Grain Train (GT) Natural Food Cooperative
Board of Directors Meeting – April 21, 2026
Zoom (https://zoom.us/j/91283382662) l Time: 6 p.m.

In Attendance: Katie Hartlieb, Lindsay Hall, Erik Hagstrom, Paula Welmers, Greg Fuller, Sean Miller (staff), Kendall Hornsby, Jason LaPointe, Margaret McBride, Michael Walter (CEO, virtual), Mindy Taylor (Staff, virtual), Hal Willens (virtual), Cathy Atchison (virtual).

Absent: N/A

Ends Statement

Grain Train Natural Foods Cooperative exists so that our community is inspired to make well-informed, healthy choices that support both people and planet.

Meeting Called to Order

- Called to order at 6:01 p.m. — Quorum determined.

Preliminaries

Open Member Forum - It was mentioned that the Boyne City store has been looking great, especially with the re-organization of the grab and go deli items to the front of the store.

Agenda Review/Modification - Two items added to the agenda: Treasurer position and confirmation of director terms

Prior to moving to consent agenda, all present staff, current board and incoming board members introduced themselves.

Consent Agenda:

March Meeting Minutes - Approved unanimously as Lindsay made a motion to accept the consent agenda and monitoring reports with discussed revisions. Paula seconded. Motion passed.

Board Decisions

CEO Report April: Erik made a motion to accept the CEO report. Greg seconded. Motion passed.

Note: Michael added to his report stating that sales growth flattened a little bit as the quarter went on but that the first fiscal quarter was, overall, successful. Boyne has also had some consecutive months of growth which is unprecedented and exciting to see.

General Business

Welcome New Members - Done prior to consent agenda.

GOM Recap - Board members all agreed that the General Ownership Meeting was successful and that handout materials and questions asked by the ownership were superb. Ideas for future GOM's were also discussed.

Katie also noted that she and Michael also attended Oryana's
ownership meeting and said it was nice to see the Grain Train doing much of what the larger Traverse City co-op is doing.

Cathy will be meeting with operations to debrief the event. The board is considering a full business meeting approach at next GOM.

Quarterly Committee Check-ins - It was asked that committees bring any work plan updates to next month's meeting. Committees were also asked to submit the same plans and/or minutes to Sean to include in the board packet.

Owner Engagement - Paula gave an update that the OE committee didn't formally meet as a group but did agree that the board should hold Coffee with the Board on a quarterly basis.

Education Committee - Greg noted that the Education Committee didn't meet but have been in touch with board consultant Jeanie Wells who is meeting with the board at the end of this meeting. Two committee members are also attending CCMA next month and will bring back some education and thoughts to share with the board.

Executive Committee - Katie noted that Michael is working with finance on the patronage decision and what should happen with that this year. Different scenarios and options will be presented to the full board. The board was also in a space where it has an open treasurer seat on the executive committee. Katie asked if Erik would hold dual roles as VP and treasurer up until board nominations in June.

Paula made a motion for Erik to sit as both VP and treasurer until board nominations in June. Lindsay seconded. Motion passed.

Board Term Confirmation - Greg made a motion to assign the 3 year term to Maggie and 2 year term to Jason. Erik seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Board Education</u>
Jeanie Wells - Roles and Responsibilities - The board met with consultant Jeanie Wells and took the last half hour of the meeting to ask questions and talk about prepared materials.

<u>Closings</u>
Review Decisions & Tasks/Next Meeting Topics - Board members will determine committee participation. Lindsay will rework the monitoring report assignments with incoming board members and send updated calendar to Sean. Board nominations will happen in May with voting in June.

Adjourned
Paula made a motion to adjourn. Lindsay seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.