

**NORA Board meeting
Meeting minutes
November 13, 2025**

1.Call to order: Chairperson – William Montgomery, Ferrysburg: the meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairperson Montgomery.

2.Roll Call:

Mary Jane Belter, GH Twp - present
Howard Behm, GH Twp - present
City of Grand Haven, elected representative - vacant
Lyndsey Huisman, Grand Haven - present
William Montgomery, Ferrysburg - present
Craig Bessinger, Ferrysburg - present
Marc Eickholt, GHAPS - absent
Sarah Elliott, GHAPS – absent at roll call, arrived at 4:35 p.m.
Rebecca Hopp, At Large - present

Also in attendance:

Bailey Gonzales-Bertapella, interim NORA Director
Tahlor Caren, City of Grand Haven HR

Huisman, Behm: motion and second to approve the absence of Eickholt and Elliott. Motion approved. 6-0

3.Approval of the Meeting Agenda for the special NORA board meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to hear and act on the recommendation from the Executive Board for a candidate for the position of the Director of NORA.

Motion to approve the agenda: moved by Huisman , seconded by Behm. Vote: 6-0

4. New Business

A. NORA Director discussion

a. The purpose of this special meeting is to consider and act upon the Executive Board's recommendation regarding the appointment of a Director for NORA. Specifically, the Board will vote on the following motion:

i. Motion: To approve or deny the Executive Board's recommendation of Bailey Gonzales-Bertapelle for the position of NORA Recreation Director, and if applicable, to direct Tahlor Carlen (City of Grand Haven HR) to develop a proposed compensation package for the position, to be presented to the full Board for approval at the next board meeting.

Motion by: Belter second by: Behm. to approve the recommendation of Bailey Gonzales-Bertapelle for the position of NORA Recreation Director. Vote:6-0

Discussion: no discussion

Sarah Elliott arrived at 4:35 p.m. Chair Montgomery updated Sarah on the approval of Gonzales-Pertapella is NORA Recreation director.

5. Public Comments: none

6. Advisory Board Comments:

Hopp: she hopes board supports Bailey moving forward, participation in Michigan Parks and Recreation Association is important.

Tahlor Caren (city of Grand Haven HR) will work out negotiations with Bailey. The board will approve this at the Dec board meeting.

Negotiations will be based on, in line with the current City of Grand Haven pay scale. Benefits will be the same as city employees

Bessinger: will there be an effort to backfill Bailey's position? Montgomery: Let Bailey get going and then have that discussion.

Elliott thanked Bailey for filling in as the interim. She is pleased that we have someone on the position that has a heart for kids.

7. Next Scheduled Meeting – December 18, 2025

8. Adjournment

Meeting ajourned at 4:40 p.m.

Mary Jane Belter
NORA Advisory Board Secretary

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