



Friends of the River Valley Rail Trails
Meeting Minutes October 8, 2025
@ The Belding Depot 6:00 PM

- I. Call to Order: Chair Ron called the meeting to order at 6:01.
- II. Board Members Present: Jennifer Mierendorf, Ron Gunderson, Lynn Mason, Alan Teelander, Mark Fritsma, Gail Bradley, and Wayne Addis(6:07)
- III. Guests: Don (Happy Birthday)
- IV. Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Alan and Minutes by Jennifer to approve the September 10, 2025 minutes. It was approved with a couple of minor spelling changes.
- V. Approval of Agenda: It was moved by Jennifer and seconded by Lynn to approve. Motion carried.
- VI. Public Comment: None
- VII. Reports: Mark reported that we have some e-bike signs. He also reported that he has made a contact for tee shirts.
- VIII. Chair Report: Ron reported that he received an email from Jill at the DNR on next year's grants for projects and work done by the DNR. Unfortunately, we will have none funded for 2026. Also, Jill will check on the bridge by the Belding VFW.
- IX. Treasurer Report: Jennifer reported that August was a light month for action. September had more business. She also included the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarter reports for our review. August balance was

\$56,178.88, with expenses of \$6,408.30. The ending balance was \$49,770.58. September balance was \$49,770.58, with expenses of \$7,177.37. Ending balance of \$42,593.21. Wayne moved to approve the treasurer reports and Alan seconded. Motion carried.

Bills: Ron had bills of \$1,186.74. These included mileage, trees, water bags, and gas. Wayne moved and Lynn seconded to approve. Motion carried.

X. Authority Report: they did not meet.

XI. Maintenance Report:

- MVLL Meadow Valley Lawncare & Landscape was paid \$4715.50. The DNR money left of grants is \$34,613.43. The balance will be used for brushing and stumps. It is expected to take about 10 days. Mostly from Foreman to Jackson Landing. When completed there will be approximately \$4,000 left. It was moved by Lynn and seconded by Jennifer to approve this work. Motion carried. Leftover dollars could be used for winter tree damage.
- New weedeater- expected cost \$462.47. We already approved.
- Lisa Plank, Lowell Museum, will be completing an interpretive signs project. It will be placed on the Grand River section, 4 Mile- south. They will give the history of Vergennes, and be placed by benches.
- Spraying: Ron discussed with Chad L. as to why the section near the Grand River was still so green. Chad will assess. It was decided to call off the spraying on the crushed asphalt section for the rest of this season. Next year this area will have more attention. A motion to cancel this spraying was made by Wayne and seconded by Jennifer. Motion carried.

XII. Events: none upcoming. It was noted that there was an un-permitted event by a group concerning ALS, from Button Rd to 4 Mile. Ron has contacted them to explain. The Belding Independent Bank, thanks Jennifer, will do a Columbus Day cleanup (Be the Difference Day). A \$1,000 check will be donated.

XIII. Unfinished Business: None

XIV. New Business: None

- XV. Public Comment: None
- XVI. Director Comments: Gail says the trail looks great. Lynn thanked Jennifer and crew for helping with mailing. She added Chamber members to our list.
- XVII. Adjournment: 6:57 Jennifer/Wayne
- XVIII. Next Meeting: November 12