



Conway Tree Board

Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2026 | 4:30pm-6:00pm

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:30pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bell, Marshall, Pryor, Quinn, Swope, Tucker

Absent: Moses, Fisher, Stanford

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion made to approve previous meeting minutes.

First: Bell

Second: Swope

Motion approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Urban and Community Forestry Grant

- July 21 community meeting had good attendance and produced good public feedback/questions.
- Davey Group preparing a draft urban forestry plan for review.
- City ordinance updates likely to follow after plan is developed; presentation to City Council likely late September or October.
- City working toward full-time arborist position next year to coordinate tree work across departments, support education, and improve utility coordination.

Bradford Pear Bounty Program

- Application period closed; four participants.
- Participants will select replacement trees after the fall tree list is available and receive their trees at Arbor Day giveaway.

Budget Update

- Balance is \$5,600.
- \$389.94 remaining in IPL grant funds. Approximately 4x4 space available for public food forest sign at McGee Center; Treci will work on design/language and then city transportation dept can get pricing and make it.

Conway Art Walk

- June Art Walk participation went well.
- Board is approved and scheduled for September 4 Art Walk.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Comment

- Member of community raised concerns about Conway Corp contractor pruning trees near power lines on Watkins St.
- Board members will help identify the appropriate Conway Corp contact for follow-up and relay concerns to utility.

Arbor Day

- Arbor Day festival scheduled for Saturday, November 7, 2026.
- Board will get the current potted-tree availability/pricing before September meeting.
- Need 175-200 trees for this year's tree giveaway.
- Action Jacks donated four youth contest prizes, 2 arcade tickets and 2 free play tickets.
- School poster contest outreach should start in September with tentative mid-October deadline; age/prize divisions will be finalized after participation is known.
- Exhibitor and program outreach will continue with Master Gardeners, Beekeepers, Arkansas Forestry Division, UCA, Fire/Police, and school choirs.
- Paid social media promotion is allowed through the City purchasing process.
- Board will relaunch the Laurel Park memorial brick program. Existing brick inventory is available; current pricing, engraving, payment procedures, installation schedule, and promotional materials will be confirmed.
- At event, Swope will coordinate tables/chairs, Quinn will manage trees/program, Moses will handle online selections, Stanford will coordinate volunteers, Pryor will cook food.

School Tree Plantings

- Follow-up emails have been sent to school contacts now that staff have returned from summer break; awaiting responses.
- Board can provide either a student planting/education activity or a simpler Board-led planting. Master Gardeners may be able to assist with youth education.
- Sites will be prioritized by canopy need; board hopes to complete at least one planting by Arbor Day.

Board Vacancy

- City has posted the open Tree Board seat; new member expected to be appointed by next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Date: Monday, September 14, 2026

Time: 4:30pm-6:00pm

Location: Conway City Hall, 1111 Main Street, Conway, AR 72032

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:39pm.