

*Approved as Amended Jan. 29, 2014*  
**OPEN SPACE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Minutes  
Meeting Date December 18, 2013

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Allyn Feinberg      Tom Isaacson      Shelley Dunbar      Frances Hartogh      Molly Davis

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mike Patton      Jim Reeder      Dean Paschall      Linda VanDervort      Eric Stone  
Jim Schmidt      Leah Case      Cecil Fenio

**GUESTS**

Bill Schulz, Xcel Energy Right of Way Agent  
Chad Schiltz, Xcel Energy Electrical Engineer  
Craig Eicher, Xcel Energy Area Manager

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM 1 – Public Participation for Items not on the Agenda**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM 2 – Director’s Updates**

Mike Patton said the holes on Chapman Drive will be filled in.

**AGENDA ITEM 3 – Matters from the Board**

Molly Davis said she heard back from Jefferson County Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC), and they are interested in a joint meeting. She will send out potential agenda items to the Board via e-mail.

**AGENDA ITEM 4 – Consideration of a recommendation to grant or deny a non-exclusive revocable license to Xcel/Public Service Company of Colorado (Xcel) to bore and place an underground electrical feed line across approximately 1,000 linear feet of the Dover Blacker Open Space property and under the Thomas Lane Open Space roadway for the purpose of providing electricity to the Shanahan Ridge neighborhood.\***

Jim Schmidt, Property Agent, gave a presentation to the Board for a recommendation on whether to grant or deny a non-exclusive revocable license to Xcel. The Shanahan Ridge neighborhood in Boulder relies entirely on electrical service for all household heating and electrical needs. Xcel provides only one feed to this entire neighborhood via an underground conduit from Thomas Lane across the Mardick private property and then across the Shanahan private property to a switch cabinet located in a utility easement south of Greenbriar Boulevard. Maps and documents that were displayed are saved in S:OSMP\Admin\OSBT\Minutes\ Minutes 2013\December.

Frances Hartogh asked if there will be a 24-7 hotline for people to call with questions. Mike Patton said no. Frances asked how the boring works. Chad Schiltz explained the process. He said once they are done the land will be restored to 70 percent of its original condition. Frances asked if the public would be notified of this project. Mike said yes. Tom Isaacson asked how deep they bore into the ground. Bill Schulz said typically 42 inches, but there may be some variation depending on physical obstacles. Mike asked if it is possible a bore would not work. Bill said yes, but by allowing some variation on their proposed route they should be able to use the bore. If it is not working then they would have to use an

excavator. Allyn said it seems like it could be problematic, and trenching might have different conditions. Mike said the fundamentals and pricing would be the same. Tom said it would be best if this did not need to come back to the Board a second time; if possible, add language giving staff discretion on other options. Allyn and Shelley Dunbar agreed. Frances said a trench would cause greater impacts. Tom asked if boring along the perimeter of the property instead was an option. Bill said getting a vehicle across the angle of that landscape is difficult, and he is unsure of what additional equipment might be needed. The route that was chosen has the least impact on Open Space.

Molly asked if a soil sample survey has been done to understand underlying sediment, Bill said typically for this type of construction that is not required. Molly said cross cutting will go against the natural flow, and cutting a trench going downhill could cause potential for runoff. Bill said that will be avoided with how they stage their equipment as well as with restoration. Molly asked if the bore got caught what would happen. Bill said in most cases you can move a bore over a foot or two (underground). Shelley asked staff members if they are obliged to charge a fee for this type of license. Mike said yes.

Tom asked when Xcel would begin this project. Bill said they are ready to begin now, and it would take about a week from start to finish. He noted that restoration would be the only thing that might take longer. Tom asked if there is another viable location for this line to go. Bill said the private property owner was not willing to entertain an easement at this time. Allyn asked if Xcel would have rights to an easement as the line was already on their property. Bill said Xcel would prefer to work directly with the family, rather than going to court. Frances asked about the impact from a bore on underground wildlife. Jim said staff has looked at this, and there will be no impact. Molly asked what trenching looks like. Bill said typically a backhoe is used. Once the project is done they restore the area.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Return to the Board**

No further comment.

**Motion**

**Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees pass a resolution recommending that the director issue a non-exclusive revocable license to Public Service Company of Colorado (D/B/A Xcel Energy) to bury its electrical feed servicing the Shanahan Ridge neighborhood under the Dover Blacker Open Space and under Thomas Lane for the consideration of \$12,500 and upon such further terms and conditions developed by staff. Shelley Dunbar seconded. This motion passed unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

*These minutes were prepared by Leah Case.*

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allyn Feinberg  
Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

