

MINUTES
BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 27, 2021

TIME & PLACE:

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 27, 2021 both in person and virtually through Zoom. Chairman Steve Thurmond called the BRADD meeting to order.

Mayor Larry Dixon, City of Franklin, 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 January Board Meeting. Chairman Thurmond announced to all BRADD Board of Directors the need to complete the annual conflict of interest statement as required by policy created from KRS 14A. Forms should be submitted to Mr. Caleb Speck.

ATTENDANCE:

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

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Chairman Thurmond introduced guest speakers, Mr. Kevin Yates and Ms. Michele Kors, Business Coaches from the Small Business Development Center. Mr. Yates began the session with a summary of what the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) does and who may benefit from its services. The state of Kentucky has 17 service centers and 40 business coaches to efficiently serve all 120 KY counties. Since 2018 4,600 clients have been served including 500 businesses and 9,286 jobs supported in the BRADD region. The office offers free business coaching including assistance with a number of administrative duties including obtaining tax identification numbers, developing and implementing business plans, assistance obtaining capitol and market research. The Center connects businesses to the community and provides supports and resources that would ordinarily require payment. Ms. Kors further added, the Center can aid with completing necessary paperwork. Ms. Kors spoke about the numerous restaurants that have been assisted during COVID crisis. Assistance has also been provided with the payroll protection program loans that are currently offered. Ms. Kors informed the Center is working to continue to add and expand services to the BRADD region.

MINUTES:

With no corrections or additions, the minutes of December 16, 2020 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

Motion was made by Judge/Executive Dennis Harper, seconded by Mr. Michael Stoyonovich to approve the December 16, 2020 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Officers: No Report

Council Reports:

Aging Council

Chairman Thurmond called on Mr. Jesse Varner, Aging Council Chairman. Mr. Varner reported, The Barren River Council on Aging met on January 20th, 2021 via Zoom and Conference Call. Aging Council members reviewed and approved the Aging Services Review Committee report. BRADD/AAAIL has continued to increase meal deliveries to seniors, including shelf stable meals to home delivered and congregate meal clients this year. BRADD/AAAIL is continuing to open clients for services during the pandemic. Anyone in need of assistance through BRADD programs are asked to call the ADRC intake line at 1-800-395-7654. The next Aging Council meeting will take place on May 19, 2021 at 10:00 am CST via Zoom.

Special Advisors Report:

Mrs. Sandy Simpson, Congressman James Comer's Representative, provided a brief report on changes of the new administration. Congressman Comer will continue to serve as leader of the oversight committee and informs leaders must work together to accomplish what is needed. Mrs. Simpson encouraged members to contact Congressman Comer if he can ever be of assistance.

Mr. Elton Thomas, Office of the Governor Representative, provided an update on the recently announced COVID CDBG funds for utility relief, consisting of 38 million in available funds. Mr. Thomas informed Governor Beshear has been asked to chair the national COVID task force due to his effective response with the COVID crisis. Mr. Thomas encouraged constituents to take the newly available broadband speed test initiative to assist in determining areas of greatest need.

Mr. Joe Plunk, Transportation Cabinet, reported revenue has improved for the Department of Transportation with federal allocation. Funds will begin to be authorized in efforts to move current projects along. Mr. Plunk informed SHIFT

meetings are ongoing to sponsor projects for the next budget cycle. Mr. Plunk provided an update on an Allen County project.

Mr. Barclay Trimble, Mammoth Cave Superintendent, provided various park updates. Guided tours are occurring, visitation is down 63 percent from last year. Deputy Superintendent Bruce Powell has retired. Mr. Trimble provided updates on the Green River Ferry project, bridge construction, canoe ramp repair, Grand Avenue Trail closure for improvements, sewer project, road re-pavement, relocating of concessions building. Additionally, Mammoth Cave has been recognized as dark sky designation.

Mr. Doug Taylor, of KYTC Rural Roads, mentioned the ongoing legislative action of the motor fuel tax. Mr. Taylor spoke about an 80/20 bridge program which provides an 80 thousand dollars match to 20 thousand dollars for any structure that carries water above or below a county road. This is a non-competitive grant award with a simple application process.

Mr. Alex Caudill, Representative of the Governor, provided a brief update on the upcoming county budget workshop meetings which are upcoming in February and will take place via zoom with different ADDs as host. Registration is required.

Staff:

Ms. Emily Hathcock, Associate Director of Economic Development

Chairman Thurmond called on Ms. Emily Hathcock, who informed the members their packet contains a project impact report detailing BRADDs 46 active projects that represent over 22.7 million dollars of investment. 18 applications awaiting approval representing over 3.2 million dollars of investment with 28 additional projects in development. Ms. Hathcock also provided a grant summary page in the board packet detailing upcoming grant opportunities. Ms. Hathcock informed county-level steering committee meetings are in progress to review local plans and identify regional trends for the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. DLG credit may be awarded for participation. Additionally, DLG is hosting several virtual budgeting workshops over the next few weeks. Prior registration is required. Ms. Hathcock further informed on February 10th, BRADD will host a Coordinated Plan meeting for Transit services as required for those applying for transportation delivery grants. Lastly, BRADD will hold a zoom meeting on Friday to review the CDBG CARES utility grant program and the requirements for submitting an application of which BRADD will provide assistance in competing. Ms. Hathcock encouraged members to contact BRADD staff with any questions. Chairman Thurmond asked Ms. Hathcock to provide a report on the CARES Revolving Loan Fund. Ms. Hathcock informed BRADD has loaned 300

thousand dollars in funds and has a remaining balance of 10 thousand to lend. Ms. Hathcock encouraged members to contact her if there are qualifying businesses in the region, the program preference is for rural small businesses. Ms. Hathcock informed the interest rate is 2.44 percent for 36-month term. Chairman Thurmond commended the work completed in the RLF program and encouraged members to spread the word about the available remaining balance.

Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director

Chairman Thurmond called on Mr. Sexton, Mr. Sexton called on Judge/Executive Mason Barnes to speak about a broadband initiative. Judge Barnes spoke about a circulating letter which is being written to express the need to the federal government to direct funding for reliable internet throughout the BRADD region. All members in support are asked to sign. Judge Barnes spoke about the pilot internet project in Simpson County and his desire to see further expansion across Simpson county and the region. Mr. Sexton recognized two staff anniversaries. Ms. JoAnne Byrnes is celebrating one year as receptionist. Ms. Kayla Ertle is celebrating one year as Case Manager in Aging Services Department. Further, Mr. Sexton announced Ms. Alecia Johnson has been selected as the new Associate Director of Aging Services. Mr. Sexton informed BRADD has been selected to be audited by the Kentucky State Auditor for the FY 2021 audit. Mr. Sexton spoke about the assistance provided recently to the Finance and Administration Cabinet in their request identifying regional vaccination clinic sites. Further, Mr. Sexton reminded members of the upcoming virtual DLG workshop trainings and the CDBG CARES utility assistance funds, which BRADD will assist in the application process. Lastly, Mr. Sexton informed there will be no February Board Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 1:00 pm with both in-person and virtual meeting opportunities.

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 are 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 Mayor Mark Stratton. Motion carried. (see attached)

2. Quarter Two Financials

Chairman Thurmond called on Mr. Gary Dillard. Mr. Dillard reported the board packet contains the FY 2021 financial report for the second quarter ending December 31, 2020. In revenue, BRADD has recognized approximately \$5.6 million through the first quarter of FY 21. This represents 49% of the annual revenue budgeted. In expenditures, approximately \$5.4 million has been spent for the same period. This represents 49% of the annual expenditures budgeted.

Motion: Mr. Gary Dillard made a motion to approve the quarter two financials as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Mark Stratton. Motion carried. (see attached)

3. Aging Review Committee

Chairman Thurmond called on Mayor Mark Stratton. Mayor Stratton informed the Executive Council met prior to the board meeting to review and approve the Aging Services Review Committee Report. The board packet contains a copy of the Aging Services Review Committee Report and Unit Cost Comparison spreadsheet. Mayor Stratton asked for any questions, hearing none he made a motion that the BRADD Board approve the Aging Services Review Committee's Report.

Motion: Mayor Mark Stratton made a motion to approve the Aging Services Review Committee Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Dwayne Hatcher. Motion carried. (see attached)

ADJOURN

With no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Larry Dixon and seconded by Mayor Mark Stratton to adjourn.



Signed, Chairman



Approved, Secretary