

MINUTES
BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 26, 2023

TIME & PLACE:

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 26, 2023 at the BRADD Conference Center.

Mr. Clark Arnold led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Dillard welcomed all guests in attendance and recognized newly elected officials present; Judge/Executive Larry Wilson, Metcalfe County, Judge/Executive Phil Baker, Logan County, Judge/Executive Scott Lindsey, Edmonson County, Judge/Executive Doug Gorman, Warren County. Judge Lindsey introduced guest, Mr. John Sanders, Edmonson County Economic Development Consultant.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Chairman Dillard introduced guest speaker, Mr. Kevin Yates of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Mr. Yates informed the SBDC serves all 120 Kentucky counties with 15 regional offices. The BRADD area office is located in Bowling Green at the WKU's Center for Research and Development. Mr. Yates informed the center operates with the assistance of many partners and with the contributions of many of the City and County governments. The center is looking for more partnerships to further grow and expand services. The center currently has 120 active clients. The motto, small business is big business, stands as a testament to the importance of supporting the regional small businesses. Mr. Yates explained any company with less than 500 employees is considered a small business. There are 360,000 small businesses across the state. The center offers business coaching, assists in putting together a business plan, guides financing needs, and helps obtain grants among various other supports to those opening a business. There are weekly training webinars offered concerning topics of marketing, accounting, human resources, etc. that provide a plethora of knowledge to new business owners. Mr. Yates provided statistical information on clients served, jobs created and retained through the efforts of the center. Mr. Yates encouraged members to share information about the Small Business Development Center with members of their communities.

ATTENDANCE:

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

MINUTES:

With no corrections or additions, the minutes of the December 14, 2022 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

Motion was made by Mayor Randall Curry, seconded by Mrs. Dell Hall to approve the December 14, 2022 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Officers:

Chairman Dillard introduced the new slate of BRADD Officers to the Board;
Chairman, Mr. Gary Dillard
Vice Chair, Judge/Executive Joe Choate
Secretary, Mayor Billy Phelps
Treasurer, Judge/Executive Dennis Harper
Past Chair, Mr. Steve Thurmond

Council Reports:

Aging Council:

Chairman Dillard called on Mr. Jesse Varner, Aging Council Chairman. Mr. Varner reported, The Aging Council met on Wednesday, January 18 and reviewed and approved the Aging Services Review Committee report. The Executive Council will make those recommendations. BRADD has recently received a new funding source from the Department for Aging and Independent Living to expand meal offerings. As a result, the meals waiting list has been eliminated in most counties. This funding is expected for two fiscal years. Mr. Varner reported, BRADD Family Caregiver Coordinator Josh Ritchie hosts a monthly caregiver support group and invites anyone providing care to a loved one know about this opportunity to connect with others. BRADD completed a food drive and averaged 64 bags that were delivered to needy clients in the region. BRADDs Christmas drive resulted in 50 presents distributed to clients. Individuals in need received blankets, socks, and other personal care items. The District Long Term Care Ombudsman's Blanket Drive was very successful with over 800 blankets collected and distributed to residents of long-term care facilities in the region. Mr. Varner stated, BRADD staff are currently working on updating the Aging Services Area Plan for FY 24. A copy of the current plan is available on the BRADD website. The next Aging Council meeting is scheduled for May 17th, 2023 at 10AM at the BRADD Conference Center.

Water Management Council:

Chairman Dillard called on Judge/Executive Mason Barnes, Council Chairman, who reported the Water Management Council (WMC) met in a special called zoom meeting on November 1, 2022. The council approved 41 new and amended project profiles ahead of the FY2024 KIA SRF call for projects deadline. The BRADD WMC met for a regularly scheduled meeting on December 15, 2022. The council approved three amended project profiles, the 2024 KIA SRF Ranking Lists, bylaw edits, as well as new officers. Special thanks to Judge/Executive Wil Cannon for his time and service to the BRADD WMC Chairman. Judge/Executive Mason Barnes will serve as the new WMC Chairman with Judge/Executive Scott Lindsey serving as Vice-Chairman. The next regularly scheduled WMC meeting is Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at the BRADD Conference Center at 10am.

Regional Transportation Committee:

Chairman Dillard called on Judge/Executive Joe Choate who reported the BRADD Regional Transportation Committee met on December 15, 2022. Patti Zullo from Spectrum Smart Cities provided a presentation about Intelligent Transportation and using data collection for transportation planning. The Committee elected new officers with Mayor David Burch being elected as Chairman and Judge/Executive Doug Gorman as Vice-Chairman. The Committee also reviewed and updated the committee's membership to better follow the by-law guidelines. With no other business, the Committee adjourned. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 1st at 11am at the BRADD Conference Center.

Economic Development Committee:

Chairman Dillard called on Mayor Dwayne Hatcher who reported the BRADD Regional Economic Development Committee met on December 15, 2022. The committee revised the work being done by WKU through the Thriving Earth Exchange regarding climate change impacts on regional hazards. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at the BRADD Conference Center.

Special Advisors:

Mr. Clark Arnold, Senator Rand Paul's Representative, provided information on a recent bill sponsored by Senator Paul. The American Act, suggests a reinstatement of any service member related to COVID discharge, providing exemptions for COVID vaccination requirements.

Gilbert Mischel, Senator McConnell's Representative, spoke about current farm bill which is reviewed every five years. The Senator sits on the Agricultural Committee and invites the farming and agricultural communities to submit ideas and proposals for the bill update.

Mrs. Sandy Simpson, Congressman Comer's Representative, spoke about the Congressman's work on the Pharmacy bill by examining high drug costs with pharmacy benefits managers. Further, Congressman Comer is looking into COVID funding that may have been distributed fraudulently.

Mr. Joe Plunk, KY Department of Transportation, encouraged members to attend the BRADDs upcoming CEDS Summit as they will also have an opportunity to hear from KYTC. Mr. Plunk spoke about a funding opportunity with TAP grant which is a non-motorized funding opportunity to enhance sidewalk safety. Mr. Plunk expressed the importance of pedestrian and bicyclist safety as one in seven vehicle related accidents were vulnerable deaths of bicyclists and pedestrians. Grant submissions are due March 1st.

Mr. Barclay Trimble, Mammoth Cave National Park Superintendent, provided various park announcements and updates including increased tourism for 2022 with 533 thousand visitors. Park trail work continues along with the construction of the Concessions building.

Staff Reports:

Ms. Emily Hathcock, Associate Director of Economic Development, reported the members packet contains a project impact report with 60 active projects representing 37 million dollars of investment. 189 funding applications awaiting approval representing 286 million dollars in investment and 39 projects in development. Ms. Hathcock informed the member packet also contains a flyer for the upcoming CEDS Summit to be held next Tuesday, January 31, 2023 from 9:15 am to 2:15 pm at the Cave City Convention Center. Additionally a listing of several different upcoming grant opportunities was included for the members review. Ms. Hathcock informed of two cybersecurity trainings that will take place on February first and second. This will be an opportunity for Community Members to better understand and prepare for cyber incidents. Ms. Hathcock informed members to contact the Economic Development staff if they have any questions about project or grants.

Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director, provided various announcements and updates including recognizing a one-year staff anniversary, Mr. Zach Korte, Staff Accountant. Mr. Sexton informed Board Members are asked to complete two different conflict of interest forms due to their position as Board Member. The BRADD Conflict of Interest form asks for members to disclose anything that could create a conflict with their decision-making efforts for BRADD business. The Ombudsman program works with the regions long term care facilities. Members are asked to disclose any involvement or financial interests in nursing home facilities across the region in efforts to disclose any possible conflicts with decision making on behalf of the program. Mr. Sexton informed forms are to be completed and returned to Caleb for filing. Mr. Sexton stated The KY Council of ADDs will host the annual Legislative Breakfast on Thursday, February 9, 2023 from 7:00 am to 8:30 am EST, with the KCADD Board Meeting to follow. Mr. Steve Thurmond will move up to KCADD Chairman. Chairman Dillard has appointed Judge/Executive Joe Choate as the second BRADD member to the KCADD Board. BRADD will host a DLG County Budget Workshop on February 22, registration link and agenda will be released next week. BRADD will also host Connected Nations on February 28th at 1pm for a Broadband Listening Session as part of a statewide tour. Mr. Sexton is excited about the upcoming CEDS Summit on Tuesday and looks forward to seeing many members there. Lastly, Mr. Sexton informed there will not be a February Board Meeting due to the Legislative Session, the next meeting will be held March 22, 2023 at 1:00 pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

Executive Council Reports:

1. Clearinghouse Projects

Judge/Executive Joe Choate, Vice Chairman, reported the Executive Council met prior to the BRADD Board Meeting and considered nine regional clearinghouse projects. The project descriptions were provided in the board packet. Upon review of the projects, the Executive Council recommended approval.

Motion: Judge/Executive Joe Choate made a motion to approve nine regional clearinghouse projects as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Dwayne Hatcher. Motion carried. (See attached)

2. Financial Report

Judge/Executive Dennis Harper, Treasurer, reported the members packet contained the fiscal year 2023 financial report for the second quarter ending December 31, 2022. In revenue, BRADD recognized approximately 8.11 million

dollars. This represents 47 percent of the annual revenue budgeted. In expenditures, approximately 8 13 million dollars has been spent for the same period. This represents 47 percent of the annual expenditures budgeted.

Motion: Judge/Executive Dennis Harper made a motion to approve the quarter two financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Michael Stoyonovich. Motion carried. (See attached)

3. Aging Review Committee

Mr. Steve Thurmond reported the member packet contains a copy of the Aging review committee report. The Executive Council met prior and considered the report, with no bids for the Title III-D Health and Prevention Service Providers, the Executive Council recommends the services be provided by the BRADD Office.

Motion: Mr. Steve Thurmond made a motion to approve the Aging Review Committee report as presented. The motion was seconded by Tom Harned. Motion carried. (See attached)

ADJOURN

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


Signed, Chairman Vice Chair


Approved, Secretary