## MINUTES BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS June 23, 2021

### TIME & PLACE:

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 23, 2021 both in person and virtually through Zoom. Chairman Steve Thurmond called the BRADD meeting to order.

Mr. Michael Stoyonovich, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Thurmond welcomed all board members, special advisors and attendees to the BRADD June Board Meeting.

### ATTENDANCE:

It was determined a quorum was present. (See attached attendance record).

### MINUTES:

With no corrections or additions, the minutes of May 26, 2021 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

Motion was made by Judge/Executive Logan Chick, seconded by Mayor Randall Curry to approve the May 26, 2021 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Chairman Thurmond moderated a regional roundtable for all Board Members, including Judge/Executives, Mayors and Citizen Members. The Roundtable consisted of community updates, current active projects, upcoming events and activities. Additionally, members reflected on the COIVD pandemic which included sharing new ways of progress and innovation learned. Chair Thurmond gave each individual time to speak concerning related information to their respective county or city governments. Members who spoke included: Allen County Judge/Executive Dennis Harper, Cave City Mayor Dewayne Hatcher, Glasgow Mayor Harold Armstrong, Butler County Judge/Executive Tim Flener, Morgantown Mayor Billy Phelps, Edmonson County Judge/Executive Wil Cannon, Edmonson County Citizen Member Michael Stoyonovich, Hart County Judge/Executive Joe Choate, Horse Cave Mayor Randall Curry, Adairville Mayor

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Donna Blake, Logan County Judge/Executive Logan Chick, Metcalfe Citizen Member Dawn Devore, Tompkinsville Mayor Micheal Bowe, Gamaliel Mayor Bob Greer, Simpson County Judge/Executive Mason Barnes, Warren County Citizen Member Gary Dillard.

OLD BUSINESS:

Officers: No Report

Council Reports:

Water Management Council:

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Chairman Thurmond called on Judge/Executive Wil Cannon, Water Council Chairman. Judge Cannon reported, the BRADD Water Management Council met on Wednesday June 2, 2021 in the BRADD Conference Center. The Council discussed guidelines and concerns surrounding the American Rescue Plan Act as it pertains to grants related to water and wastewater infrastructure in the region. The Council reviewed and approved 18 new water projects and 4 new wastewater projects. The Council also reviewed and approved budget updates for two existing water projects and nine existing wastewater projects. A special called council meeting is set for July 28, 2021 at the BRADD Conference Center. The next regularly scheduled Council meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2021. Judge Cannon informed members to contact BRADD staff Mr. Jacob Barker with any questions.

# **Regional Transportation Committee:**

Chairman Thurmond called on Judge/Executive Dennis Harper, Committee Chairman, who reported the Regional Transportation Committee met on June 2, 2021 at 11:00 am at the BRADD Office. The committee approved the minutes from the last meeting April 27, 2021 and the SHIFT draft prioritization plan. The Committee heard KYTC updates from Mr. Joe Plunk District 3, and Mr. Doug Taylor, Rural and Municipal Aid. BRADD staff Mr. Nate Heisler gave a presentation on the new regional transportation dashboard. The next Committee date is scheduled for September 1, 2021.

# **Economic Development Committee:**

Chairman Thurmond called on Judge/Executive Tim Flener who reported, The BRADD Regional Economic Development Committee met on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 in the BRADD Conference Room. The Committee heard a presentation from Joe Sullivan, Meteorologist. Mr. Sullivan gave a climatology overview for the region with past data and a look at possible future trends. He also reviewed the newly released NOAA 30-year and 1-year climate normals. The Committee also reviewed and approved the proposed changes and updates to the Regional Hazard Mitigation Goals and Objectives. The next Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 1, 2021, at 1pm in the BRADD Conference Center. He informed all questions to be directed to Ms. Emily Hathcock.

### **Special Advisors Report:**

**Mr. Gilbert Mischel**, Congressman McConnell's representative, informed more ARPA guidance is forthcoming, there are plans for the Senator to be in the area in the near future, he and other staff are available to assist any new grant project needs.

Mr. Tom Harned, LEAD, informed the pandemic shut down much of the work associated with economic development but it's now flourishing. The recent regional economic development meeting discussed the widespread labor shortage and what a good time to support economic development.

Mr. Barclay Trimble, Superintendent, Mammoth Cave National Park, provided park updates including tourism with expectations to increase back to 70 percent of 2019 numbers.

Mr. Doug Taylor, KY Rural and Municipal Aid, expressed appreciation for the roundtable discussion meeting format and how informative it was. Mr. Taylor wants to bring regional awareness and information concerning municipal road aid. The new fiscal year for the 80/20 bridge program has reset.

### Staff:

Ms. Emily Hathcock, Associate Director of Economic Development, reported the board packet contains a project impact report detailing 48 active projects representing \$23.8 million of investment. There are 19 project applications awaiting approval and 85 grant applications in development. Also included in the board packet is a listing of the planning steering committee meetings for July, of which have moved to an in-person format. The latest schedule will be released with the July calendar/newsletter. Ms. Hathcock also informed the board packet contains a RLF loan report detailing the 16 active loans. Ms. Hathcock informed an available balance of RLF COVID funds is available in the amount of \$45,000.

Ms. Hathcock encouraged members to spread the word of the available loan. Ms. Hathcock encouraged members to contact the office with questions or needed assistance.

Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director, recognized two staff anniversaries. Ms. Mary Adams with one year of service as Public Administrative Specialist. Ms. Michelle Hines, Deputy Director with 30 years of service to the BRADD. Further, Mr. Sexton informed BRADDs 53rd Annual Meeting will be held in September and nominations are being accepted for the Tim Lee Carter and William H Natcher Awards. The board member packet contained a listing of previous award winners. More information, including nomination forms and requirements can be found of the BRADD website. Mr. Sexton informed the Executive Council approved the release of a request for proposal for a regional Broadband Feasibility Study which will include individualized, specific county level profiles containing information relevant to opportunities of expanded broadband. Mr. Sexton reminded the members the BRADD annual dues have been invoiced with a July 31, 2021 due date. Mr. Sexton encouraged members to attend next months meeting, Wednesday July 28, 2021 as the first BRADD Director Emeritus honor will be presented to Mr. Elroy Larimore.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Executive Council Reports:** 

### 1. Clearinghouse Projects

Judge/Executive Wil Cannon reported the Executive Council met prior to the BRADD Board meeting and considered one regional clearinghouse project. The project description was provided in the board packet. Upon review of the projects, the Council recommended approval.

Motion: Judge/Executive Wil Cannon made a motion to approve one regional clearinghouse project as presented. The motion was seconded by Michael Stoyonovich. Motion carried. (see attached)

Lastly, Chairman Thurmond made a special recognition of Special Advisor, Mr. Tom Harned, Executive Director of Logan Economic Alliance for Development (LEAD) for his retirement. Chair Thurmond mentioned many projects Mr. Harned has worked on over the years including the far-reaching impact not only to Logan

County but the entire BRADD region. Mr. Harned was recognized with a standing ovation for his service. Mr. Harned made remarks of thanks and appreciation and described the full circle journey his career took him. Mr. Harned introduced his replacement Mr. Jim DeCesare.

## **ADJOURN**

With no further business, a motion was made by Judge/Executive Dennis Harper and seconded by Judge/Executive Wil Cannon to adjourn.

Signed, Chairman

Approved, Secretary