GRADD
Green River Area Development District

300 GRADD Way
Owensboro, Kentucky
42301-0200
GRADD.COM

GRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS 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 Meeting of September 9, 2026

The Board of Directors of the Green River Area Development District (GRADD) held its monthly meeting September 9, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. The meeting was held at the Green River Area Development District, 300 GRADD Way, Owensboro, KY. Members in attendance are 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:	Mayor Brad Staton, Mayor Ronda Moore Smith, Bill Markwell, 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 CHAIRS PRESENT

Green River Area Council on Aging - (Henrietta Harris)
Green River Transportation Committee - (Judge/Executive Adam O'Nan)
Green River Workforce Development Board - Mickey Dunbar

*Excused absence

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT

DAVIESS COUNTY:	*Robert Howard
HANCOCK COUNTY:	All present
HENDERSON COUNTY:	*Judge/Executive Brad Schneider
McLEAN COUNTY:	All present
OHIO COUNTY	*Mayor Paul Sandefur
UNION COUNTY:	All present
WEBSTER COUNTY:	All present

COMMITTEE CHAIRS ABSENT

Green River Economic Development Corporation – *Brad Davis
GRADD Water Management Council – *Eric Hickman
GRADD Hazard Mitigation Council - *Jeremy Moore

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Rep. Suzanne Miles, Kentucky State Representative
Travis Burton, U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
Gregory Thomas, U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
Mayor Sharon Nell Boyken, City of Livermore
Mayor LaDonna Tapp, City of Uniontown
Alex Caudill, Department for Local Government
Pam Morris, City of Whitesville
Max Karlin, Congressman Brett Guthrie's Washington Office
Hunter Imbach, Congressman Brett Guthrie's Washington Office
Kenny Williams, Executive Director, GRADD
Kemp Morgan, Deputy Director, GRADD
Cory Alexander, Director of Finance, GRADD
Leslie Wilson, Director of Aging and Social Services, GRADD
Sarah Duncan, Director of Waiver Services, GRADD
Michelle Drake, Director of Workforce Development, GRADD
Bryan Kennedy, Communications Officer, GRADD
Devan Clark, HR Specialist, GRADD
Jenna Whitsell, Staff Accountant, GRADD
Lisa Moss, Staff Accountant, GRADD
Natosha Tekos, Staff Accountant, GRADD
Jill Gray, Assistant Director, Workforce Development, GRADD
Paula Payne, Workforce Development Coordinator, GRADD
Alisha Smith, Workforce Development Youth Coordinator, GRADD
Jennifer Alvey, GIS Analyst, GRADD
Monte Davenport, Local Government Advisor, GRADD
Amy Matheny, Community Development Planner, GRADD
Leslie Rusher, Public Administration Specialist, GRADD
Alexandra Bennett, Community Projects Coordinator, GRADD
Amber Gebhard, Community Partners Manager, GRADD
Lauren Wellman, Aging Case Manger Supervisor, GRADD

Tiffanye Corsey, Aging Case Manager, GRADD
Mary Poirier, Aging Case Manager, GRADD
Tiffany Lndsey, ADRC/SHIP Coordinator, GRADD
Libby Watson, Contracts Manager, GRADD
Amy Rowe, Case Management PDS Supervisor, GRADD
Kim Wells, Executive Assistant, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Johnny "Chic" Roberts called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Mickey Dunbar opened the meeting with prayer. Chair Johnny "Chic" Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed guests to the meeting.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Secretary's Report

Secretary Curtis Dame presented the August 12, 2026 minutes of the GRADD Board of Directors meetings.

> A motion was made by Curtis Dame and seconded by Randy Greenwell to approve the August 12, 2026 and minutes of the GRADD Board of Directors. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Secretary Curtis Dame presented the August 12, 2026 minutes of the GRADD Executive Committee meeting.

> A motion was made by Curtis Dame and seconded by Charlie Castlen to approve the August 12, 2026 minutes of the GRADD Executive Committee. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Charlie Castlen presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of July 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026.

Treasurer Charlie Castlen reported for the month ending July 31, 2026, GRADD has generated total revenues of $5.7 million and incurred total expenses of $5.2 million, resulting in a year-to-date operating surplus of $500 thousand. At the end of the first month of our new fiscal year, revenues and expenses were expected to be 8.33% of budget. Revenues met expectations, coming in at 10.64% of budget while expenses came in at 9.98%. The primary reason for this was due to Waiver PDS revenues and related expenses coming in higher than anticipated.

As of June30, 2026, GRADD maintained an operating cash balance of $4.43 million, representing approximately seven months of operating expenditures, along with $6.30 million in administrative reserves. Overall, GRADD remains in an exceptionally strong financial position.

A motion was made by Charie Castlen and seconded by David Johnston to approve the Treasurer's Report for the period of July 1, 2026 - July 31, 2026, which is subject to audit. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Guest Speaker

Chair Johnny "Chic" Roberts introduced Travis Burton, Kentucky State Director for the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

Travis Burton gave an overview of Rural Development Kentucky, he explained the mission is to improve economic prosperity and quality of life in rural Kentucky. From 2025 to present Rural Development Kentucky has funded over $24 million into business programs, multifamily housing, single family housing and water and environmental projects in the seven county GRADD region. Other specialty programs include the Intermediary Relending Program, Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program, Rural Business Development Grant, Rural Cooperative Development Grant and the Value-Added Producer Grant.

B. Nominating Committee Appointment

Chair Johnny "Chic" Roberts appointed Judge/Executive Steve Henry, Mayor Brad Staton and Melissa Coker to serve on the Nominating Committee.

C. Service Awards

Chairman Johnny "Chic" Roberts presented a 30-year service award to Jill Gray. Chair Roberts thanked Ms. Gray for her dedication to GRADD.

D. Committee Reports

1. Green River Area Council on Aging

Chair Henrietta Harris reported the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) will begin open enrollment for Medicare Part D starting October 15-December 7, 2026. The Aging and Social Services Department will have two services going out for bid the In-Home Services and Legal Assistance Programs. Andrew Law, GRADD's District Long Term Care Ombudsman will be celebrating Residents Rights month and will host a forum for nursing home residents and staff on October 21, 2026 at the GRADD office.

September is National Senior Center Month. Senior Centers play a vital role in helping older adults live healthy, connected and independent lives. The next Green river Area Council on Aging meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2026.

2. Green River Economic Development Corporation (EDC)

Kenny Williams reported Monte Davenport is currently working with two potential loan clients and has sent out six applications in the last month. Mr. Davenport recently spoke to the Webster County Chamber of Commerce regarding the Revolving Loan Program. The next meeting of the Green River EDC is scheduled for October 7, 2026.

3. GRADD Hazard Mitigation Council

Kenny Williams reported the next quarterly meeting of the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Council is scheduled for October 20, 2026. GRADD staff will be reaching out to each jurisdiction to schedule public meetings for the Hazard Mitigation Plan update. Meetings will review local hazards and vulnerabilities, evaluate existing mitigation actions, identify and prioritize new projects and gather public input.

4. GRADD Regional Transportation Committee (RTC)

Chair Adam O'Nan presented the minutes of the June 1, 2026 meeting of the GRADD Regional Transportation Committee.

> A motion was made by Adam O'Nan and seconded by Steve Henry to approve the June 1, 2026 minutes of the GRADD Regional Transportation Committee. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Chair Adam O'Nan reported GRADD Regional Transportation Committee met on August 24, 2026. At this meeting, reviewed were the list of transportation projects that are funded in the new Enacted Highway Plan, the Public Involvement Plan and Regional Transportation Asset Inventory documents. The next meeting of the GRADD Regional Transportation Committee is scheduled for November 30, 2026.

5. GRADD Water Management Council

Kenny Williams reported six Kentucky Water/Wastewater applications were submitted in August for potential funding. The next meeting of the GRADD Water Management Council is scheduled for September 17, 2026.

6. Green River Workforce Development Board

Chair Mickey Dunbar reported in an effort to better serve individuals affected by substance disorders, the Workforce Development staff will be attending an event at Rooted Recovery to provide support with resume development and interview preparation.

Workforce Development staff will also be attending the Ohio County Pre-Release Class on September 16, 2026. The pre-release class is a program designed to help individuals prepare for their transition back into the community after incarceration or detention.

On September 21, 2026 in conjunction with KY VALOR, GRADD will be celebrating Representative DJ Johnson for his support and dedication of the VALOR Program. There will also be an opportunity to connect with Kentucky's workforce leaders, community leaders, local businesses and veterans. The event is free to attend but pre-registration is requested. Take-Off Tuesday Job Fairs continue every other week at the Kentucky Career Center. These provide job seekers with the opportunity for on-site interviews.

E. Executive Director Report

Kenny Williams reported the following:

- Andrew Law and Britny Miller attended the Fatherhood Engagement Roundtable Kickoff to join community partners in discussing ways to support fathers and strengthen families;
- Monte Davenport spoke at the Webster County Chamber of Commerce meeting regarding the benefits of the Revolving Loan Fund;
- GRADD was proud to once again support the Alma Randolph Charitable Foundation and the H.U.T.S. Gala. In total, more than $60,000 was raised;
- Michelle Drake attended the Kentucky Society for Human Resource Management (KYSHRM) Conference at the Galt House; and
- Past Aging & Social Services Directors, Bill Cooper, Jennifer Williams and Vivian McNatton recently had the chance to sit down with current Director Leslie Wilson to discuss the program past and present.

F. Frankfort and Washington Updates

Representative Suzanne Miles reported Congressman Brett Guthrie has been traveling the District and will be in Daviess County today.

Alex Caudill from the Department for Local Government congratulated Owensboro and Daviess County for the recently announced Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA) approved up to $1 million in tax incentives for a proposed $41.1 million expansion by Toyotetsu Mid America. The Local Assistance Road Program (LARP) deadline is fast approaching, applications are due by October 1, 2026. Mr. Caudill also thanked those that attended the Governors Local Issues Conference in August. The three-day event hosted 600 individuals in Louisville.

IV. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Monte Davenport, Local Government Advisor, presented the following regional Executive Order.

Webster County VHF P25 Repeater Replacement (2025-115-SHSGP)
Webster County Fiscal Court KY202607301097

A motion was made by Charlie Castlen and seconded by Bill Markwell to recommend endorsement of the above-stated Regional Executive Order. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

V. CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Johnny "Chic" Roberts made the following announcements:

- Congratulations to the Daviess County Fiscal Court and the City of Owensboro on the recent $1 million grant announcement from the Kentucky Product Development Initiative (KPDI) and the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA). This will complete the next phase of development for the 121-acre Massie Site;
- Congratulations to the City of Beaver Dam on the more than $1.75 million grant funding announcement. Funds will be used to help bring an inclusive playground and splash pad to Beaver Dam Park;
- Save the date for the GRADD Annual meeting which will take place on October 7, 2026 at Grand Stable Venue. Invitations will be going out soon; and
- GRADD's 2026 Regional Excellence and Community of the Year Award packets have been sent out. Nominations can be made through September 17, 2026. This is an opportunity to recognize outstanding individuals and communities for achievements, dedication and contributions to the GRADD region. Winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

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

VI. AWARD PRESENATION

For more than two decades, GRADD has had the privilege of recognizing the people, organizations and ideas that help make the GRADD region a stronger, more vibrant place. The GRADD Regional Awards have been a way to pause from the everyday work, look around the region and celebrate the accomplishments that deserve to be noticed.

The Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award; Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award; and the Wendell H. Ford Legislative Leadership Award affords us the opportunity to recognize our region's best leaders and public service to improve the lives of citizens. The Community of Year Award recognizes a community that has initiated a major effort to improve the quality of life for its residents.

The following awards were presented:

- Charles Reid Regional Citizenship Award - Bart Darrell;
- Texal Brooks Regional Leadership Award - Judge/Executive David Johnston;
- Wendell H. Ford Legislative Leadership Award - Representative Scott Lewis; and
- Community of Year Award - City of Hartford, Ellis Park Revitalization.

VII. CLOSING COMMENTS

Chairman Johnny "Chic" Roberts thanked the GRADD Board of Directors for their time, commitment and service to GRADD. He also recognized the GRADD staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment to GRADD.

Chairman Johnny "Chic" Roberts noted the November GRADD Board of Directors will be rescheduled to November 4, 2026 instead of November 11, 2026 due to Veterans Day.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

Curtis Dame, Secretary

Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Chair

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