



HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

AGENDA

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

6:00 PM

9651 S. Quebec St. Littleton, CO 80130

1. Call to Order

- a. Roll Call
- b. Approval of the Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes

Attachments: [Unofficial Minutes for February 25, 2026](#)

3. Citizen Comment (5 min. per participant)

4. Discussion and Action Items

- a. Landmark Application Review
- b. Annual Report Review and Approval
- c. Letter of Support Request from Rock Ridge Foundation
- d. Curator Updates

5. Other Business and Discussion

- a. Department of Parks and Recreation Update February 2026

Attachments: [Department of Parks and Recreation Update February 2026](#)

6. Executive Session

7. Adjournment

The Next Regular Meeting Will be Held on Wednesday April, 22, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.

www.douglas.co.us

MEETING DATE: March 25, 2026

ATTACHMENTS:

Unofficial Minutes for February 25
2026



HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

6:00 PM

100 Third Street, Castle Rock, CO
Conference Room – A and B

1. Call to Order

Chair, Chris Schutzenberger, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

a. Roll Call

PRESENT Chris E. Schutzenberger
Mary O'Pry
Michael R. Drennan
Jeffrey E. Popp

b. Approval of the Agenda

Chair, Chris Schutzenberger, made a motion for the HPB to approve today's agenda.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Chris E. Schutzenberger

SECONDER: Mary O'Pry

AYES: Schutzenberger, O'Pry, Drennan, Popp

2. Approval of Minutes

Chair, Chris Schutzenberger, made a motion to approve the Minutes from December 17, 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Chris E. Schutzenberger

SECONDER: Mary O'Pry

AYES: Schutzenberger, O'Pry, Drennan, Popp

3. Citizen Comment (5 min. per participant)

Brian O'Malley, COSAC, commented that Open Space volunteer engagement remained strong, that the weather had enabled increased tour activity, that potential property acquisitions were under discussion, and that COSAC was progressing on its annual report.

4. Discussion and Action Items

a. HPB 2025 Annual Report

The 2025 Annual Report was discussed by the HPB. Edits provided by Vice Chair, Mary O’Pry, will be incorporated.

Discussion included public outreach events, repository updates, Cherokee Ranch funding requests, and photo additions.

b. Election of Officers

The HPB discussed officers for 2026.

Chair, Chris Schutzenberger, made a motion to elect Chris Schutzenberger, Chair, Mary O’Pry, Vice-Chair, and Jeff Popp, Secretary for the 2026 Historic Preservation Board.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Chris E. Schutzenberger

SECONDER: Michael R. Drennan

AYES: Schutzenberger, O’Pry, Drennan, Popp

c. Curator Updates

Brittany Cassell, Curator, gave the HPB an update on projects.

Updates discussed included: restoration progress at the Evans homestead, interpretive signage, Spring Valley School foundation work, repository donations, grant applications, excavation planning, landmark application processes, historic society outreach, upcoming celebrations and exhibits, planned artifact loans, and planning for Colorado 150/America 250 events.

5. Other Business and Discussion

a. Department of Parks and Recreation Update January 2026

Discussion included the departmental restructuring. Parks, Trails, Building Grounds, and Rueter-Hess Recreation is now the Department of Parks and Recreation.

6. Adjournment

Chair, Chris Schutzenberger, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

The Next Regular Meeting Will be Held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.

www.douglas.co.us

MEETING DATE: March 25, 2026

ATTACHMENTS:

Department of Parks and Recreation Update February 2026

Memorandum

Date: March 3, 2026

To: Douglas County Board of County Commissioners

Through: Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager

From: Nick Giauque, CPRP, Parks Program Manager
Amy Knopp, Manager, Rueter-Hess
Morgan Morehart, LICT CPSI, Parks Operations Manager
Luke Thornton, CPRP, Parks Program Coordinator

CC: Steve Shoultz, Director of Parks and Recreation

Subject: Parks and Recreation Update for **February 2026**

OPERATIONS UPDATE

Inspections

Parks staff conduct monthly inspections across several areas of the parks system to ensure public safety. These areas are heavily used, and staff ensure safety is the highest priority. Parks Operations maintains 22 different structures that include playgrounds, bike parks, and exercise equipment. These are inspected monthly for many signs of wear and damage, including depth of fall material, wear at connections, and damage to any of the play surfaces.

Synthetic Inspections

Parks Operations maintains 11 synthetic turf sports fields that require monthly maintenance and inspections to verify safe play and to identify possible repairs. These inspections include checking the depth of infill and inspecting all seams in the turf for separation.

Highline Canal Trail

Douglas County maintains roughly 8 miles of the Highline Canal Trail. This corridor has many trees that need to be inspected regularly due to their age and size. Damaged limbs can pose serious hazards, and staff monitors them carefully to avoid them.





Training

Parks and Recreation staff must obtain Colorado Commercial Driver's Licenses to comply with legal requirements. Currently, two staff members are training for the testing scheduled for March. Four additional staff members will test later in 2026.



PROGRAM UPDATE

Parks Volunteer Program

The Parks Volunteer Program provides opportunities throughout the year for the community to give back to the outdoor spaces that our residents cherish. In 2026, there will be over 40 events across the County. Participants will have the chance to plant trees, flowers, and other landscape plants; clean up the shorelines at Bingham Lake and Rueter-Hess Reservoir; prune scrub oak along the East/West Regional Trail; eradicate noxious weeds; and more! View all opportunities and sign up at douglasvolunteers.com

The program kicked off the 2026 season on February 14th, with a shoreline cleanup at Bingham Lake. Eight volunteers spent three hours in the morning collecting four bags of trash.



The volunteer program is offering the following events in March:

- 3/16: Trash Pick Up at Highland Heritage Regional Park
- 3/18: Trash Pick Up at Challenger Regional Park
- 3/19: Shoreline Cleanup at Bingham Lake

Counter Update

Location	Totals through February 2025	Totals through February 2026
Bayou Gulch Regional Park – Dog Park	3,248	4,904
Bingham Lake	5,433	12,510
Bluffs Regional Park	12,102	24,000
Cherry Creek Regional Trail – Pinery	2,317	3,756

East/West Regional Trail – Grigs Trailhead	2,890	6,471
East/West Regional Trail – High Point	N/A	6,953
East/West Regional Trail – Monarch Trailhead	715	2,052
East/West Regional Trail – Schweiger Ranch	1,075	2,210
East/West Regional Trail – Stepping Stone	3,003	6,366
Fairgrounds Regional Park – Dog Park	6,559	7,921
High Line Canal – East	N/A	2,422
High Line Canal – West	5,893	5,039
Rueter-Hess Reservoir – Coyote Run Loop	540	1,457
Rueter-Hess Reservoir – Incline Trailhead	6,572	9,905
Rueter-Hess Reservoir – Newlin's Gold	120	81
Totals	50,467	96,047

RUETER-HESS UPDATE

New Entrance Station

On February 2nd, the Rueter-Hess property received its new entrance station. This new entrance station is one of the improvements that will enhance the guests’ experience entering the park. To date, the old entrance station has served over 20,000 guests in the past 3 years. In addition to being more visibly inviting, the new entrance station will better enable park rangers to serve guests by providing a faster, safer, and friendlier arrival experience. The new entrance station is expected to be fully functioning and ready by the start of this year’s watercraft season.



Old Entrance Shed

New Entrance Station

Special Event Update - The Rueter-Hess property continues to be a highly sought-after destination for community programming, hosting youth day camps that teach safe canoe, kayak, and paddleboard use, as well as signature events like the Town’s Dash Across the Dam 5K and community engagement days featuring paddle sports, fishing, and hiking. In 2025, the property successfully supported 27 special events, reflecting strong community interest and

growing recreational demand. Looking ahead, we have already received 11 special-use requests for 2026, demonstrating continued enthusiasm for using the site for educational and recreational gatherings. These events play an important role in connecting residents to outdoor experiences while reinforcing the property’s value as a regional asset. Our team remains committed to supporting safe, well-organized, and memorable events throughout the upcoming season.



School Group Shoreline Fishing