



**Think Progress. Think Tomorrow. Think GRADD.**

## **GRADD BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

**TO:** Members, Representatives, and Associates of the Board of Directors of the Green River Area Development District

**FROM:** Office of the District

**SUBJECT:** Minutes of the Board of Directors' General Membership Meeting of December 9, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Green River Area Development District (GRADD) held a general membership meeting on December 9, 2020, at 10:30 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom, teleconference, and on Facebook Live. A quorum was present with members in attendance as listed below.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>DAVIESS COUNTY:</b>	Al Mattingly, Jr., Nate Pagan, Robert Howard, Patsy Mayfield, Henrietta Harris
<b>HANCOCK COUNTY:</b>	Johnny Roberts
<b>HENDERSON COUNTY:</b>	Brad Schneider, David Sellers, Steve Austin, William Markwell
<b>McLEAN COUNTY:</b>	Vicki Hughes, Betty Howard
<b>OHIO COUNTY:</b>	David Johnston
<b>UNION COUNTY:</b>	Adam O'Nan, Randy Greenwell
<b>WEBSTER COUNTY:</b>	Steve Henry, Ryan Hammack

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS PRESENT**

GRADD Water Management Council – Pete Conrad  
Green River Economic Development Corporation – Tammy Belt  
Green River Transportation Committee – (Steve Henry)  
Green River Area Council on Aging – (Henrietta Harris)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT

DAVIESS COUNTY:	*Helen Mountjoy
HANCOCK COUNTY:	Franklin Powers, Lora Basham
HENDERSON COUNTY:	Janeth Nicolas
McLEAN COUNTY:	*Curtis Dame
OHIO COUNTY:	*Paul Sandefur, Dean Minton
UNION COUNTY:	Melissa Coker
WEBSTER COUNTY:	*Pat Clark

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS ABSENT

Green River Workforce Development Board – Karen Cecil  
Green River Regional Health Council – Blaine Pieper

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Tim Gillum, Senator Mitch McConnell's Office  
Corey Elder, Congressman James Comer's Office  
Jason Hasert, Congressman Rand Paul's Office  
Alex Caudill, Department for Local Government  
Chris Wooldridge, Murray State University  
Clay Horton, Green River District Health Department  
Buzzy Newman, City of Henderson  
Beau Wright, Ohio County Parks Department  
Steve Gold, Henderson County Fiscal Court  
Roxi Witt, Daviess County  
Joanna Shake, Executive Director, GRADD  
Blake Edge, Director for Community & Economic Development, GRADD  
Jodi Rafferty, Director for Workforce Development, GRADD  
Mariah Myres, Director of Finance, GRADD  
Jennifer Williams, Director for Aging and Social Services, GRADD  
Tom Massie, IT Manager, GRADD  
Gina Boaz, Economic Development Specialist, GRADD  
Jessi Howard, Public Administration Specialist, GRADD  
Luke Hill, Regional Transportation Planner, GRADD  
Cheryl Peters, Accounting Clerk, GRADD  
Beth Ferguson, Accounting Clerk, GRADD  
Sarah Dowell, CDO Finance Assistant, GRADD  
Kristy James, CCC/Family Engagement Coordinator, GRADD  
Sarah Duncan, Participant Directed Services Manager, GRADD  
Rita Gazell, Data Services Coordinator, GRADD  
Brittany Borders, Support Broker, GRADD  
Libby Watson, Social Services Administrative Assistant, GRADD

\*Excused Absence

Therese Payne, Community Development Planner, GRADD

Paula Payne, Workforce Development Program Assistant, GRADD

Donna Conley, Receptionist, GRADD

Kim Wells, Executive Assistant/Communications Manager, GRADD

Cassie Knott, Intern, GRADD

Jon Edge, Consultant, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman David Johnston called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. He asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Johnston welcomed those viewing the meeting via Zoom and those watching via Facebook Live.

Chairman Johnston called on Kim Wells to conduct roll call.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Secretary's Report

Secretary Al Mattingly, Jr., presented the minutes of the October 14, 2020, GRADD Board of Directors meeting and the November 13, 2020, GRADD Executive Committee meeting for approval.

A motion was made by Al Mattingly, Jr., and seconded by Randy Greenwell to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2020, GRADD Board of Directors meeting and the November 13, 2020, GRADD Executive Committee meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Steve Henry presented the treasurer's report for the periods of July 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020, and July 1, 2019 – October 31, 2020.

A motion was made by Steve Henry and seconded by Adam O'Nan to approve the treasurer's report for the periods of July 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020 and July 1, 2019 – October 31, 2020, which is subject to audit. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Treasurer Henry also explained Kemper CPA Group has received final approval of the Fiscal Year 2020 Audit from Mike Harmon, Auditor of Public Accounts.

A motion was made by Steve Henry and seconded by Brad Schneider to approve the Fiscal Year 2020 Audit. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Annual Regional Awards Presentation

Chairman Johnston gave an overview of the GRADD Regional Excellence Awards and explained due to COVID-19, GRADD was not able to hold its annual dinner but did decide to go ahead with the awards.

Roxi Witt presented Green River District Health Department Executive Director, Clay Horton, with the Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award.

Vice Chairman Brad Schneider presented Webster County Emergency Management Director and City of Clay Fire Chief, Jeremy Moore, with the Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award.

Congressman James Comer, via recorded video, presented Henderson County Attorney, Steve Gold, with the Wendell H. Ford Regional Legislative Leadership Award.

Vice Chairman Brad Schneider presented Chairman Johnston and Ohio County with the Community of the Year Award for Ohio County Park update initiative.

#### B. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update

Jessie Howard explained the CEDS is an economic development planning process which analyzes regional strengths and weaknesses and creates an action plan for economic growth. The CEDS is also required by the United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) and allows GRADD to receive EDA funding. The document must be updated annually. The next total rewrite will be done in 2022. Ms. Howard also mentioned the updates to the 2020 document which included: county-level statistics with new ASC data, backgrounds that included major events in 2020, an opportunity zone section, and a discussion on the impact of COVID-19.

Chairman Johnston referenced the adoption of the CEDS Fiscal Year 2020 Update Resolution for approval.

A motion was made by Steve Henry and seconded by Henrietta Harris to approve the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Fiscal Year 2020 Update. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

C. Revolving Loan Fund

Tammy Belt reported the Green River Economic Development Corporation is submitting two loans for approval.

The first is Sherry Pie, Inc. DBA Pizza-A-Roma. Sherry Dillon is requesting \$250,000 of COVID-19 EDA CARES Act funding to start-up at a new location in Owensboro that can serve 182 in the main dining room and 50 additional seats in the proposed patio that will be funded through non-EDA funds.

A motion was made by Adam O’Nan and seconded by Al Mattingly, Jr., to approve the Sherry Pie, Inc., loan in the amount of \$250,000. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

The second loan is for Brasher’s Little Nashville, LLC. Andy Brasher and Tamara Miller are requesting \$50,000 of COVID-19 EDA CARES Act funding to open a music venue and bar at 123 West 2nd Street in Owensboro. The funds will be used for payroll, lease payments, utilities, inventory, and marketing of a new high-end music and bar venue, which will provide eight full-time jobs to be created in the first year with a total of 10 full-time jobs in the second year.

A motion was made by Nate Pagan and seconded by Brad Schneider to approve Brasher’s Little Nashville, LLC, loan in the amount of \$50,000. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

D. Central Equipment Usage Cost

Henrietta Harris explained the Aging Programs own the equipment in the central kitchen, which is in the basement of the Daviess County Senior Community Center. This kitchen is where all seniors congregate and home-delivered meals are prepared and dispersed to the counties for delivery. Canteen is the caterer who prepares the meals. GRADD allows Canteen to prepare meals at the central kitchen for other entities, such as adult day care centers or private pay clients, and they pay a small fee per meal to use the equipment. This money is deposited to be used when the equipment needs to be repaired or replaced. The current charge per meal is 33 cents. Due to the age of the equipment and the rising costs to repair or replace it, the council is recommending this per meal cost be raised to 40 cents, beginning January 1, 2021. Ms. Harris noted that this will not affect the cost of the senior meals that are provided through the aging programs.

A motion was made by Henrietta Harris and seconded by Betty Howard to approve an increase in cost to use the central kitchen equipment to prepare meals, other than for the Title III and Homecare programs, from 33 cents per meal to 40 cents per meal. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

E. Aging Program Fiscal Year 2022 – 2024 Providers for Legal and In-Home Services

Henrietta Harris reported the GRADD Executive Committee and the Aging Council Executive Committee held a joint meeting on November 13, 2020, to review proposals for providers of legal services and in-home services. The current service providers submitted proposals to continue providing services for Fiscal Years 2022, 2023, and 2024, with no competition. These proposals were reviewed, scored and determined to be responsive bidders.

A motion was made by Henrietta Harris and seconded by Al Mattingly, Jr., to approve Kentucky Legal Aid to continue providing legal services and Help At Home to continue providing In-Home Services for Fiscal Years 2022, 2023, & 2024. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

F. Frankfort and Washington Updates

Corey Elder gave an update from Congressman James Comer's office. Mr. Elder reported Congressman Comer has been traveling the district during the recess, speaking with business owners and constituents. Congressman Comer also spoke to the House on the need to safely reopen our economy.

Alex Caudill gave an update from Governor Andy Beshear's office. Mr. Caudill reported a second round of CARES Act funding is available, and the deadline is December 11, 2020. Also, there are still funds available in the Food & Beverage Relief Fund and the Utility Relief Fund.

Jason Hasert gave an update from Senator Rand Paul's office. Mr. Hasert reported Senator Paul has been involved in several video meetings with agriculture leaders and economic development directors in the region. Senator Paul also is encouraging local leaders to speak with their elected officials on the need to reopen schools and businesses.

Tim Gilliam gave an update from Senator Mitch McConnell's office. Mr. Gilliam reported congress is actively working on extending the deadline of government funding through the end of the year, but it is possible it will only be extended one week. Also, Terry Carmack will assume the position of Chief of Staff for Senator McConnell.

G. Service Awards

Chairman Johnston presented GRADD employees Brittany Borders, Sarah Dowell, and Libby Watson with five-year service award plaques; Sarah Duncan with a 15-year service award plaque, and Rita Gazell with a 30-year service award plaque. He thanked them all for their service and dedication to GRADD.

Chairman Johnston also congratulated Rita Gazell as she has announced her retirement at the end of the year.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. GRADD Water Management Council

Chairman Pete Conrad presented the June 18, 2020, and the September 17, 2020, minutes of the GRADD Water Management Council.

A motion was made by Pete Conrad and seconded by Adam O’Nan to approve the June 18, 2020, and the September 17, 2020, minutes of the GRADD Water Management Council. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Chairman Conrad also reported the GRADD Water Management Council met on December 3, 2020. At this meeting, Randall Kelley from Kentucky Rural Water Association discussed how to handle the lifting of the moratorium for cut-offs. He also talked about the Utility Relief Fund. Chairman Conrad congratulated Jodi Rafferty on receiving notification of the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) H2O (Hire to Operate) grant, which was funded. This grant will be a partnership with Kentucky Rural Water Association to pay for training of apprentices in water and wastewater systems. Linda Bridwell has left the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority (KIA) to become the Executive Director of the Public Service Commission. Sandy Williams has returned to KIA as the Assistant Executive Director. The regional water and sewer project rankings were submitted to KIA on December 4, 2020. A total of nine sewer and nine water were projects submitted by GRADD.

B. Green River Economic Development Corporation

Chairperson Tammy Belt presented the September 2, 2020, minutes of the Green River Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

A motion was made by Tammy Belt and seconded by Henrietta Harris to approve the September 22, 2020, minutes of the Green River Economic Development Corporation. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Chairperson Belt also reported the Green River EDC had met on November 4, 2020, to review three loans for approval:

- Burkins Financial Services is requesting \$17,500 to obtain a standalone business location to further enhance services. The goal is also to obtain a securities license to offer greater capital market participation;
- Hollison, LLC is requesting \$200,000 to retain employees and continue to develop new technologies pertaining to the use of probiotics for human, pet, and environmental needs; and
- Sherry Pie Inc. DBA Pizz-A-Roma is requesting \$250,000 to allow Pizz-A-Roma to start-up at a new location in Owensboro that can serve 182 in the main dining room and 50 additional seats in the proposed patio that will be funded through non-EDA funds.

The Green River EDC also met on December 2, 2020, and reviewed one loan for approval.

- Brasher's Little Nashville, LLC is requesting \$50,000 to open a music venue and bar at 123 West 2nd Street in Owensboro. The funds will be used for payroll, lease payments, utilities, inventory, and marketing of a new high-end music and bar venue, which will provide eight full-time jobs to be created in the first year, with a total of 10 full-time jobs in the second year.

Chairperson Belt also reported the nominating committee recommended Austin Vowels to fill the vacant Henderson At-Large member, and the group is still working to fill the vacant Ohio County Banker and the McLean County At-Large members. Lastly, the EDC accepted the nominating committee recommendation for 2021 officers to remain the same. They are Tammy Belt, Chair; Greg Collins, Vice-Chair; and Kim Logsdon, Secretary/Treasurer.

#### C. Green River Area Council on Aging

Chairperson Henrietta Harris presented the October 6, 2020, minutes of the Green River Area Council on Aging.

A motion was made by Henrietta Harris and seconded by Tammy Belt to approve the October 6, 2020, minutes of the Green River Area Council on Aging. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Chairperson Harris also reported the Green River Area Council on Aging had met on December 1, 2020. Kenny Williams, Vice-President of Community Based Services for



Sunrise Children's Services spoke about "Mental Wellness During COVID Holidays."

Provider reports and program updates were also presented. The GRADD Ombudsman Program announced they are currently collecting monetary donations for the Silver Bells Program, which will provide Christmas treats for approximately 90 residents at two personal care homes in the district. The committee recommended that the current 2020 officers continue in their respective roles in 2021. They are Chair, Henrietta Harris; Vice Chair, Franklin Powers; and Secretary, Connie O'Leary.

The Council also approved an increase in the cost for Canteen to use the equipment at the central kitchen to prepare meals for programs outside of the Title III and Homecare programs from 33 cents per meal to 40 cents per meal, beginning January 1, 2021. A committee will be appointed in 2021 to review the equipment procedures and costs in the new year as well. Finally, the Council was presented with a report from the Executive Committee regarding review of proposals with the GRADD Board Executive Committee on November 13, 2020. Kentucky Legal Aid and Help At Home were approved to continue as providers of these services for Fiscal Years 2022, 2023, and 2024.

V. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Jessie Howard presented the following Regional EO:

**McLean County Regional Water Commission Water Treatment Plant**  
McLean County Regional Water Commission KY2020-1029-1239

A motion was made by Al Mattingly, Jr., and seconded by Adam O'Nan to recommend endorsement of the above-stated Regional EO. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Chairman Comments

Chairman Johnston made the following comments:

- Congratulations to Delta Regional Authority Grant Announcement – GRADD received \$150,000 for the Hire to Operate (H2O) program, which will support the Kentucky Rural Water Association's Registered Apprenticeship Program. This program will strengthen the current and future pools of qualified water/wastewater systems operation specialists by providing instruction and hands-on training opportunities. This investment will train 10 individuals in Henderson, McLean, Union and Webster counties;

B. Executive Director Comments

Joanna Shake thanked the GRADD Board of Directors for their leadership and service during the past year. She applauded her GRADD colleagues for their resilience and adaptability during the pandemic and while working remotely.

Ms. Shake also thanked Rita Gazell for her 30 years of dedication to GRADD. She announced that Ms. Gazell's retirement was December 31, 2020, wanted to ensure that folks had an opportunity to extend congratulations and well wishes.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

VIII. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

A. Nominating Committee Report

Chairman Adam O'Nan reported the GRADD Nominating Committee had met on December 4, 2020, and are recommending the following:

Officers for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2021, expiring on December 31, 2021

Chairman	Hon. Brad Schneider
Vice Chairman	Hon. Al Mattingly, Jr.
Secretary	Hon. Steve Henry
Treasurer	Hon. Adam O'Nan

Executive Committee for a one-year term to begin January 1, 2021, expiring on December 31, 2021

Daviess	Hon. Al Mattingly, Jr. Robert Howard Henrietta Harris
Hancock	Hon. Johnny Roberts
Henderson	Hon. Brad Schneider Bill Markwell Janeth Nichols
McLean	Hon. Curtis Dame
Ohio	Hon. David Johnston
Union	Hon. Adam O'Nan
Webster	Hon. Steve Henry

Mayor's Representative for a two-year term ending on December 31, 2022

Henderson	Hon. Steve Austin
McLean	Hon. Betty Howard
Union	Hon. Randy Greenwell

Citizens' Representative for a three-year term ending on December 31, 2023

Daviess	Lauren Osowicz
Hancock	Franklin Powers
Henderson	Bill Markwell
Ohio	Dean Minton
Union	Melissa Coker
Webster	Ryan Hammack

Minority Representative for a three-year term ending on December 31, 2023

Henrietta Harris  
Janeth Nicolas

Chairman/Chairperson for a one-year term ending on December 31, 2021

Henrietta Harris	Green River Area Council on Aging
Tammy Belt	Green River Economic Development Corporation
Hon. Steve Henry	GRADD Regional Transportation
Pete Conrad	GRADD Water Management Council
Karen Cecil	Green River Workforce Board

A motion was made by Adam O’Nan and seconded by Pete Conrad to approve the above-mentioned nominations for GRADD Board of Directors for 2021. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Oath of Office

At this time, Chairman Johnston gave the Oath of Office to the 2021 slate of officers.

Vice Chairman Schneider presented Chairman Johnston with a gavel and thanked him for his leadership to the GRADD Board of Directors.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

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Al Mattingly, Jr., Secretary

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David Johnston, Chairman

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