



BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
August 5, 2020  
Blackman Township Hall and ZOOM

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Price at 7:08 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** Kenny Price, Jack Ripstra, Deb Snell, Kay Brown, Cathy Jehnzen (Zoom), Dan Kaser, John Minar (Zoom), Kurt Rudolph (Zoom), and Benji Ward (Zoom)

**Absent:** Jon Hoyle Kurt LaFrance, Jeff Lolkus,

**Guests:** none

**AGENDA REVIEW:**

There was a motion to accept the emailed agenda as amended by Jack Ripstra, seconded by Kay Brown, and approved by all

**MINUTES:**

There was a motion to accept the emailed July minutes as sent by Dan Kaser, seconded by Deb Snell, and approved by all.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:**

Deb reported that there were two membership renewals. We have 76 paid memberships for the calendar year. Deb noted that the new computer is in hand, but needs to set up.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer's Balance Sheet, Budget Comparison and Profit & Loss reports were emailed out. Jack reported that at the end of June 2020 there was a total in cash (restricted and checking) of \$15,865.43. The P&L Statement shows that we are \$412.39 to the good.

**RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:**

Jack and Dan are looking to clear from Lions Park to Stonegate Farms in two weeks in preparation for the clean up.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Kenny had the following discussion items:

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- July Paddle – The July 11 Paddle was held at Vandercook Lake. There were 7 attendees from the general public and 5 Board members present. The gathering after the paddle at Flavor Fruit Farms was well received.
- August Paddle – The August 8 Paddle will be at Thorn/Watkins Lake. There has been only 1 boat requested from a member. The board discussed the trailer and boat needs.
- September River Clean-up – All agreed to continue with the Annual River Clean up in a scaled down manner as previously described. There will be no food and transportation provided. Canoes will be launched from RA Greene Park. Jack will send out the flyer for the event.
- October Paddle – The originally scheduled trip for the Grand River will be held with a slight modification. The Put-in and Take-out will all be at Trestle Park on Dixon Rd. The paddle will be out and back from that point.
- Environmental Actions – Kenny revisited the suggestion of Benji at the last meeting about some

kind of partnership with the Native American community, and the Conservation District. Kurt will look into the work done by the Potawatomi on the St Joseph River that was shown on WKAR a while back.

**Standing Committees:**

**Communication/Newsletter:** Katie Snell might be called upon to assist with the Newsletter.

**Finances:** No report.

**Activities & Calendar:** No report

**Education & Advocacy:** No report.

**Annual Cleanup:** No report.

**Nominations:** No report.

**GREAT Equipment:** No report.

**River Debris Removal:** No report.

**GREAT land and building:** No report.

**AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Water Trail:** No report.

**Grand River Trail Map and Booklet:** on hold.

**RELATED GROUPS:**

**Watershed Council:** No report.

**Earth Day:** No report.

**JCCD:.** No report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Nothing to review.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Nothing new to review.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12.

The next monthly meeting will be September 2, 2020 at Blackman Township Hall at 7:00 P.M. and via ZOOM.

Kurt Rudolph, Recorder of Minutes

*The mission of GREAT is to promote the protection and preservation of the Grand River Watershed through activities and educational programs.*