



300 GRADD Way
Owensboro, Kentucky
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**GREEN RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

TO: Green River Area Development District Board of Directors
FROM: Hon. Curtis Dame, Secretary
SUBJECT: Minutes of the GRADD Executive Committee - February 11, 2026

The Executive Committee of the Green River Area Development District (GRADD) held a meeting on February 11, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held at the GRADD office, 300 GRADD Way, Owensboro, Kentucky. A quorum was present with members in attendance listed below.

GRADD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| DAVIESS COUNTY: | Charlie Castlen Henrietta Harris |
| HANCOCK COUNTY: | Johnny Roberts |
| HENDERSON COUNTY: | Brad Schneider Bill Markwell |
| McLEAN COUNTY: | Curtis Dame |
| OHIO COUNTY: | David Johnston |
| UNION COUNTY: | None present |
| WEBSTER COUNTY: | None present |

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ABSENT

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| DAVIESS COUNTY: | *Robert Howard |
| HANCOCK COUNTY: | All present |
| HENDERSON COUNTY: | Janeth Nicolas |
| McLEAN COUNTY: | All present |
| OHIO COUNTY: | All present |
| UNION COUNTY: | *Adam O’Nan |
| WEBSTER COUNTY: | *Steve Henry |

*Excused absence

Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Chairman | Adam O’Nan, Vice Chairman | Curtis Dame, Secretary | Charlie Castlen, Treasurer | Kenneth J. Williams, Executive Director



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GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Kenny Williams, Executive Director, GRADD
Kemp Morgan, Deputy Director, GRADD
Mariah Myres, Director of Finance & Administration, GRADD
Leslie Wilson, Director of Aging & Social Services, GRADD
Skyler Stewart, Director of Community & Economic Development, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Johnny "Chic" Roberts called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Chair Johnny "Chic" Roberts noted that Secretary Curtis Dame would be late and asked that the Committee proceed with the agenda minus the Executive Director and Deputy Director Salary Approval until Secretary Dame arrives.

II. NEW BUSINESS

1. Aetna Contract Dissolution

Kenny Williams explained that the Aetna contract, approved by the GRADD Board of Directors in July 2024, is an excellent program when properly implemented. Its purpose is to follow up with clients after hospitalization to assist with medications, physician appointments, and other needs in order to prevent readmission. However, GRADD has faced challenges due to leadership changes at Aetna as well as since November 1, 2025, Aetna has locked GRADD out of its referral system. Despite multiple attempts to resolve the issue, access has not been restored. As a result, GRADD staff have requested dissolution of the contract with Aetna. Mr. Williams noted that revenue to date totals \$6,841.68, while expenses have reached \$9,515.63, resulting in a loss of \$2,673.95 since the program began in February 2025. GRADD contacted 85 clients who either declined services or could not be reached and 57 referrals were determined to be ineligible.

A motion was made by Brad Schneider and seconded by Charlie Castlen David Johnson to terminate the Aetna Contract. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

2. Maternity Care - Sick Leave Transfer Policy Amendment

Kenny Williams proposed a revision to the current Sick Leave Transfer Policy to allow donated sick leave to be used for maternity-related absences. Under the existing policy, employees may donate sick leave to a coworker experiencing a long-term or catastrophic medical condition, but maternity leave is specifically excluded. The proposed change would allow employees to voluntarily donate sick leave for maternity purposes, following the same guidelines already in place for other medical situations. The employee receiving donated leave must first exhaust all accrued sick and vacation time. Donations would be capped at 225 hours to limit organizational liability and prevent extended absences beyond approximately six weeks.

A motion was made by Charlie Castlen and seconded by Curtis Dame to approve amending the sick leave transfer policy to include maternity leave. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

3. ConnectGRADD Inc. Update

Judge/Executive Brad Schneider discussed the status and potential dissolution of ConnectGRADD, Inc (CGI) which was originally created about 25 years ago to provide basic internet service to underserved areas. While it served an important purpose at the time, advances in technology and expanded service options have made the system largely obsolete.

Watch Communications, the current vendor, has been struggling financially and has not provided revenue-sharing payments for at least eight months. CGI currently has approximately \$146,000-\$157,000 in its bank account, funded over time through revenue sharing. Watch offered to transfer full ownership of the equipment to CGI, including liability and future decommissioning costs. However, decommissioning costs would exceed the funds available, making that option unfavorable.

CGI is now negotiating an agreement to transfer CGI-owned equipment to Watch, with the condition that Watch continue serving customers until 2027. This would allow time for customers to transition to other providers. Equipment in Hopkins and Henderson counties, funded through the Delta Regional Authority (DRA), cannot simply be transferred due to ownership and grant restrictions. For that equipment, counties would assume insurance coverage, Watch would cover deductibles, and funds would be escrowed for decommissioning after 2028. Service would continue there through 2028.

Judge Schneider explained the goal of the agreement is to eliminate future financial obligations for the counties and avoid costly decommissioning expenses. The CGI met February 9, 2026 and authorized continued negotiations, with a formal proposal to be presented to Watch soon.

4. Executive Director and Deputy Director Salary Approval

Secretary Curtis Dame requested the members enter closed session.

A motion was made by Curtis Dame and seconded by Charlie Castlen to approve the GRADD Executive Committee enter closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Brad Schneider and seconded by David Johnston to return to open meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Secretary Curtis Dame reported that the Executive Director/Deputy Director Search Committee is recommending an annual salary of \$125,000 for the Executive Director position and \$107,500 for the Deputy Director position.

A motion was made by Brad Schneider and seconded by David Johnston to approve the annual salaries for Executive Director and Deputy Director. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. ADJOURNMENT

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

/kw



Curtis Dame, Secretary



Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Chair