



# 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?*

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Tuesday, March 19, 2024

3:45 PM

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

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

#### A. Call To Order

**Present** 7 - Supervisor MICHELE RITT, JAY WEISS, LAURA WYATT, MATT NOONE, CATHY  
BRODBECK, TIERNEY BOCSI, and TEDWARD ERKER  
**Excused** 1 - CORY RICH

*Also Present: Adam Alves, Brian Wahl, Lisa Johnson*

#### B. Consideration of Minutes

[2023](#) 2.20.2024 MINUTES TREEBOARD POLICY  
[MIN-563](#)

**Attachments:** [2023 MIN-563](#)

A motion was made by WYATT, seconded by BRODBECK, that the Minutes be  
approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

## C. Tree Board Operating Agreement

- a. *Tree Board Operating Agreement. This will be an evolving agreement between board members. It can help our team create an environment in how we communicate and operate.*
- b. *Action-oriented agenda items: “decide, brainstorm, weigh in on” – shift from reporting and information sharing to engaging*
  - i. *Be deliberately engaged*
  - ii. *All members of the board feel valued and respected*
  - iii. *Permission to be unpolished*
  - iv. *Communicate the ask*
  - v. *Hear from everyone*
  - vi. *Make new members feel welcome*
  - vii. *Follow up on request/tasks (accountable)*
  - viii. *Start on time / end on time*
  - ix. *Review TB Minutes prior to TB Meetings Dane County*

## D. Project & General Updates

1. *DNR IRA Urban forestry Grant supporting tree preservation*
2. *Shabazz & Thoreau Tree Plantings & OFS Tree Cribs: OFS built three cribs. Installation set for April 22 at Shabazz. Helpers will include Brian Standing and Mel Askay, TIERNEY BOSCI.*
3. *Student advisory Tree Board job description*
4. *DNR IRA Urban Forestry Grants*
5. *Student Early Career TB Advisory Position*
6. *Workgroup Reporting: ERKER reports on Outreach Working Group discussion re the website, and the April 22 event at Lussier with 300 seedling trees to give away to the public. For the Policy Working Group, WYATT tried to send a signup poll to set up a meeting date and encountered a technology issue. She will try again with a different platform. Policy group to meet after April 11, week of 15th.*
7. *Spongy Moth: discussion around spongy moth management for homeowners*
8. *Morton Arboretum Workshop: Workshop WYATT may be able to attend; need to research reimbursement for her. BRODBECK and Wahl are attending and will report on the Morton program.*

## E. Action Items

1. *DNR IRA Urban Forestry Grant on Supporting Tree Preservation Ordinance – Proposal that part of the IRA grant being submitted by the County through the LWRD would support development of an ordinance for tree preservation on county lands. The ordinance would be written with the assistance of an organization or business that would be contracted to help develop the language around tree management/preservation. A resolution through the County Board is needed for the policy change; RITT would help develop this. Alves will research the cost for the contract and whether it can be added to the current Dane County IRA application. Ordinance needs to specify how it benefits disadvantaged communities and they must have a voice in developing it. Alves needs Tree Board approval to reach out to contractors. WYATT MOTIONS for approval to add a tree preservation ordinance development to the existing County IRA grant proposal and have Alves explore contractor cost to develop the language. WEISS seconds*

**A motion was made by WYATT, seconded by WEISS, that the motion to add a tree preservation ordinance development to the existing County IRA grant proposal and have Alves explore contractor cost to develop the language be approved. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.**

2. *Student or Early Career Tree Board Advisory Position RITT drafted an ordinance amendment, not introduced yet for this position. The amendment says that at least one member of the Dane County Tree Board must be a person currently enrolled in an environmental apprenticeship or who has no more than five years' experience in a related environmental field. For this position, a second option, if the Board membership amendment is not desired, the informal route for a student/early career voice on the Board is to have an informal route with a member of the public attending regularly and have a standing item allowing them to speak. A third route is to appoint an official Advisor position (non-voting). This also requires an amendment. RITT will check on the procedure and on how the Advisor's role works for Alves and Wahl.*

3. *Educational Activities at Tree Board/TCC events: Discussion on possibilities around tree cookies, etc.*

4. *Renew Workgroups? Decided to renew work groups. WEISS MOTIONS to renew workgroups beyond 2024 WYATT seconds. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.*

**A motion was made by WEISS, seconded by WYATT, that the motion to renew work groups beyond 2024 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.**

## F. Reports to Committee

## G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

*April 16th 2024*

## H. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

## I Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

## J. Adjourn

A motion was made by BRODBECK, seconded by BOCSI, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Johnson, pending council approval*