



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

August 7, 2025

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Joseph Chandler
Mollie Freilicher
Dan Komlo
Kamie Long
Earl Perry
Tanya Travis
Robert Ballard

Board Members Absent:

Bill Cooper

Guests Present:

Debra Foster

City Staff Present:

Jamie Beard, Assistant City Attorney
Rob Davis, Parks Supervisor, Forestry and Open Space
Sarah, Kennedy, Communications Specialist
Allison Little Administrative Specialist

Meeting called to order by Kamie Long at 8:30 AM.

Joseph chandler made a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting. The motion was seconded by Earl Perry and the minutes were accepted by acclamation.

Introductions

New Council Liaison Robert Ballard introduced himself and shared some of his background. The board members introduced themselves to Council Member Ballard.

Public Comments

Debra Foster is a volunteer horticulturist at the Botanic Gardens and is submitting an application for the Board and came to sit in on a meeting.

Chapter 8 Update

Jamie Beard asked the Board for comments on the revisions to Chapter 8. Board members voiced some hesitation about language around alley trees and power lines. The Board had discussed putting restrictions on what size tree a private citizen could maintain on their own to prevent unintended consequences around utility lines. Board members want to ensure citizens are not attempting to maintain trees near powerlines.

Board members also broadly talked through the rules and regulations that were discussed at the sub-committee meeting. So many also reference other standard documents (ANSI standards, ISA Best Practices, etc), board members discussed making the document more manageable. Rob Davis shared

Rules and Regulations from other entities. Some print the applicable ANSI, etc standards, others just reference those documents. Board members scheduled a Rules and Regulations subcommittee meeting for August 28, 8:00am

Farmer's Market

The handouts and sparkly stickers are really popular items. Board members really appreciate the staff help for set up and clean up.

IRA Grant Update

Rob Davis gave Council Member Ballard background on the IRA Grant, and the uncertain status of reimbursement funding which has lead to reduced scope for 2025. Staff continue to work on the installation of irrigation (in planting strip spaces) which will be turned over to the adjacent property owner to own and maintain after installation. Once the irrigation is in place, the City will plant street trees. The area of concentration has experienced canopy loss in the planting strip area. Work must be completed and reimbursements submitted by September 30 (the end of the federal fiscal year).

Saluting Branches on September 17.

Kamie Long shared that the in-person Community Forestry Conference is in Grand Junction at the Western Campus of the State Forest Service on October 16. Rob Davis may have professional development dollars to contribute for speaker fees.

Day of Service

Tom Ziola has proposed this idea of licensed contractors giving back to the community. He has spoken with contractors and is proposing either September or November dates. Rob is waiting for feedback from Tom about contractor date preference.

Rob Davis advised the board that the library presentation is scheduled for August 27 at 6pm.

Rob shared with the board that City Staff have sent letters to a couple of properties whose planting strip trees are not receiving water (per the municipal code property owners are required to water trees in the planting strip).

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 10:01am

Next Meeting – September 4, 8:30 am

Respectfully submitted,
Ali Little, Administrative Specialist