

MINUTES
BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 23, 2022

TIME & PLACE:

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, 2022. BRADD Chairman Steve Thurmond called the BRADD Board Meeting to order.

Mrs. Michelle Hines, BRADD Deputy Director, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Thurmond welcomed all board members, special advisors, and attendees to the BRADD March Board Meeting. Chairman Thurmond asked for any guests in attendance to be recognized, Mr. Gary Dillard introduced his guest Mr. Doug Gorman, Warren County Magistrate.

ATTENDANCE:

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

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Chairman Thurmond introduced the first guest speaker, Commissioner Bobbi Jo Lewis, of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Rural and Municipal Aid. Commissioner Lewis provided a power point presentation overview of the Rural and Municipal Aid division which included a financial breakdown of each area of funding for the division. The overall road aid budget totals 492 million dollars. Commissioner Lewis provided a summary of the revenue sharing program which included gas tax. The current gas tax rate is 0.26 cents per gallon. The revenue generated from each penny equates to 30 million dollars. She further described the allocation of these funds. Commissioner Lewis answered questions of the members.

Chairman Thurmond introduced the second speakers, BRADD staff, Ms. Emily Hathcock and Ms. Dajana Crockett. Ms. Hathcock began the presentation of 2022 Regional Hazard Mitigation overview. Ms. Hathcock informed the members of the new website format BRADD staff have created in efforts to move from paper form to more interactive digital platform. Ms. Hathcock displayed the website and demonstrated how to access important information including the requirements of FEMA. She informed without the plan, entities are not eligible for funding. Ms. Hathcock showed the members where information collected

from the recent county level steering committee meetings could be located, along with frequently asked questions and the strategic plans. Ms. Hathcock also pointed out a live feedback application which is an area where the public can log concerns related to natural disaster areas. Ms. Dajana Crockett presented examples of specific hazards located on the website and the historical log of past hazardous disaster declarations across the district. Ms. Crockett provided a breakdown using the example of a tornado disaster and demonstrated to the members information available including a mapped tornado pathway, and specifics broken down by each county. She pointed out an additional feature for mobile home density which tracks the location of mobile homes for necessary information for disaster planning purposes. Further the mitigation strategy goals and objectives were reviewed. They informed the need of reliance on public input was key for the creation of the information and, thanked all who took part in the county level planning process.

MINUTES:

With no corrections or additions, the minutes of the January 26, 2022 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

Motion was made by Mayor Mike Hughes, seconded by Mayor Larry Dixon to approve the January 26, 2022 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Officers: No Report

Council Reports:

Aging Council Report:

Chairman Thurmond called on Ms. Alecia Johnson who reported on behalf of Aging Council Chairman, Mr. Jesse Varner. Ms. Johnson informed, the Barren River Council on Aging met on March 16, 2022. Council members reviewed and approved the Aging Services Review Committee report, which recommendations will be made by the Executive Council. Following the Council meeting a public hearing was held to review and discuss the Aging Services Area Plan for the next fiscal year. The Area Plan will be completed and submitted to the Department for Aging and Independent Living by the end of March. Further, Ms. Johnson informed BRADD has received a grant from CDC to help encourage COVID-19 vaccinations for seniors. The grant will create a transportation voucher to help pay for rides to vaccination appointments. The next Aging Council meeting will take place May 18, 2022 at 10 am in the BRADD Conference Center.

Water Management Council:

Chairman Thurmond called on Judge/Executive Wil Cannon who reported the Water Management Council met on March 2, 2022 and discussed amended projects and approved needed changes. BRADD staff Morgan Hershey had two announcements regarding cleaner water grant updates and the upcoming system visits. Entities are awaiting conditional commitment letters from the state regarding the cleaner water program but are working with Morgan to do as much as they can to prepare ahead of time. Additionally, Morgan announced system visits are going to be completed now through April, which are expected to be scheduled soon. The next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 9:30am at the BRADD Conference Center.

Regional Transportation Council:

Chairman Thurmond called on Judge/Executive Dennis Harper, who reported the Committee met on March 2, 2022 and approved the minutes from the previous meeting. Transportation Planner Nate Heisler reviewed the new scenic byways inventories, pending TAP projects for Russellville, Edmonton, Auburn and Franklin. Updates were provided by KYTC Mr. Wes Watt, District 3 and Mr. Brad Bottoms, District 4. Mrs. Susan Harmon gave a presentation for the Bowling Green/Warren County Regional Airport. The group discussed a potential Amtrak route connecting Nashville to Louisville and what that could mean for the Barren River area.

Regional Economic Development Committee:

Chairman Thurmond called on Mayor Dwayne Hatcher who reported, the Committee met on March 8, 2022 via zoom to review the final draft the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and recommends it's approval to the BRADD Board. A resolution approval will be presented by the Executive Council. The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2022. Any questions should be directed to Ms. Emily Hathcock.

Special Advisors Report:

Mr. Gilbert Mischel, Senator McConnel's representative, provided an update concerning the FEMA cost share announcement, an approval of 90 percent coverage for all natural disasters from the past two years. Mr. Mischel spoke about the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award and grant funds.

Mr. Mark Lord, Congressman Guthrie's representative, provided a brief update concerning federal earmark funds for Congressionally directed spending with the next Federal budget. Further guidance will be given in the near future. Mr. Lord informed a rural health regional example includes Caverna Hospital, which serves a wide population.

Mrs. Sandy Simpson, Congressman Comers Representative, provided a brief update and encouraged members to contact the Congressman's office with any FEMA guidance or questions. Capitol tours have resumed on a limited basis. Mrs. Simpson spoke about the bipartisan Postal Reform Bill, which passed recently, with efforts from the Congressman.

Mr. Joe Plunk, Transportation Department, Mr. Plunk spoke about many projects across the region. A pavement job on I-65 in Simpson County will connect to Tennessee's widening project and will result in a 24-mile stretch of construction on I-65. Mr. Plunk spoke about other traffic impact changes and significant road projects with I-165, Louie Nunn Parkway and highway 90 in Barren County.

Mr. Barclay Trimble, Mammoth Cave Superintendent, provided park updates including strong park visitation continues. The park has now removed its mask mandate. Park improvement projects include sewer project, roof and concession improvement projects. Park workers are preparing for a busy spring and summer season.

Staff:

Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director, recognized three staff one-year anniversaries with the Aging Department, Mrs. Jill Hall, Ms. Fayth Rose and Mrs. Hollie Smith. Mr. Sexton further announced that Mrs. Smith has accepted the Aging Planner position. Mr. Sexton provided Economic Development announcements which included the project impact report consisting of 55 active projects representing 32 million dollars of investment. 174 applications awaiting approval representing 235 million dollars of investment and 21 projects in development. Upcoming grant opportunities include Recreational Trails and Land and Water which are both due May 31, 2022. A Rubber Modified Asphalt grant is open and due May 1, 2022. BRADD has completed the defederalization process for the regular revolving loan fund (RLF) which will provide greater flexibility and less stringent federal requirements. Mr. Sexton provided Legislative updates concerning House Bill 482 which increases funding to the Joint Funding Agreement (JFA) for a proposed 2 million. It has passed the House but there is a possible 1 million reduction to the bill before the Senate approval. House Bill 475 and 476 are important to local governments constitutional amendment to ensure local revenue streams do not change. In the Federal government, the Senate has passed daylight savings time bill, it now awaits the House for

approval. Mr. Sexton thanked Butler County for their administration services as Fiscal Agent for the Hazard Mitigation grant. Lastly, the next Board Meeting will be the annual Legislative Luncheon to be held in Butler County at the Morgantown Community Church on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

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 eight regional clearinghouse projects. The 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 eight regional clearinghouse projects as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge/Executive Dennis Harper. Motion carried. (see attached)

2. Audit RFP

Mr. Gary Dillard reported the Executive Council met and reviewed the Budget and Personnel Committee's recommendation to accept the request for proposals for financial and compliance audits for the year ending June 30, 2022, with four possible one-year extensions. The only proposal received was from the current auditor Carr, Riggs and Ingram (CRI). The Executive Council recommends the approval of Carr, Riggs and Ingram audit proposal be accepted for audit years ending June 30, 2022 through June 26, 2026.

Motion: Mr. Gary Dillard made a motion to approve the financial audit request for proposal as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge/Executive Wil Cannon. Motion carried. (See attached)

3. Hazard Mitigation Resolution

Mayor Mark Stratton reported the Regional Economic Development Committee met on March 8, 2022 to consider the adoption of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan update. You have heard a presentation of the update today from the BRADD staff. Upon the committee's recommendation, I recommend the update be adopted.

Motion: Mayor Mark Stratton made a motion to approve the Regional Hazard Mitigation Resolution. The motion was seconded by Mayor Mike Hughes. Motion carried. (See attached)

4. Aging Review Committee Report

Mayor Mark Stratton reported the Executive Council met prior to the board meeting and reviewed the Aging Services Review Committee report. A copy of the report and cost comparison sheet is provided in the Members packet. Community Action of Southern Kentucky submitted the only proposal for transportation services for fiscal year 2023, 2024, 2025.

Motion, Mayor Mark Stratton made a motion to approve the Aging Review Committee report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Larry Dixon. Motion carried. (See attached)

Lastly, Chairman Thurmond called on representatives present from each county for a roundtable announcement and update from each respective county.

ADJOURN

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



Signed, Chairman



Approved, Secretary