

IWOA BOARD MEETING MINUTES, May 19, 2026, Edgewood, Iowa

This was a brief meeting following the IWOA Spring Field Day. The meeting was called to order by President Steve Meyer at approximately 3:10 PM. Board members present were: Steve Meyer, Jim White, Ray Lehn, Ed Kocal, Linda Haugen, Paul Millice, and Tim Meyer. Ruth McAndrews and Phil McCune could not attend.

Ray Lehn moved to approve the April 16, 2026, minutes of the meeting in Amana, which Ruth McAndrews sent out to all board members via email. Jim White seconded. Motion carried.

There was no treasurer's report at this meeting. There was a request to reimburse the cost of Ed Kocal's overnight lodging on the night prior to the field day, as it was not feasible for him to travel home after field day preparations the day before and then back early for the field day. Tim Meyer proposed reimbursement. Jim White seconded. Motion carried.

Notations: During the field day, Steve Meyer gave a brief update to the membership on board activities, including the efforts to reorganize. He mentioned that we have many new members, primarily due to the opportunity recently created to sign up for a first year of membership at no cost. He also noted that the membership can and should grow by members inviting their friends and neighbors who would benefit from receiving sound forest management information. Paul Millice provided a brief update on legislative action that affects woodland owners. He intends to write this up for the newsletter.

Old and Ongoing Business:

Membership and distribution of newsletter: Steve has been able to obtain the email addresses of all 99 County Conservation Officers. He proposed that we send the electronic version of the newsletter to all of them, as we do to all DNR District Foresters. Board agreed.

Reorganization of the IWOA administrative support: President Steve Meyer has spoken with Cathy Wilke, and she is agreeable to whatever organization the board proposes. Linda Haugen moved that we proceed with combining the Membership Secretary with the Treasurer position, into a combined Administrative Assistant with monetary compensation. Ray Lehn seconded. Motion carried. Steve will move forward to drafting a position description for the new position and will share it out with other board members. Since this will require a change to the by-laws, this restructuring will be presented to the membership at the next field day.

Steve updated the board that Ruth has begun the process to apply for 501c3 non-profit organization with federal recognition under the name Iowa Woodland Owners Alliance. This

too will require development of new by-laws (adjusted from the current ones), which will require approval of the membership during a membership meeting at the next field day.

New Business

Iowa Deer Classic: Paul Millice noted that for multiple years IWOA has been able to have a free booth in exchange for providing seminar/workshops at the event. The effort involved in presenting both the seminars and preparing the booth is a heavy workload and he may need a replacement or at least additional assistance to make this possible to continue. There will be further discussion on how to fill this need.

Fall Field Day/Meeting: The location has not yet been selected. The Board discussed trying to have it in September, perhaps near Ames, Iowa. There may be opportunities to include the State Forest Nursery, ISU Forestry, and/or the ISU arboretum (note: the tree collection on ISU campus, the Reimen Gardens, and the Iowa Arboretum near Madrid all are different entities). Ed will talk with Billy Beck about ISU connections; Ray will speak with Jeff Goerndt about nursery.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25

Minutes recorded by Linda Haugen, IWOA Board Member