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## GRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING

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

FROM: Office of the District

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Board of Directors' Annual Meeting of September 11, 2024.

The Board of Directors of the Green River Area Development District (GRADD) held its annual meeting September 11, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. The meeting was held at Canaan Ridge Park, 1600 State Route 132 West, Dixon, KY. A quorum was present with members in attendance listed below.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DAVISS COUNTY:	Judge/Executive Charlie Castlen, Lauren Osowicz
HANCOCK COUNTY:	Judge/Executive Johnny Roberts, Franklin Powers
HENDERSON COUNTY:	Judge/Executive Brad Schneider, Mayor Brad Staton, Mayor David Sellers, Bill Markwell
McLEAN COUNTY:	Judge/Executive Curtis Dame, Vicki Hughes
OHIO COUNTY:	Judge/Executive David Johnston, Mayor Jeff Fuqua
UNION COUNTY:	Judge/Executive Adam O'Nan, Mayor Randy Greenwell
WEBSTER COUNTY:	Judge/Executive Steve Henry, Mayor Pat Clark, Ryan Hammack

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS PRESENT

Green River Economic Development Corporation – Brad Davis  
GRADD Hazard Mitigation Council - Jeremy Moore  
GRADD Water Management Council – (Judge/Executive Johnny Roberts)  
Green River Workforce Development Board - Mickey Dunbar  
Green River Transportation Committee - (Judge/Executive Adam O'Nan)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT

DAVISS COUNTY:	*Mayor Tom Watson, *Mayor Patsy Mayfield, *Henrietta Harris, *Robert Howard
HANCOCK COUNTY:	*Mayor Chad Gregory
HENDERSON COUNTY:	*Janeth Nicolas
McLEAN COUNTY:	*Mayor Betty Howard
OHIO COUNTY:	*Mayor Paul Sandefur

\*Excused absence



Steve Henry, Chairman | Adam O'Nan, Vice Chairman | Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Secretary | Curtis Dame, Treasurer | Joanna Shake, Executive Director

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UNION COUNTY: \*Melissa Coker  
WEBSTER COUNTY: All present

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS ABSENT

Green River Area Council on Aging - (\*Henrietta Harris)

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

GRADD welcomed guests from its seven-county region as well as from across the Commonwealth.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steve Henry called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Chad Townsend led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Randy Norman, Webster County Road Supervisor and City of Dixon council member opened the meeting with prayer.

II. WELCOME

Chairman Steve Henry welcomed members and guests to Canaan Ridge Park and gave a bit of history on the park. Acquired in 2021 by the Webster County Fiscal Court, Canaan Ridge Park offers a lake for fishing or kayaking, hiking trails and several covered shelters. The Park has received funding to build a playground as well. The first big event that welcomed guests to the park was the eclipse on April 8, 2024.

A. Sponsor Recognition

Chairman Steve Henry thanked sponsors of the event and noted without their partnership GRADD would not be able to offer an event like this for its cities and counties. He asked Wade Gaynor from Independence Bank to come forward and say a few words as GRADD's Annual Meeting title sponsor.

Mr. Gaynor thanked Chairman Henry for the opportunity to partner with GRADD. He noted this is just one of several initiatives that Independence Bank partners with GRADD and they are looking forward to many more in the future.

Chairman Henry also expressed appreciation to other esteemed sponsors of the annual meeting: Atmos Energy, Big Rivers, Century Aluminum, Kenergy, Owensboro Municipal Utilities, Phil Brown Insurance, River View Coal and Scotty's Contracting.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Curtis Dame presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of July 1, 2024 – July 31, 2024.

A motion was made by Curtis Dame and seconded by Adam O'Nan to approve the Treasurer's Report for the period July 1, 2024 – July 31, 2024, which is subject to audit. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Treasurer Dame noted the reporting format has changed, but the same information is available. GRADD's Finance Committee will be meeting within the next month to discuss a revised budget and health insurance renewal rates for 2025.

#### IV. YEAR IN REVIEW

Joanna Shake thanked Webster County for hosting the annual meeting and recognized the hard work of Chairman Steve Henry, Jeremy Moore, Randy Norman and Zara Toal. Mrs. Shake also expressed much gratitude to Kim Wells for efforts in coordinating the event. Mrs. Shake acknowledged that GRADD is often recognized as one of the top Area Development Districts (ADD) in the Commonwealth and explained that what sets GRADD apart is its leadership. She further explained it's not exclusive to elected officials but all public servants who serve in city halls, courthouses, utilities, senior centers and nonprofits within the District.

Mrs. Shake referenced the Fiscal Year 2024 Impact Report and thanked the GRADD communities for allowing GRADD to partner with them to achieve their goals. She thanked Jessie Saalwaechter for creating the impressive document and expressed much appreciation to GRADD's excellent staff, noting they serve each day with passion and purpose. Mrs. Shake closed her remarks with thanking everyone for attending and expressing optimism for the year ahead.

#### V. AWARD PRESENTATION

The Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award, Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award and Wendell H. Ford Legislative Leadership Award have been awarded to recipients since 2002. These awards provide GRADD with a valuable opportunity to honor some of the most effective leaders in the region and recognize their outstanding public service contributions. Additionally, it is the fourteenth presentation of the Community of the Year Award that showcases a city or county who has demonstrated exceptional innovation, directly benefiting its residents.

The following awards were presented:

- Sonny Renfrow presented the Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award to Kim Humphrey for her countless initiatives that have brought about positive change, contributions and commitment to the GRADD region;
- Franklin Powers presented the Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award to Mike Baker for his leadership as an exemplary individual who unfailingly, selflessly and effectively works with others to ensure a future for the region through economic growth and an optimal quality of life for its members;
- Vice Chairman Adam O'Nan presented the Wendell H. Ford Legislative Leadership Award to Senator Steve Meredith who was instrumental in opening doors at the State and at the Cabinet for Health and Family Services supporting the Medicaid Waiver Program, resulting in a 21-percent increase in funding across the Commonwealth; and

- Mayor Brad Staton with the City of Henderson presented the Community of the Year Award to the City of Morganfield for their Morganfield Homestead Park Project. This project has transformed a vacant brownfield into a beautiful space for residents to relax, play and gather in downtown Morganfield. The park has provided a central location for events and has also increased visitors both locally and beyond, benefiting local businesses. The spray park is currently under construction and will offer fun and safe recreation opportunities for Morganfield families.


VI. CLOSING COMMENTS


Chairman Steve Henry closed by thanking the GRADD Board of Directors, GRADD Executive Committee and GRADD staff for their dedication, hard work, and insightful guidance. He went on to say, through collective efforts and shared vision GRADD continues to make significant strides and reach new milestones.

Chairman Henry emphasized that while we have much to celebrate today, we must remember and honor the many men and women who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

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

  
Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Secretary

  
Stephen R. Henry, Chairman

/kw