



Abilene Tree Board Meeting Agenda
April 26, 2024

Arbor Day – Fourth Grade Forester Program

Eisenhower Elementary School – 1101 N. Vine Street at 8:30 am

(A Tree Board meeting will follow the presentation & planting at 601 NW 2nd Street.)

St. Andrew's Elementary School – 301 S. Buckeye Avenue at 10:20 am

1. Call to Order

Roll Call: ___ Drew Snitker ___ Tim Strunk ___ Hayley Whitenair
 ___ Vice-Chair Corey Jones ___ Chair Steven Flynn

2. Approval of Agenda – April 26, 2024

3. Business

- Tree Removal Fund
- Kansas Forest Service - Full Public Tree Inventory

4. Comments

5. Adjournment



Abilene Tree Board Meeting Minutes
Abilene Public Library – 209 NW 4th Street
February 27, 2024 – 5:30 pm

Members Present: Steve Flynn, Drew Snitker, and Hayley Whitehair

Members Absent: Corey Jones and Tim Strunk

Staff Present: Jennie Hiatt

Others Present: none

1. Call to Order

Chair Flynn called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Present: Flynn, Snitker, and Whitehair

3. Approval of the Agenda

Whitehair motioned to approve the agenda as written, and Snitker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. (3-0)

4. Approval of the Minutes from November 28, 2023

Whitehair motioned to approve the minutes as written, and Snitker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. (3-0)

5. Business

- **Elections**

Snitker motioned to elect Flynn as chair and Jones as vice-chair, and Whitehair seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. (3-0)

- **Arbor Day Poster Contest**

Hiatt stated that St. Andrew's Elementary turned in posters for the Arbor Day Poster Contest. The top winning poster was submitted to the Kansas Forest Service office district level, but the poster was not chosen to proceed to the state level.

- **Fourth Grade Foresters/Arbor Day**

Hiatt stated that Arbor Day will be celebrated on Friday, April 26. The Arbor Day Banner will be up for the first two weeks of April, and the Arbor Day Proclamation will be read and signed by the mayor at the April 22 commission meeting. There are 12 fourth-grade students at St. Andrew's and 110 at Eisenhower, and 125 Red Bud seedlings have been ordered through the Kansas Forest Service, where they will individually wrap each tree.

- **Living Lands & Waters Million Trees Project/ADM**

Hiatt stated that ADM once again contacted the City of Abilene regarding free trees from Living Lands and Waters.

There was a discussion, and it was decided to order 50 Red Oak and Bur Oak and then 25 Swamp White Oak and Pecan, which will be given away free of charge to residents.

- **Street Tree Planting Program**

Flynn presented his new idea for a street tree planting program based on a planting program in Manhattan that would plant trees within the right-of-way free of charge. There would be an application and approval process.

There was continued discussion.

Whitehair motion to move forward with the proposed program "Street Trees for Abilene" and to put the cost-share program on hold for now. Snitker seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously. (3-0)

- **City Forestry Standards and Specifications**

There was a discussion regarding updating the standards and specifications.

- **Budget**

Hiatt stated that setting up a different fund with the remaining funds to help citizens with tree removal will go before the city commission at their March 11 meeting.

6. Comments

Hiatt stated that the new forester for the northeast district is Blaine Stroble. The City of Abilene received TCUSA for the 32nd year and the Growth Award for the 2nd year. The TCUSA tour will be held at Dyck Arboretum in Hesston, and then the recognition will be held in Derby on March 28.

7. Adjournment

Whitehair motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Snitker seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously (3-0), and the meeting was adjourned.

Attest

Minutes Approved,

Jennie Hiatt
Administrative Manager

Steve Flynn, Chair
Corey Jones, Vice-Chair