GROW Licking County Community Improvement Corporation
Regular Board Meeting Minutes – 12:00 PM, 9/8/2025
Central Ohio Technical College, Reese Center
1179 University Drive, Newark, OH 43055
Minutes recorded by Amy Dell, Board Secretary

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call -** Chair Robertson

Call to order and roll call by Board Chair Robertson at noon, 9/8/2025

Board Chair: Joseph Roberston - P	Jennifer Ellis-Brunn - E	Jim Roberts - P
Board Vice Chair: Corey Alton - E	Brandon Hess – E	
Board Treasurer: Erin Grigsby - P	Mark Johns - P	**Staff:**
Board Secretary: Amy Dell - P	Mark Mauter – P	Gabriel Kelvin - P
Dr. John Berry – P	Jennifer McDonald – P	Reaghan Willison - P
Tim Bubb - P	Robert Montagnese - E	
Mike Compton - P	Robert O'Neill - E	

Chair Robertson moved to excuse the absent members and was seconded by Mike Compton; unanimously approved.

2. **Welcome –** Dr. John Berry welcomed everyone to campus and shared a few remarks about enrollment for OSU-N and COTC.

3. **Introduction of Guests -** Chair Robertson
   - David Edelblute, Licking County Administrator
   - Atrina Good, Licking County Chamber of Commerce
   - Bethany Lewis, Miles McClellan Construction

4. Approval of Minutes

Mark Mauter moved to approve the minutes of the 7.14.25 regular board meeting as presented, and the minutes of the 8.8.25 special meeting as corrected, Erin Grigsby seconded. Both minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Chair Report – Chair Robertson reported on the progress of the search committee for the Executive Director position. He further updated that the County Commissioners office will serve as a touchpoint for GROW staff in the interim.

6. Committee Reports

6.1 - Finance & Fundraising Comm. – Treasurer Grigsby

Erin Grigsby noted that the financials for July and August were received from the bookkeeper today; approval is tabled until next regular meeting to allow for review.

A draft 2026 budget was reviewed; however, a few line items were cut off on the printed version provided; an Excel file will be emailed to all Board members after the meeting.

6.2 - Marketing Committee - Jennifer McDonald
Committee Chair McDonald reported that the Marketing Committee focused on discussion of the 2026 marketing plan, including free/lower cost options, a focus of "telling our story", site selector newsletters, and possible future conference sponsorship at a meaningful level.

6.3 - Licking County Works Committee – Gabriel Kelvin
Economic Development Manager Kelvin reported that the Licking County Works Committee met on August 28. Meeting items were: review of the draft budget, discussion of a Denison data intern position slated to begin this school year, and the potential of redoing the Career Pathways videos next year.

The Childcare Taskforce has not met since the last regular board meeting.

6.4 - Infrastructure Committee - Jim Roberts
Committee Chair Jim Roberts shared that the committee met on August 19; Herb Koehler made a municipal utility coalition presentation, Matt Hill provided an LCATS update, and MORPC updates were shared. Committee Chair Roberts shared that this committee's meeting cadence is the 3rd Tuesday of even months at 1:00 PM in the County Administrative Building. The next meeting is scheduled for 10.21.25.

7. Staff Reports
7.1 - Executive Director Report
No Executive Director report was provided.

7.2 - Marketing and Communications Manager - Reaghan Willison
Marketing and Communications Manager Willison reported on social media metrics.

7.3 - Economic Development Manager - Gabriel Kelvin
Economic Development Manager Kelvin provided a breakdown of how he and Reaghan Willison planned to divide specific duties during the Executive Director position vacancy, and communicated several items for which the staff would like additional information from the board, to clarify expectations and ensure smooth workflow until the Executive Director position is filled.

8. Comments From the Public - Chair Robertson
There were no comments from the public.

9. Executive Session
Under ORC 121.22 under Section G-(1), Joseph Robertson made a motion to enter Executive Session, including the Licking County Administrator (David Edelblute), to review the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual associated with GROW Licking County. Erin Grigsby seconded. Roll call vote by all members present unanimously approved to enter Executive Session at 1:22 PM. Jim Roberts entered the executive session at 1:30 PM.

At 2:01 PM, the board exited Executive Session and returned to the public meeting.

10. Items of Action - Chair Robertson
The singular item, discussion of the proposals for bookkeeping services in 2026, was tabled until the next regular board meeting.

11. Adjournment - Chair Robertson
Amy Dell moved to adjourn the meeting, and Jennifer McDonald seconded. Unanimously approved. Chair Robertson adjourned the meeting at 2:05 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 10, 2025, at the City of Pataskala office.