

GFDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 10, 2025

8:00 – 10:00 AM

Great Falls College, Heritage Hall

Approved 8/7/25

2100 16th Ave S.

Signed By: Nate Weisenburger, Secretary

Great Falls, MT 59405

In Person Only -- No Zoom Option



GFDA Staff Present:

Brett Doney, Christian Leinhauser, Christian Nichols, Deb McGregor, Jenn Gallmeier, Jill Kohles, Katie Carvell, Kristen Blue, Lisa Andis, Mariah Liebing, Marty Cappis, Shandi Gebhardt Jones, Shannon Clancy, Shauni Seccombe, Terri Clark, Tracy Heggem

GFDA Board Members Present:

Andreas Geranios, Brett Harris, Jayson Olthoff, Johnna Lightbourne, Kyle Herda, Mark Cappis, Mike Mills, Randy Gilbertson, Reed Bassett, Toby Malsam, Tom Heisler, Tyler Muzzana

Non-Voting Ex-Officio(s) Present:

John Faulkner

Guests:

Dr. Caroline Goulet (University of Providence), Dave Whalen (Community Member), Joe McKenney (GF City Commission), Stacy Burton (Sam's Club)

Times are approximate and agenda items may be taken out of order. Any Director with a potential conflict of interest on the agenda should state the conflict at the start of the meeting.

8:10 1. Introductions – Johnna Lightbourne

Introductions of Board and Council members, investors, staff and guests.

8:11 2. Consent Agenda – Johnna Lightbourne

a) Accept excused absences:

b) Approve minutes of 5/9/25 Board meeting.

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve Consent Agenda. Motion seconded. None opposed. Motion carries.

8:13 3. Officer Elections – Johnna Lightbourne

Approve/disapprove Nominations Committee slate for FY2026 Officers:

Chair	Johnna Lightbourne, Cogswell Insurance
Vice Chair	Toby Malsam, Culligan Water System
Treasurer	Andreas Geranios, Geranios Enterprise
Secretary	Nate Weisenburger, AE2S
Immediate Past Chair	Mark Cappis, Cappis Consulting & Tax

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve Nominations Committee slate for FY2026 Officers. Motion seconded. None opposed. Motion carries.

Approve/disapprove the Officers and Brett Doney and Jolene Schalper to be authorized signers on all Great Falls Development Authority, Inc. and AgriTech Park LLC bank accounts.

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve the Officers and Brett Doney and Jolene Schalper to be authorized signers on all Great Falls Development Authority, Inc. and AgriTech Park LLC bank accounts. Motion seconded. None opposed. Motion carries.

- 8:15 4. Executive Committee Appointments – Johnna Lightbourne
Approve/disapprove Nominations Committee slate for FY2026 Executive Committee members:

Above Officers and:

Reed Bassett, US Bank
Joe Briggs, Cascade County
Rebecca Engum, Great Falls Tourism
Dr. Stephanie Erdmann, Great Falls College
Dani Grebe, LPW Architecture
Brett Harris, Farmers Insurance
Kaci Husted, Benefis Health System
Dave Smith, Sletten Construction
Len Watkins, Gusto Distributing

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve Nominations Committee slate for FY2026 Executive Committee members. Motion seconded. None opposed. Motion carries.

- 8:17 5. Loan Committee Appointments – Johnna Lightbourne
Approve/disapprove Nominations Committee slate for FY2026 Loan Committee members:

Chair Rebecca Engum, Great Falls Tourism
Teri Anderson, First Interstate Bank
Scott Blumfield, Catalyst Commercial
Martin Byrnes, Cushing Terrell
Sheila Rice, Retired
Chad Simonson, Independence Bank
Tausha Stoll, Guy Tabacco Construction
Erin Townsend, Bravera Bank

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve Nominations Committee slate for FY2026 Loan Committee members. Motion seconded. None opposed. Motion carries.

- 8:19 6. FY 2026 Budget –Brett Doney
Approve/disapprove FY2026 Budget as recommended by Executive Committee.

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve FY2026 Budget as recommended by Executive Committee. Motion seconded. None opposed. Motion carries.

- 8:25 7. Economic Development Strategy – Brett Doney
Breakout sessions to discuss potential updates to GFDA Economic Development Strategy.

- 9:53 8. Pipeline and CEO Reports – Brett Doney

- 10:01 9. Board Sharing – Johnna Lightbourne
Updates from Board and Council members on issues affecting GFDA's mission and organization.

- 10:02 10. Public Comment – Johnna Lightbourne
Opportunity for public comment.