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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 10, 2025.

The Board of Directors of the Green River Area Development District (GRADD) held its annual meeting September 10, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. The meeting was held at Reid's Orchard, 4818 Kentucky 144, Owensboro KY. A quorum was present with members in attendance listed below.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- DAVIESS COUNTY: Judge/Executive Charlie Castlen, Mayor Patsy Mayfield, Nate Pagan, Henrietta Harris, Lauren Osowicz
- HANCOCK COUNTY: Judge/Executive Johnny Roberts, Mayor Chad Gregory, Franklin Powers
- HENDERSON COUNTY: Judge/Executive Brad Schneider, Mayor Brad Staton, Mayor David Sellers, Janeth Nicolas
- McLEAN COUNTY: Judge/Executive Curtis Dame, Mayor Betty Howard, Vicki Hughes
- OHIO COUNTY: Judge/Executive David Johnston, Mayor Jeff Fuqua
- UNION COUNTY: Judge/Executive Adam O’Nan, Mayor Randy Greenwell, Melissa Coker
- 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)
- Green River Area Council on Aging - (Henrietta Harris)

*Excused absence



Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Chairman | Adam O’Nan, Vice Chairman | Curtis Dame, Secretary | Charlie Castlen, Treasurer | Joanna Shake, Executive Director

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT

DAVISS COUNTY:	*Robert Howard
HANCOCK COUNTY:	All present
HENDERSON COUNTY:	*Bill Markwell
McLEAN COUNTY:	All present
OHIO COUNTY:	*Mayor Paul Sandefur
UNION COUNTY:	All present
WEBSTER COUNTY:	All present

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS ABSENT

All present

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Johnny “Chic” Roberts called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. and led with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. WELCOME

Chair Johnny “Chic” Roberts welcomed members and guests to Reid’s Orchard and noted guests in attendance including legislators and those outside of the District. He announced lunch was served.

III. Sponsor Recognition

Chair Johnny “Chic” Roberts expressed GRADD’s appreciation to the sponsors of the annual meeting. He noted their steadfast commitment and engagement are instrumental not only to the success of GRADD’s Annual Meeting, but also to the enduring positive impact fostered throughout the Green River region. Title sponsor for the 2025 GRADD Annual Meeting is Independence Bank. Other sponsors recognized were Atmos Energy, Big Rivers, Century Aluminum, Kenergy, Owensboro Municipal Utilities, Phil Brown Insurance and River View Coal.

IV. YEAR IN REVIEW

Joanna Shake, Executive Director thanked Kim Wells for all her hard work in coordinating the Annual Meeting. Director Shake referenced the Impact Report highlighting the accomplishments of the District’s communities. She thanked the cities and counties for partnering with GRADD and reiterated that the team serves as their extended staff. She recognized Bryan Kennedy, GRADD Communications Director, for his work creating the report. Director Shake thanked the Board for its continued support as well as its guidance and discernment. She expressed appreciation to the GRADD squad for its dedication, passion to serve and it’s “can do” attitude.

V. AWARD PRESENTATION

The Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award, Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award and Wendell H. Ford Legislative Leadership Award provide GRADD with an opportunity to honor some of the most effective leaders in the region and recognize their outstanding public service contributions. Additionally, the Community of the Year Award showcases a city or county who has demonstrated exceptional innovation, directly benefiting its residents.

The following awards were presented:

- Kim Humphrey presented the Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award to Alma Randolph Crump. Mrs. Randolph Crump has made it her mission to meet the needs of disadvantaged children. The Foundation, through annual fundraising has provided new school clothes for 17,573 disadvantaged children. To expand the Foundation's impact, the Black & White Gala, an annual fundraising dinner raises funds through collected tips. To date 91 families have been blessed with new furniture, washers and dryers, household items and home décor
- Judge/Executive Brad Schneider presented the Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award to Deneatra Henderson with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for her advocacy and steadfast hand in times of crisis. Mrs. Henderson proves week in and week out, she is working behind the scenes, helping communities improve roads, guiding local leaders and showing how to leverage Kentucky Transportation Cabinet resources to maximize taxpayer benefits.
- Senator Stephen Meredith presented the Wendell H. Ford Legislative Leadership Award to Judge/Executive Steve Henry. Judge/Executive Steve Henry is one of only two elected officials in the GRADD region serving on the Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts, where he chairs the Legislative Committee. For the past four years, he has been instrumental in championing statewide legislative priorities amplifying the voice of local governments, proving that the greatest impact comes when elected officials champion issues that matter to their communities.
- Mayor Randy Greenwell with the City of Morganfield presented the Community of the Year Award to the City of Sturgis. In 2023, Sturgis faced what many believed was its end after its mayor and city council had resigned. With new leadership and newly formed city council, Mayor Billy Adams and the council chose not to give in to despair. Instead, rolling up their sleeves, put the past behind them and got to work. Compliance with the Department of Local Government was one of the most urgent challenges. Through discipline and determination, the city's leadership brought Sturgis back into full compliance, a milestone that not only restored credibility but gave the city a fresh start. The City was also able to secure a \$2 million grant from the Delta Regional Authority to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant. In addition, another \$2 million in grant funding is now dedicated to replacing and improving water lines, ensuring residents have access to reliable, high-quality water. The City of Sturgis has shown what true community leadership and resilience can achieve, making it a well-deserving recipient.

VI. CLOSING COMMENTS


Chair Johnny "Chic" Roberts closed by thanking the GRADD Board of Directors, GRADD Executive Committee and GRADD staff for their hard work and insightful guidance.

Chair Roberts noted that he would be remised if he did not mention the retiring of executive director Joanna Shake in 2026. He thanked Mrs. Shake for her dedication, leadership and acknowledged the lasting difference she has made in the Green River Region.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

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


Curtis Dame, Secretary


Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Chairman

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