



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Tree Board

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

3:45 PM In-Person Meeting: Attend in person at Burrows Park, 25
Burrows Rd, Madison, WI 53704.

A. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:53pm

Present 7 - Supervisor MICHELE RITT, LAURA WYATT, MATT NOONE, CORY RICH, CATHY BRODBECK, TEDWARD ERKER, and KATE KENDZIORA

Excused 1 - TIERNEY BOCSI

Others Present: Brian Wahl, Lisa Johnson

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2025
MIN-287](#)

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 19, 2025, TREE BOARD MEETING

Attachments: [2025 MIN-287](#)

A MOTION to accept minutes was made by RITT, seconded by RICH. MOTION passed (7-0).

C. Tree Board Operating Agreement

No change

D. Project and General Updates

1 - Dane County Free Tree Rural Program for New Single-Family Rezones - Alves helped NOONE to get set up.

2 - DCTB Apparel to Represent our Board at Events - RICH checked into DCTB apparel \$100 for embroidery. RICH says the company will build a virtual store soon and select some pieces for members to choose from.

BOCSI arrives at 4:05pm.

Present 8 - Supervisor MICHELE RITT, LAURA WYATT, MATT NOONE, CORY RICH, CATHY BRODBECK, TIERNEY BOCSI, TEDWARD ERKER, and KATE KENDZIORA

E. Discussion Items

1 - Open positions with ~~four~~ two candidates - Two spots are currently open.

NOONE will write a letter to recommend candidates. Johnson will send Toye an email to see if still interested. MOTION by ERKER, second by RICH. MOTION passed (8-0).

2 - TB Member Presentation (Tedward Erker) - Background in trees and environmental science. Taught high school biology and chemistry after graduation. Professional tree-related work in Milwaukee in 2013 using statistics to analyze tree growth data. Data was used to calculate how fast tree species can grow and dimensions reached, used some info from Jay Weiss's work with the Cambridge Tree Project data. At UW-Madison, taught in the Statistics dept for a few years. Now works for E-Source company mapping tree canopy along power line corridors and estimating risk of outages on power lines, using a statistical model he created using data on tree cover at the lines, outages data, and customer data. Can calculate how many customers served, how many outages a year, and how to then prioritize areas for maintenance such as pruning. The company serves some eastern states. Also calculates the amount of work/cost to prune or remove certain trees using herbicide and cost with the different management methods. Has a statistical tool for one year out, is building a multi-year tool. ERKER's Ph.D. was on forestry mapping of urban tree canopy using satellite images, maps of tree canopy, and LIDAR images for State of WI to find out what is driving differences in growth with hyperspectral imagery for tree traits and health.

3 - Mission and Vision Statement Review Discussion - Small group to review and bring proposal for any changes to the Board. Group includes RICH, RITT, ALVES, WAHL, and ERKER (or NOONE).

4 - Next Steps for Tree Board in Regard to County Tree Preservation Resolution - Not discussed.

F. Action Items

1 - Tree Board Purchases

2 - Tree Board Letter of Support for City of Madison Tree Ordinance - Letter text discussed and crafted.

MOTION to send the letter to Madison Alders listserv by BRODBECK, RICH seconds. MOTION PASSES 8-0.

G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

10/21/2025 at 3:45 pm. Location to be determined.

H. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None

I. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

J. Adjourn

A MOTION was made by BRODBECK, seconded by BOCSI. The MOTION passed (8-0). The meeting adjourned at 4:52pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Johnson, pending board approval.