

**MINUTES**  
**BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**March 24, 2021**

**TIME & PLACE:**

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, 2021 both in person and virtually through Zoom. Chairman Steve Thurmond called the BRADD meeting to order.

Mr. Tom Harned, Logan Co. LEAD, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Thurmond welcomed all board members, special advisors and attendees both virtually and in person to the BRADD March Board Meeting.

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Chairman Thurmond introduced guest speaker, Mr. Matthew Hunt, Executive Director of the Barren River District Health Department. Mr. Hunt presented virtually on the topic of general public health. Mr. Hunt provided a power point presentation which included the foundational and core services provided at the Health District. Foundation services are those regulated by statute and include; population health, enforcement of regulation, communicable diseases, and emergency response. The core services offered include programs; WIC- Women, infant and children, HANDS- health care access nurturing development services, the harm reduction and substance use disorder, and dental services. Lastly, Mr. Hunt provided an update on the Districts response to the COVID pandemic, including the formation of a workgroup response team consisting of public and private entities who have provided vital collaboration. Mr. Hunt provided the latest COVID update, as of Friday, for active and recovered cases. Mr. Hunt announced 14,859 vaccinations have been administered by the District, as of Friday. Mr. Hunt informed as vaccinations continue to increase the shift to priority groups would occur.

**MINUTES:**

With no corrections or additions, the minutes of January 27, 2021 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

**Motion was made by Mayor Dwayne Hatcher, seconded by Mayor Randall Curry to approve the January 27, 2021 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Officers:** No Report

**Council Reports:**

**Water Management Council:**

Chairman Thurmond called on Judge/Executive Wil Cannon who reported, the last Council meeting was held on March 3, 2021 via zoom. The Council heard an update on the CDBG Utility Relief funds and lingering COVID impact in the BRADD region. The Council also reviewed public comments about success in the continuing KRWA Apprenticeship program for water operators and received clarification on the KY House Bill 272 for member to help them decide if they wanted to support the legislation as it progresses to the Senate. The Council did not receive any new or amended water projects this quarter. The next Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 2, 2021 via zoom and virtual invites will be sent by email. Questions should be directed to staff member Jacob Barker.

**Regional Transportation Council:**

Chairman Thurmond called on Judge/Executive Dennis Harper who reported the regional transportation committee met on March 3, 2021 via zoom. The committee approved the minutes from the December 2, 2020 meeting and two new SHIFT road projects from the Allen and Butler Counties. There were two KYTC updates from Joe Plunk in District 3, Kevin Young in District 4 and Doug Taylor from the Department of Rural and Municipal Aid. Mr. Jason Blackburn from KYTC gave a presentation on the SHIFT process, from sponsorship to the State Highway Plan. Ms. Rachelle Wright from Cave Country Trails gave a presentation on regional blueways.

**Economic Development Committee:**

Chairman Thurmond called on Ms. Emily Hathcock who informed the newly formed Economic Development Committee met on Wednesday, March 3, via zoom. The committee heard a presentation from Nick Grinstead regarding requirements for updating the regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. A recording of the regional meeting is available online. Each County also appointed two voting members to the committee, and members elected officers. Mayor Hatcher has

been elected to chair the committee, and Judge/Executive Tim Flener was elected as vice chair. The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2021 via zoom. Virtual invites and additional information will be sent closer to the meeting date. Ms. Hathcock asked for any questions to be directed to her.

### **Special Advisors Report:**

**Mr. Jon Crosby**, Senator Rand Paul's Representative, provided details on the HEMA- Hemp Economic Mobilization Act with specific information for ways the bill is designed to aid the farmer.

**Mr. Alex Caudill**, Representative of the Governor, provided a brief update on the recreational trails, land and water grants which are currently open. He further informed the Governor has been visiting state vaccination sites and informed members they can send any scheduling requests for the Governor.

**Mr. Elton Thomas**, Office of the Governor Representative, provided an update on the COVID CDBG utility relief funds.

**Mr. Tom Harned**, LEAD Executive Director, provided an update on the interstate I-65 new interchange placement along mile marker 14. The study from Bowling Green-Warren County's MPO resulted in KY 240 as a favored location for the interchange. Mr. Harned expressed his agreement with the raking and described the regional benefit to four counties: Warren, Logan, Simpson and Allen.

**Motion: Mr. Tom Harned made a motion for BRADD to endorse a letter of support for the selection of Kentucky 240 for the new interchange location. The motion was seconded by Judge/Executive Logan Chick. Motion carried.**

**Mr. Joe Plunk**, Transportation Cabinet, reported the comment period for the KY 240 interchange is still under underway until April 1, 2021. Mr. Plunk informed winter months are utilized for planning and preparation and currently, contractors are at work across the region and several paving projects are in place. Additionally, many of the projects that were paused last year due to effects of the pandemic are now underway. Mr. Plunk provided specific updates on county projects across the BRADD region. Lastly, Mr. Plunk informed county level SHIFT meetings have wrapped up for this cycle.

**Mr. Doug Taylor**, of KYTC Rural Roads, reminded members the organization exists to provide aid to Mayors and Judges as they maintain roads and streets in their districts. Mr. Taylor provided an update on the motor fuel tax funds with the anticipation of more funds to be divided this year. The Contingency Program,

for county and state roads, has received new legislation decreasing the fund amounts. The previous 30 million has been reduced to 10 million. With this reduction, groups will have to address more with less. Mr. Taylor advised governments, those with the least resources will receive priority use for these funds.

**Mr. Barclay Trimble**, Mammoth Cave Superintendent, provided various park updates. Guided tours are selling out so increased tours will begin soon. All park food services have re-opened. Mr. Jay Grass has been hired as the new Deputy Superintendent. Various improvement projects are ongoing around the park.

#### **Staff:**

##### **Ms. Emily Hathcock, Associate Director of Economic Development**

Chairman Thurmond called on Ms. Emily Hathcock, who reported the board packet contains a project impact report. As of March 15th, BRADD administered 41 active projects representing over 22.6 million dollars of investment. 16 funding applications awaiting approval, representing over 2.6 million dollars of investment, with 26 projects in development. A grant summary page was also included detailing upcoming grant opportunities and the BRADD staff to contact for assistance. Ms. Hathcock informed of the work being done with the county-level steering committee meetings. A copy of the Steering Committee Schedule was included in the packet. Ms. Hathcock described the process as a holistic approach to regional planning to obtain information and feedback to update the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and the EDA- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. These plans are vital for guiding a community's future. An active input from each county is needed from both city and county governments to meet FEMA participation requirements. Additionally, this process will create a locally driven Strategic Action Plan for each community. Ms. Hathcock further described, any existing planning efforts will be incorporated into the process, pooling Comprehensive Plans, Emergency Operations Plans, and more. Ms. Hathcock informed she should be contacted with any questions. Additional information may be found online at [hazards.bradd.org](http://hazards.bradd.org).

##### **Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director**

Chairman Thurmond called on Mr. Sexton. Mr. Sexton began with four staff five-year anniversary recognitions. Ashley Pennington, Waiver Coordinator, Megan Gonzales Social Service Assistant, Kara Hunter, Case Manager and Caleb Speck, Executive Assistant. Mr. Sexton introduced new staff, Hollie Smith and Fayth Rose as new PDS Waiver Case Managers. Mr. Sexton also introduced part time temporary staff Melissa Brown who is providing administrative assistant to the PDS Waiver program. Mr. Sexton provided an update on the CDBG-COVID utility

relief as many of those applications are being finalized. Mr. Sexton informed House Bill 320 concerning broadband passed allocating \$250 million dollars to the Commonwealth to expand broadband services. House Bill 272 concerning water districts assessing late fees was vetoed but remains active. Mr. Sexton informed BRADD will hold a Planning and Zoning training next week. Lastly, Mr. Sexton revealed the next Board Meeting will be the annual Legislative luncheon to be held Wednesday April 28, 2021 both virtually and in-person. Chairman Thurmond thanked BRADD staff for their continued hard work and availability to the officials.

## **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. Project descriptions were 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 Mr. Michael Stoyonovich Motion carried. (see attached)**

#### **2. FY 22 Aging Area Plan**

Chairman Thurmond called on Mayor Mark Stratton. Mayor Stratton reported the Executive Council met and reviewed and approved the proposed FY 2022 Aging Services Area Plan which guides the programs operations for the year including meals provided through the use of Senior Centers. A summary of the plan was provided in the board packet.

**Motion: Mayor Mark Stratton made a motion to approve the FY 2022 Aging Area Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Larry Dixon. Motion carried. (see attached)**

#### **3. Bylaws Amendment**

Chairman Thurmond called on Mayor Mark Stratton. Mayor Stratton informed the Executive Council met prior to the board meeting for consideration of an amendment to the BRADD by-laws Article V Membership, adding section 13 to

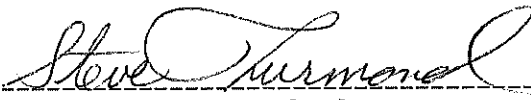
provide the adoption of board member director emeritus designation. A copy of the language was provided in the packet.

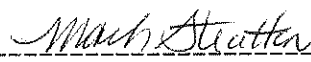
**Motion: Mayor Mark Stratton made a motion to approve bylaws amendment for Article V section 13 for director emeritus. The motion was seconded by Mayor Randall Curry. Motion carried. (see attached)**

Lastly, Chairman Thurmond called on representatives from all counties for a county/city overview of any events, updates or activities occurring throughout the region.

**ADJOURN**

**With no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Randall Curry and seconded by Mayor Scotty Turner to adjourn.**

  
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Signed, Chairman

  
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Approved, Secretary