

**DRAFT**

**Game Farm Road Board Meeting**

Town of Berne  
PO Box 57  
Berne, NY 12023

**Date:** May 3, 2016

Board members present: Ted Kunker, Lee Jones, Mark Sengenberger, Mark Hohengasser, Charles Burgess, Karen Schimmer (Town Board Liaison)

Ted Kunker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Guest Comments/Correspondence:** None

**Old Business:**

Karen Schimmer updated the Board on progress at the lodge including new beds and mattresses; inmate work, preparations for the upcoming wedding, lodge and retreat house improvements/repairs. Until test results are in, the Board decided to use the water holding tank and water system but put notices up stating the water is not potable. She reported that the Town Board hired Overit, a media consulting company, to help brand and market the property, to include name and logo suggestions. The planned May 21 partnership was postponed. The septic system will be pumped before the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Charles Burgess reported on the Grants Committee including matching grant opportunities with Albany County and the need for a comprehensive list of projects needing funding.

Mark Hohengasser and Mark Sengenberger reported on campsite locations, parking areas, widening roads/driveways, septic/leach field and trails.

Ted Kunker reported on the Facilities Group. Paint colors were discussed. Mark Hohengasser suggested using the kiosk as a sign for the property at the main entrance.

Guest Craig Angard, liaison between GFR board and HESO, discussed telescopes, dark skies and the potential for citing a domed observatory/facility on the property that would be available to the public, local schools and research groups. The transit of mercury was discussed. There was discussion of possibly changing the GFR property hours or requiring a permit to accommodate evening/night use of the property.

**New Business:**

Charles Burgess has offered his band, Black Mountain Symphony, to help raise funds for Forever Rural via a concert sometime this summer. Stage preparations and power sources were discussed.

Mark Hohengasser reported on the Town of Knox Fall Festival on September 10<sup>th</sup> and possibly having GFR information/contact person at the event.

There being no additional business before the Board, Mr. Kunker adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hill Brown  
GFR Board Secretary