth*  
4/11/26

Other staff present: Amanda Gustafson, Director of Recreation & Cultural Services

#### Guest Presenters:

- Tyler Kiggins, Wenk Associates
- Nicole Horst, Wenk Associates
- Chris Whyman, Semple Brown Design
- Sarah Lincoln, Resident, Newell Farm

### C. Approval of minutes February 4, 2026

The committee reviewed the February 4, 2026, minutes and made no changes before taking a vote. Kari Wiesen moved to approve the minutes, and Michael Brennan seconded the motion; the approval passed unanimously.

## D. Public Comment – Non-Discussion Items

No public comment was offered for non-discussion items

## E. Discussion Items

### a) Newell Farm Park Conceptual Design – Keith Knoll, Public Works Operations Manager

#### Presentation Overview

Tyler Kiggins and Nicole Horst (Wenk Associates), and Chris Whyman (Semple Brown) presented three alternative conceptual site plans for the Newell Farm Park amphitheater and support facilities, building on stakeholder interviews and 10% design concepts. The plans addressed potential entrances to the park from Colorado Highway 56, parking, loading/back-of-house access, accommodations for people with disabilities, stage orientation, trails connectivity, and preserving the rural character of the farm within the park.

#### Discussion

Chair L. Roth felt Alternative 1 was most familiar compared to earlier concepts. But she preferred Alternative 2 because it keeps the amphitheater west of the performing center to preserve views and allows centralized facilities on the east end without messy mid-property construction.

C. West agreed, praising how Alternative 2 packs infrastructure efficiently for shared use, lets the historic farmstead shine independently, and avoids a bulky central block that could disrupt park flow. M. Brennan agreed, calling it "trendy" and highlighting its smart admin hub, prominent performing arts setup, and ability to keep foot traffic neatly contained.

E. Hasenbeck asked whether Alternative 2 included the far east entrance (no). K. Knoll pointed out a roundabout set to go in on Highway 56 nearby this year, which will slow traffic. Staff plans CDOT consultations in April to nail down access. He added that trail connections shift by alternatives—Pioneer Park regional paths suit Alternative 2, while north-side routes work for Alternative 3.

C. West then called for broader future maps incorporating town-center pathways and shuttle options, drawing from safety lessons at past farm concerts. K. Ayers chimed in that RAFT is negotiating to take over BATS buses, potentially for town events.

N. Horst flagged the need to plan for up to 700 cars, about half the amphitheater's capacity. The Wenk team plan to include farm-themed play zones, and a silo as a lookout tower to emphasize the land's history.

K. Wiesen noted a poor experience at another venue with an egress layout like that of Alternative 3.

At past concerts, S. Lincoln recounted handling 200 cars on a third of a mown field using bikes, golf carts, and Ubers, with 15-minute exits aided by a deputy. Challenges included mid-show drop-offs, tight turnarounds, pedestrian close calls, and capping at four entrances. M. Brennan voiced concerns over unfamiliar Ubers and impaired drivers. E. Hasenbeck suggested golf cart access may support some access for people with disabilities, though S. Lincoln cautioned they don't work for everyone. N. Horst offered a center-road loop for ADA circulation. Chair L. Roth envisioned the front acre as a dedicated turnaround for shuttles and Ubers, paired with an all-ADA entry.

S. Lincoln urged the town to lead access negotiations. The park's development triggers a change-of-use review. She recommended just two main entrances: west for everyday public use, east for bands and food service like Lions Club. She was willing to give up the middle driveway. E. Hasenbeck proposed the far east entrance as one-way only. She also approved of Alternative 3's Stage A angle.

On amenities, C. West joined public commenters Charlene French and Joy Kelling in calling for plumbed restrooms for performers and park goers. K. Knoll said the park would likely receive vault toilets initially before an eventual Farmstead sewer hookup. Options to manage waste before the park is fully plumbed could include pump-out septic, rental trailers for events, or seasonal vaults. Since town staff lacks specialized expertise related to concert booking, non-profit music and arts organizations were recommended to support booking.

K. Ayers appreciated Alternative 2's organic amphitheater feel.

K. Wiesen noted the benefit of toward Alternative 3's loop road layout, ideal for hikers and joggers.

In the end, PORT consensus formed around a hybrid blending round amphitheater shape from Alternative 1; layout, viewsheds, play space, performance center from Alternative 2; and the vehicle flow and parking scheme from Alternative 3. Chair L. Roth asked the consultants if it was doable. They assured the group they could fuse these elements, subject to CDOT input, with an update in April and final concept by May.

## F. Staff updates – Parks, Open Space, Recreation, and Trails

K. Knoll shared a positive response from CDOT from the Arboretum project. Staff secured approval for underdrains despite existing trees and lights. Plans are now advancing to the Board, with bids due April 7 and funding confirmed.

K. Knoll clarified training questions: tree cost-share promotion used HOA/metro emails (equally spread), with door-to-door a gray area allowing neighbors but not town-wide. He noted committee Outlook accounts are forthcoming to replace personal emails.

K. Knoll encouraged committee members to check YouTube presentations (noting C. West had viewed one), as they provide helpful overviews. Chair L. Roth raised the challenge of Facebook responses, as commenters are often anonymous, making it hard to gauge intent. K. Knoll explained staff sometimes engages but tries to balance this with avoiding trolls. He invited committee members to share posts to alert staff of public opinion. L. Roth noted that replies often yield positive feedback, with residents grateful for information who then share appreciation via public comment instead of online venting—people type things they wouldn't say face-to-face.

K. Knoll addressed a training question on community cost-share program promotion: the Town Forester emailed all HOAs and metro districts for equal access. Door-to-door access is allowed for neighbor-to-neighbor communications, but not as official town outreach.

Staff confirmed CDOT coordination for Newell Farm access. There is no 2026 Jankowski open lands budget, but costs are pending. The Town added a stormwater trickle channel from groundwater at Waggener Farm Park, responding to E. Hasenbeck.

Richardson Pool updates incorporated committee feedback. Staff removed the dive well for a square pool with side zero-entry, a 12-ft deep end, and 2 diving boards, blending Mountain Vista and old designs. Four bids were analyzed, with some competitive to budget. Trustees will review March 10 to select and onboard early for efficiencies.

K. Ayers noted the Trustees plan to engage a contractor early for the aquatics design to finalize it and identify efficiencies.

### Recreation Programs

A. Gustafson highlighted upcoming events, including the St. Patrick's Day run, mother-son Nerf event on March 21, spring break open swim, flag football and adult softball leagues needing more participants, and an April craft fair with over 70 vendors. She also stressed the urgent need for daytime lifeguards.

K. Knoll announced an open space outreach meeting on Monday, March 30 at Town Hall. The event runs 5:30-7:30 p.m. with open houses featuring maps, a 6-7 p.m. presentation and Q&A on grants for farm property purchases, Little Thompson focus areas, Colorado Open Lands partnerships, and county collaborations.

## G. Committee updates

Karl Ayers – Trustee Liaison K. Ayers announced he would be replaced as liaison after the next PORT meeting. The PORT Committee expressed gratitude to Karl for his service as a liaison.

There were no other committee updates.

## H. Adjourn

E. Hasenbeck moved to adjourn the meeting. C. West seconded. Chair L. Roth adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

**Next meeting: April 1, 2026.** If you require special accommodation, please contact the Town Clerk 24 hours in advance at (970) 532-2643.