

**City of Oxford Tree Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 5, 2026**

Tree Board:

Cowan Hunter, Chairman

Ed Croom

Josh White

Not in Attendance: Hume Bryant, Mary Hartwell Howorth

Other:

Nick Matthews, Director of Landscape Services, City of Oxford

James Hirsch, Development Services – Planning, City of Oxford

Matt Waller, General Government – Special Projects, City of Oxford

Hannah Carwyle, Development Services – Admin, City of Oxford

Notice that certain aldermen or commissioners may be included in the meeting via teleconference, subject to the City of Oxford Code of Ordinances, Section 2-82.

A. Call to Order

Commissioner Cowan Hunter called the meeting to order at 11:17 A.M.

B. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Hunter noted the need to correct minute approval item C on the agenda to reflect approval of the January 2026 meeting minutes. Commissioner Hunter motioned to approve with the correction, Commissioner Ed Croom seconded; all in favor.

C. Approval of January 2026 Minutes

Commissioner Hunter motioned to approve the January 2026 meeting minutes; Commissioner Croom seconded; all in favor.

D. Department issues and reports

1. Landscape Services

a. Role and Progress so far Supporting Recovery from Winter Storm Fern

Nick Matthews, Director of Landscape Services, discussed recovery progress following Winter Storm Fern. Nick discussed the work being done in road clearing, removing debris from city parks, and facilities.

b. Recent Public Assistance or Information Requests Re: Trees

Commissioner Croom inquired about the debris removal process. Nick discussed DebrisTech and the debris assistance being offered to the public in the wake of Winter Storm Fern, i.e., debris pick-up and removal, and the Environmental Services Department's role in this process. There was discussion.

2. Planning

c. Role and Progress so far Supporting Recovery from Winter Storm Fern

James Hirsch, Development Services – Planning Department, discussed his department's assistance with documenting tree damage on City Right-of-Way/Property utilizing GIS mapping. There was a discussion regarding tree inventories, mitigation, and tree mitigation funds.

d. Current/Pending Development Updates Re: Trees, Mitigation, Etc.

James reminded the Tree Board of the Planning Commission meeting on March 5th at 5:00 P.M.

3. Special Projects

e. Role and Progress so far Supporting Recovery from Winter Storm Fern

Matt Waller, General Government – Special Projects, was introduced to the Tree Board and discussed various proposals to assist with a tree canopy survey, re-planting, and risk assessment in the wake of Winter Storm Fern. He provided information regarding the proposals, and there was discussion regarding the companies being considered. Matt discussed with the Tree Board calling a special meeting to discuss the proposals further, to present a recommendation to the Board of Aldermen at the March 17th meeting.

f. Report Situation Re: White Oak Specimen Tree 904 South 11th

There was no discussion on this item.

E. Business

4. MFC updates

There was no discussion on this item.

5. Consider Ole Miss Big Event Participation

Commissioner Hunter briefly spoke about the annual "Big Event" at Ole Miss and how to sign up to get work done.

F. Move to Adjourn

Commissioner Hunter motioned to adjourn at 12:30 P.M. Commissioner Josh White seconded; all in favor.