

Minutes
DCTA Executive Board
Tuesday, August 18, 2026
Rutland Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 1:12 by President Mathies.

Present: Tom Mathies, Mark Porter, Brian Willison, Mary Manering, Martha Gibson, Greg Hyer, Steve Anders.

Also Present: Renee Lauber, DCTA ED; Kent Knutson, Rutland Town Chair.

Approval of 6/16/2026 Meeting minutes (Note: there wasn't a meeting in July.)

Motion: Hyer/Anderson. Approve minutes. Carried.

Approval of Financial Report

Motion: Gibson/Manering. Approve Financial Report. Carried.

Updates from Executive Director

- Facilitated the voting process for the town MPO representative. There were two candidates: Tom Stemrich, Middleton Town Board Supervisor and Chuck Kvalo, Bristol Town Board Supervisor. Chuck Kvalo was elected. Towns in the MPO were notified.
- Attended the Dane County Broadband Task Force meeting on 8/5. The taskforce will be going to quarterly meetings. The work now is focusing on getting to the most difficult locations and the issue of economics/affordability or digital inclusion/equity is moving to the forefront. The DCTA Board asked about rollout plans, dates, and coverage maps. The "big dig" initiative that put conduit in the r-o-w was discussed. Outcomes were discussed: Are there lessons learned; are other road projects incorporating conduit for fiber? A presentation at the next membership meeting was suggested.
- Accepted appointment to state Ag Enterprise Area Petition Review Evaluation Committee from Mike Koles, WTA (replacing Jerry Derr). Attended a training and did detailed review of petitions and provided comments. Attended 8/12 committee meeting that approved 2 new AEAs (one Lincoln County and one in Green County).
- Contact from Town of Oregon to discuss being left out of the CARPC Urban Service Area amendment process. Facilitated Zoom meeting with CARPC Commissioners Steve Greb and Cynthia Richson and Oregon Town Board for strategic discussion. Thank you note received from Oregon. Mathies also discussed process with Oregon.
- Contact with Majid Allen re options to make ADUs more available for those towns that have expressed support for them in their comp plans (Mazo and Rutland have adopted language allowing for the possibility of detached ADUs without requiring a split.) Right now, detached ADUs

are only offered as a CUP in TFR-08, MFR-08, and HAM-R. Those zoning districts are not generally appropriate for larger rural lots. One relatively simple solution would be to create an ADU overlay zoning district, this would allow lots of any size to be approved for an ADU, and would similarly retain town oversight since it'd be a rezone instead of a CUP. We could either keep the current ADU provisions, or modify them if there's interest in doing so. Suggestion to ask Allen to present at September membership meeting.

- MMSD Commissioner, Daniel Paltz is moving from Dunn to Fitchburg and will no longer live in a town. Lauber will send email to towns about the opening soon.
- Corp Counsel to clarify any legal CUP issues related to the proposed OA.
- County Exec called to ask for a recommendation for a Board of Adjustments alternate. Lauber will send notice to towns.

Update on Advisory Committee on Data Centers (Tom)

Mathies reviewed the monthly topics the Advisory Committee is discussing. There has been discussion of extending the timeline to for the Committee's work but no action.

Update on CUP draft ordinance

Discussed in ED Update

Update on proposed county zoning code amendment to allow home burials

Lauber will check in on this.

Review and Consider 2027 DCTA Dues

Motion: Gibson/Manering. Approve \$1,911.46 total dues increase to present to membership. Carried.

Update on Speakers for September Membership Meeting

Lauber directed to Invite Town of Dunkirk to share how they are working with other towns to address solar development; Majid Allen to discuss ADU overlay districts; Jaron MacCallum to give broadband update. Carrie Meier, Dane County Emergency Management has agreed to present on issues facing rural EMS. Town security and things like dash cameras, equipment air tags, sheriff deputy doing town hall security review, Lauber will follow up with speaker Mathies suggested.

WTA update

Mathies attended recent meeting. WTA would like our meeting dates and locations set further in advance so that they can let our legislators know about the meetings. They would also like to be on the meeting agendas.

Updates from Towns

Willison shared information on proposed new 765 kv transmission line.

Motion: Gibson/Hyer. Adjourn at 3:00 pm. Carried.