



BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
August 11, 2022  
Blackman Township Hall

The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Kenny Price at 7:07 P.M. This meeting was rescheduled due to a storm related power outage the prior week.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** Kenny Price, Jack Ripstra, Kay Brown, John Minar, Kurt Rudolph, Deb Snell, and Benji Ward.

**Absent:** Cathy Jehnzen, Dan Kaser, and Kurt LaFrance

**AGENDA REVIEW:**

There was a motion to accept the amended emailed agenda by Kurt Rudolph, seconded by Jack Ripstra, and approved by all.

**MINUTES:**

There was a motion to accept July minutes as emailed by Kay Brown, seconded by Jack Ripstra, and approved by all.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:**

Deb reported that we have 64 paid members. A renewal letter still needs to go out.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer mailed out a Balance Sheet, a Budget Comparison, and a Profit & Loss sheet. Jack reported that we have total assets of \$19,203.07. There is still money (\$444.73) in the Pole Barn fund.

**RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:**

Jack noted that there is a large log jam due east of the GREAT pole barn and a second North of the Stonegate neighborhood. It is suspected that a tornado damaged the area around RA Greene Park (Jackson WWTP) last week causing a release of untreated wastewater.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Kenny had no report.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **August Paddle** – One canoe and seven kayaks have been reserved. The board member assignments were reviewed. Those meeting at the barn will be at 8:30 and the rest will meet at the Put-in at 9:15.
- **Life Jackets** – Cleaning and drying process was discussed, along with distribution in totes. It was noted that the Universal jackets ride low, making them good only for canoes and the clean-up.
- **July Paddle** – The Brooklyn Exponent article about the paddle was distributed (also emailed). An email was received from a Grass Lake Trustee.
- **Annual Clean-up** – The dumpster and port-a-john have been ordered. Still working on obtaining canoes from the Spring Arbor Scout troop. It looks like we will get help from the JROTC again and Jackson Pride.
- **Trees in the River** – see River Master's report.

**Standing Committees:**

**Communication:** There was an email from Jerod Harmon to discuss a permanent conservation easement at either the October or November meeting. Rebecca Calkins from the Jackson Pride Group sent a message through Facebook expressing interest in helping at the annual clean-up.

**Newsletter:** Deb is making headway on the new Newsletter format.

**Finances:** No report.

**Activities & Calendar:** No report.

**Education & Advocacy:** There was discussion of our need to promote our partnership with the Grand River Watershed Alliance and our successes.

**Annual Cleanup:** see above

**Nominations:** No report.

**GREAT Equipment:** No report.

**River Debris Removal:** No report.

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

**AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Grand River Trail Map and Booklet:** No report.

**Water Trail:** No report.

**RELATED GROUPS:**

**Watershed Council:** No report.

**Earth Day:** see above.

**JCCD:** No report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

No action

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was discussion of the City receiving a grant from Consumers for three launch sites at Ella Sharp Park, High Street, and Downtown.

The next monthly meeting will be on September 7 at 7:00 PM at Blackman Township Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03.

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.*

## Past Meeting(s) To Do List

- **Open Board Positions –**
  - **Other Board Members** should look to identify other individuals who might be willing to serve on the board. An ideal candidate would be tech savvy to assist with items like: Wild Apricot, Meet-up, Wix, and Chimp-Monkey.
- **Marketing –**
  - **Kay Brown** and **Deb** will provide a write-up of their findings thus far on the topic as performed by the Lansing Oar and Paddle Club. The write-up will include the various software/apps used by LOAPC and their costs.
  - **Kay** and **John** will take the lead on placing information on Meet-up
  - **Kay** to invite Loretta Crum to May meeting. Complete
- **Newsletter – Deb** to complete newly formatted Newsletter to be distributed via email and issue by ??.
- **JTV – Kurt R** will arrange an appearance on JTV with Dan and himself.