

**Town of Paonia**  
**214 Grand Avenue**  
**Tuesday, July 15, 2025 5:30 PM**  
**Tree Board Minutes**

**Record of Proceedings**

Vice-Chair Newland calls the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

**Roll Call**

Present:

Vice-Chair Newland  
Secretary Patterson  
Board Member Haynie  
Board Member Short  
Board Member Wells  
Board Representative Heck

Absent:

Chair Hottinger

**Approval of Agenda**

Secretary Patterson makes a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Vice-Chair Newland.

The motion carries unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

April 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes  
May 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes  
June 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Vice-Chair Newland makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Seconded by Secretary Patterson.

The motion carries unanimously.

**Actions & Presentations**

Public comments:

None

Item #1: Town Park Trees - Discuss planting of 4 replacement trees in 2025

Discussion focused on the need to replace four trees recently cut down in Town Park. Members agreed on the importance of replacing trees but expressed concern over the lack of a reliable watering system. Suckers from removed trees were deemed inadequate for healthy growth. A consensus emerged that replanting should not happen until a sustainable watering plan is in place, ideally in collaboration with Public Works. Volunteer watering was suggested but must be approved and coordinated with town staff due to liability and access issues.

Item #2: Discuss Details of Sick Tree Day Promotion - August 16, 2025

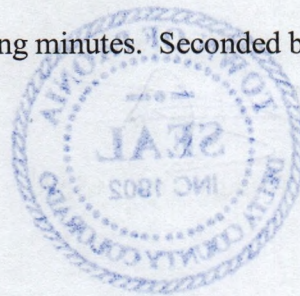
Sick Tree Day is scheduled for August 16, 2025. It will include site visits by arborists and horticultural experts to advise residents on tree health. A mailer, posters, website updates, and text alerts will be used for promotion. Volunteers offered to assist with printing and mailing. The event will run from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM, with approximately ten appointments. There was interest in documenting the day through photos or short videos for future educational use.

Item #3: Tree Board Liaison - Hear from Trustee Heck about his role

Discussion centered around the role of the board liaison. The liaison clarified he is to report information back to the Board of Trustees and is open to serving as a two-way communication channel. It was emphasized that board members should not directly approach staff and that communication should flow through the liaison or formal meetings.

Item #4: Subcommittee Updates

- Town Park Priority - Mark & Tom (Drawings Discussions)



Vice-Chair Newland reviewed potential tree planting locations using the photos he submitted, noting concerns about limited sunlight for young trees due to shading from mature trees. He also clarified that the park is irrigated using water from the Stewart Ditch, while Lees Park relies on domestic water. Secretary Patterson provided a brief history of irrigation at Lees Park, and Board Member Haynie noted that the Public Works Department has significantly reduced overall watering. Vice-Chair Newland suggested utilizing the trail from the parking area as a potential planting site and emphasized that water availability remains the central issue - no planting can proceed until the Town finalizes a water system solution. He also mentioned that the submitted photos could serve as a useful tool for pre-planning tree locations, including ideas for Arbor Day plantings and ornamental trees in areas such as Apple Valley. With the park bleachers now removed, that space may also be considered for future tree planting.

- Watering New Trees (working with Town)

Vice-Chair Newland discussed volunteer efforts with Public Works Director Poulos, and a follow-up is needed with her. A separate meeting with Town Administrator Wynn included enthusiastic support for forming volunteer committees. Board Member Short suggested that the first step should be meeting with Public Works Director Poulos to tour the area, identify current issues, and observe watering activities. Currently, Secretary Patterson is the only volunteer handling watering, though Board Member Short has expressed interest in participating. Board Member Haynie noted the need for a liability waiver for volunteers.

Board Member Short notes that the next meeting date listed on the agenda incorrectly lists August 16, but should reflect Tuesday, August 19, 2025. Correction noted and made.

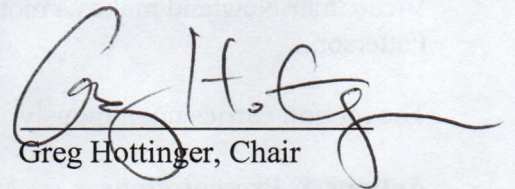
**UPCOMING MEETING:** Tuesday, August 19, 2025 - Town Hall Board Room @ 5:30PM

### Adjournment

Vice-Chair Newland adjourns the meeting at 6:33 PM.

  
Ruben Santiago, Deputy Town Clerk



  
Greg Hottinger, Chair