

## BARREN RIVER



### BRADD REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

March 6th, 2025 11:00 a.m.

BRADD Conference Center

### MINUTES

#### I. Call to Order

Committee Chairman Mayor David Burch called the March 6, 2025 meeting of the BRADD Regional Transportation Committee to order at 11:00 a.m. CST. This meeting took place at the BRADD conference center. Those in attendance were as follows:

#### Allen

Dennis Harper, Judge/Exec. of Allen Co.  
David Burch, Mayor of Scottsville  
Kerry Harwood, Scottsville Transit  
Amanda Howard, Cal Turner

#### Barren

Dwayne Hatcher, Mayor of Scottsville  
Kevin Myatt, JCCPC  
Lanise Coe, Glasgow Transit  
Tara Bailey, Barren Co. YMCA

#### Butler

Billy Phelps, Mayor of Morgantown  
Ryan Emmick, Butler Co. Schools

#### Edmonson

Scott Lindsey, Judge/Exec. of Edmonson Co.

#### Hart

#### Logan

Chris Wilcutt, McGhee Engineering

#### Metcalfe

Moe Hensley, Edmonton

#### Monroe

#### Simpson

Bob Palmer, Emergency Manager

#### Warren

Austin Sims, GoBG Transit  
Carroll Duckworth, CCPC/MPO  
Marissa Butler, Bowling Green  
Melissa Causler, Bowling Green  
Rick Williams, Magistrate

#### KYTC

Ben Hunt  
Christopher Walden  
Kevin Blain  
Wes Watt

#### Guests

#### BRADD Staff

Chelsea Carroll  
Ethan Bates  
Emily Hathcock  
Eric Sexton  
Kim Morrow  
Ty Foster

## **II. Approval of December 4, 2024, Minutes**

Chairman Burch referred all parties to the recorded minutes from the December 4, 2024, RTC meeting that were presented to voting Committee members. Mayor Hatcher made a motion to approve the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Judge Harper. Motion carried.

## **III. Coordinated Transit Plan – Ethan Bates**

Ethan Bates, Regional Transportation Planner, explained to the group that this quarter's RTC meeting was also serving as the annual Regional Coordinated Transit Meeting, and that the meeting was an important step in developing the Transit Coordinated Plan for the region. Mr. Bates gave a presentation that began by reviewing the transit formula grant funding programs available through the plan, including Section 5304 to support planning for making transportation investment decisions, Section 5310 to support nonprofit entities and eligible public bodies for transportation of the elderly and disabled, and Section 5311 to provide financial assistance to support public transportation services in rural areas. The presentation also reviewed the existing public and private providers of transit services within the region.

The presentation then shifted to open discussion about Gaps and Needs within the region. Transit representatives agreed that the previous year's Gaps and Needs were still obstacles, while also discussing the difficulties experienced from being strictly limited to operating within city limits. This is a challenge when important services and business can often be located just outside city limits. Mayor Phelps of Morgantown discussed the need to provide backup vehicles for when the city's primary bus was under maintenance, or when severe weather conditions like recent snow and flooding restricted access. Ryan Emmick informed the committee that local school systems offer programs to assist in training employees in obtaining their CDL, which may help address concerns about hiring qualified vehicle operators. The committee then focused on the Strategies to Address Needs, which remained similar to the previous year. Education efforts to change the public's mentality towards public transit and inform them of the benefits remained an important strategy, as did the goal to work with county governments to expand transit access beyond city limits to connect more rural citizens. The committee also affirmed that pursuing regional transit options and interconnectivity remained a high priority. The presentation ended with Mr. Bates informing the committee of the April 1 deadline to submit Section 53xx grants and encouraging any interested parties to reach out to work collaboratively on their application.

## **IV. FY25 SHIFT – Ethan Bates**

Ethan Bates presented the RTC with the FY25 SHIFT list of sponsored projects for review. Mr. Bates explained that SHIFT was a biennial process where BRADD and KYTC meet with the 9 counties not served by the Bowling Green-Warren County MPO to identify and sponsor the most important roadway projects in their communities. These sponsored projects then get put through a scoring system. Scoring helps determine what projects get put into KYTC's

Recommended Highway plan, which is then sent to state legislators for final funding decisions. Mr. Bates explained that BRADD and KYTC Districts 3 & 4 had spent the previous month conducting meetings with each of the County Judge/Executives, with many mayors and other stakeholders in attendance. After the committee reviewed the sponsored projects resulting from those meetings, Chairman Burch requested a motion to approve the sponsorship listing. Mayor Phelps made a motion to approve the FY25 SHIFT Sponsorships as presented, and the motion was seconded by Judge Harper. Motion carried.

#### **V. BRADD Transportation Project Updates**

Ethan Bates gave the following updates on transportation-related projects BRADD is currently working on:

- **RAISE Grant:** BRADD's ongoing RAISE grant funds multiple components. The first is Walk Audits to assess bike/pedestrian infrastructure in each city within the region. These have been ongoing and about 2/3 of the cities in the region have been surveyed. The second component is procuring a consultant to provide preliminary designs for Complete Streets sidewalk projects in 5 cities: Franklin, Glasgow, Russellville, Scottsville, and Tompkinsville. The RFP for these services is expected to be released within one week of the RTC. Attendees were encouraged to spread the word.
- **SS4A Grant:** BRADD's ongoing Safe Streets for All grant is currently in the hands of the UK Research Foundation, as they are in the final stages of developing the Action Plan to address hazardous roadways throughout the 10 counties.
- **Woodburn TAP Grant:** BRADD has been assisting the City of Woodburn in administering their TAP grant for sidewalks on KY240, which had released advertisements for construction bids in the Bowling Green Daily News. Attendees were encouraged to spread the word.
- **BG-MC Shared Use Trail Feasibility Study:** The feasibility study for a shared use trail connecting downtown Bowling Green to Mammoth Cave was in the early development stages, with Gresham Smith being selected as the consultant to lead the study. Public involvement meetings were expected to be held within the coming months, and the committee was encouraged to attend.
- **Major Freight Users:** As part of BRADD's contract with KYTC, BRADD will be updating their inventory of Major Freight Users in the region. Committee members were encouraged to share any major industry or business developments that might fit the criteria.

#### **VI. KYTC District 4 Updates – Kevin Blain**

Kevin Blain, Project Development Branch Manager of KYTC District 4, gave updates on project in Hart County. The Horse Cave Bypass project was nearing completion and expected to be complete by June 30, 2025.

#### **VII. KYTC District 3 Updates – Wes Watt**

Wes Watt, Public information of KYTC District 3, gave updates on various projects throughout the region, noting that the construction season was just beginning. Mr. Watt stated that there were still road closures in Franklin as a result of widespread flooding in recent weeks. Notable construction projects beginning included two bridges in Edmonson and Monroe counties, as well as various paving projects to address potholes and other issues.

**VIII. Other Transportation Discussion**

Carroll Duckworth, Bowling Green-Warren County MPO Coordinator, informed the group of Bowling Green’s BG 2050 long-term strategic planning effort and its “What Could BG Be?” initiative, which allows allow the people of Warren County to share their ideas and help shape the future of the community. Committee members were encouraged to share their thoughts using the project’s website.

Mr. Duckworth also informed the group about an upcoming open-house style workshop being held on March 13<sup>th</sup> to share feedback, share draft lists of transportation projects, and get public comment as part of developing the MPO’s 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Committee members were encouraged to attend.

**IX. Next Meeting Date**

The next regular RTC meeting is currently scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in the BRADD conference center.

**X. Adjournment**

Chairman Burch requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m. Mayor Phelps made a motion to adjourn, and the motion was seconded by Judge Harper. Motion carried.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_