



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, March 17, 2026

3:45 PM

Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at the Lyman
Anderson building 5201 Fen Oak Dr; Meeting
Room Driftless (121); attend virtually via Zoom

A. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:46pm

- Present** 8 - Supervisor MICHELE RITT, LAURA WYATT, MATT NOONE, CORY RICH, CATHY BRODBECK, TIERNEY BOCSI, KATE KENDZIORA, and Supervisor BRIANA FRANK
- Excused** 1 - TEDWARD ERKER

Others present: Brian Wahl, Lisa Johnson

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2025](#)
[MIN-630](#)

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 20, 2026, TREE BOARD MEETING

Attachments: [2025 MIN-630](#)

A MOTION to accept minutes was made by RICH, seconded by BOCSI. MOTION passed (8-0).

C. Tree Board Operating Agreement

No change

D. Project and General Updates

- 1 - Upcoming Events and DCTB Member Commitments (Kate)
- 2 - School Tree Nursery Program (Matt)
- 3 - Tree Conservation/Preservation Efforts (Briana)

1. Events chart/list reviewed. DCTB member commitments. KENDZIORA mentioned talking to Alves re Party for the Planet and other programs. EcoLatinos Conservation Fair event? Board will try to pare down events attended and give away heritage progeny trees. BRODBECK and BOCSI will attend Party for the Planet.

2. School Tree Nursery. One new nursery planned at West High School, other tree nurseries potentially at high schools. OFS will build cribs for West High School tree nursery. NOONE met with LEAF coordinator and LEAF is creating curriculum with the tree nursery materials in June. TB may make short videos to go with the curriculum. Some school nurseries will need new supplies. NOONE looking at TB funding or grant funding to cover the supplies.

3. Tree conservation preservation efforts. Objectives - have a collection of existing WI ordinances to document what tree ordinances in WI generally include so people who want to write any have template materials. FRANK suggested meeting with managers of municipalities who have created ordinances and ask what barriers they have faced and what was successful. Also suggested meeting with developers, contractors about ordinances to make sure all voices are covered.

E. Discussion Items

- 1 - Tree Board Applicants
- 2 - Tree Board Events
- 3 - Other Tree Board Matters

1. Tree Board Applicants: Three people submitted applications. After reviewing, the Board members will vote later to send two as recommendations to the County Exec's Office for the two Tree Board open seats. Tree Board provides a letter of recommendation to the Executive, but Executive may not choose them. BRODBECK spoke to Bruning at WAA conference and Bruning is enthusiastic and being from a smaller community would diversify the Board. Small communities not well represented on the Board. BOCSI suggests looking at representation and different backgrounds on the Board matched with what the Board needs. Rewey has planning background, something the Board hasn't had before and it might be helpful for tree ordinances. He was also on the Urban Tree Task Force.

2. Events: TB talked previously about a career fair, should it be attached to someone else's event, or should the Board plan its own event? Madison College may have an event, but not sure if it exists. Also, they are starting their apprenticeship program, TB may be able to support.

3. Other TB Matters: TB budget and options for funding use. Gave away 600-700 tree seedlings last year for the HO program. Second week in April NOONE will pick up Heritage Oak seedlings in Boscobel; FRANK offered to help. Various potential recipients discussed. Potting up help needed, members discussed assisting. Will need to purchase pots and potting media, also to re-supply schools. Contact info was taken from 2025 recipients and a survey given as to how the trees did, NOONE has the data. Survey includes a question about how to improve the process - tree tube protection requested, but those would need to be purchased. Suggested hydrogel for BR seedlings instead of a water dip, will need to check cost. Kids could dip their own trees and then put in bag. May be able to get free biodegradable bags. Discussed having species info, cultural needs, size, photos available for oak recipients. Can put info on website through a QR code.

F. Action Items

- 1 - Board Recommendations for Tree Board Applicants
 - 2 - Dane County Tree Board Purchases
 - WI DNR Boscobel trees. Purchase of 800 heritage oak progeny trees.
 - Supplies required for tree giveaway.
 - School tree nursery supplies.
 - Supplies for events.
1. Recommendations for Tree Board Applicants: 2 slots for the board and 3 applicants. NOONE will draft a recommendation letter and Johnson will send to the Exec's office.
2. Suggested purchases of 600 seedling heritage oaks for the public, 10 lb bag of hydrogel is \$100 and other supplies. MOTION by RICH to spend up to \$1000 for supplies for tree giveaways, Seconded by FRANK. MOTION passes unanimously. Next meeting will talk about school tree nursery supplies, and supplies for other events.
- MOTION to recommend Lydia Bruning and Michael Rewey to County Exec. The MOTION passed (7-0). RITT abstained.**

G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

4/21/2026, 3:45 pm; 5201 Fen Oak Dr, Madison or at a site TBD if weather is appropriate

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 FRANK, seconded by BOCSI. The MOTION passed (8-0). The meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Johnson, pending board approval.