



Great Plains Trails Network

GREAT PLAINS TRAILS NETWORK BOARD MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Jamie G. called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

ROLL CALL: Paul Breitreutz, Jess Corman, Joe Dauer, MIndy Diller, Kerry Eagan, Eli Frank, Dave Gall, Corey Godfrey, Jamie Granquist, Rachelle Hadley, Dan Lee, Jordan Messerer, Dale Minter, Ashley Nichols, Dena Noe, Ann Ringlein, Shelby Robinson, Roy Rivera, Bryan Seck, Scott Speicher, Tedde Taege, Mary Torell, Ally Williams, Madeline Wiseman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Jamie): Approval of April minutes. Dale M motioned for amended approval of the minutes and Mary T. seconded. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS (Jamie): Everyone received an invite to the Ribbon-cutting Ceremony for Danger Bridge, on Wednesday, 5/19 at 4pm. We will all meet at the GPTN Bridge by Rock Island and walk over. Mary Torell will give more details later in this meeting.

MoPac Gap Alliance has met and while the funds remain in place, the design is being re-visited. The mile on the old railway from Wabash will be completed, but the rest of it will be suspended for the time being. Corey shared information about exploring additional route options to abate the concerns Cass County residents have. We have lost \$3.3 million of the \$8.3 million which was clawed back to balance the budget for the State of Nebraska. We will keep everyone in the loop when more "call to action" is needed.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Dave): (see attached reports) April was business as usual for financials. Dave G. shared the Statement of Financial Position(assets/liabilities) and the Monthly(April) and YTD Statements of Activity. We are taking in more money than we're spending right now. Our position is good. A motion to approve the April treasurer's report was made by Tedde Taege and Jamie Grandquist seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (Tedde): Not a whole lot of activity for April. Dena asked if there's a plan to move funds from the general account to the money market. No action taken right now due to concern about upcoming commitment. However, Dave G. agreed, now that he understands more about the financials, to move some of the funds from the checking account to the MM account to make more interest.

Fundraising (Jess): No report right now. The team is working through all the tasks that Gary Bentrup did and will eventually have that all sorted and shared across the committee.

Thanks to Dena and Ashley for getting the Give to Lincoln information promoted. Eli F. will assist the committee when needed as the transition happens.

Public Relations (Ashley): We met for the first time last Wednesday and are in the process of formalizing all the parts of the committee. We have some other people on the board we need to connect with to understand more about how some things related to the Public Relations committee work.

Newsletter updates: Dale M. mentioned we resolved the returned mail pieces issue. Quick reminder about the Hub & Soul event coming up. It will be the 4th Friday of the month. We need someone to write an article on the Ribbon-cutting Ceremony and Dale will take pictures. It will be on the front page. Dale asked a question about ads for future newsletters, which Gary had handled. We tabled this discussion for the PR Committee.

Trail Use and Activities Committee (Mary): Tour de Lincoln has had a good response—with the average participation in the low 60s. We recently discussed bike safety which includes bike helmets. Chris Sonderup from CycleWorks gave us 8 helmets which we raffled. We need a couple more people at the registration table. Need to re-route the Thursday, 5/22 Tour de Lincoln due to construction.

Ribbon-cutting Ceremony is in good shape. We need to verify the \$\$ GPTN contributed to the Danger Bridge project. Roy R. had a written document that showed our letter of intent.

Trail Trek/Lincoln Trail-A-Thon (Dena/Ashley): Ashley shared that LTA is seeing more activity with nicer weather.

Trail Trek, Sunday, June 22. Mindy shared that 16m and 23m have many participants, which means more volunteers are needed. Mary Torell brought in a signature sponsor of Capital Dental. We have many new sponsors this year, with a total of 21 sponsors. The committee has been working hard. There are 220 participants signed up so far. We have 100 more participants ahead at this same time last year. Please plan to attend the Board Meeting in person for June due to construction of signs for Trail Trek.

Market to Market: Dena is organizing the first shift only, who is willing to organize the second shift? Typically, done by 9pm. Paul B. will organize the second shift of M2M finish line crew.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

MoPac Gap Alliance: (Corey): covered earlier in this meeting. Here's the link regarding the rescinding the \$3.3 million: <https://nebraskaexaminer.com/2025/05/19/cass-county-trail-project-hits-another-setback-this-time-with-state-funds/>

Shelby shared information about volunteering for Hub & Soul.

Next meeting is Monday, June 16, which will include sign building for Trail Trek. Please plan to attend.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mary T. and seconded by Dale M. at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted—
Rachelle Hadley

Secretary