

**MINUTES**  
**BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**May 22, 2024**

**TIME & PLACE:**

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at the BRADD Conference Center.

Ms. Dawn Devore led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guests in attendance.

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

Chairman Dillard introduced guest speaker, Ms. Larua Burgan, the Assistant Ombudsman with the Barren River Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. Ms. Burgan presented a regional look into elder abuse. Ms. Burgan informed the month of May has a federal designation as Older Americans month. This is an opportunity to bring to light the needs of older citizens and make know the seriousness of elder abuse. Ms. Burgan defined elder abuse as the knowing or intentional act of causing serious harm to an older adult. Elder abuse is often known as the silent crime. Ms. Burgan informed that in KY last year alone there were 19,945 elder abuse claims with 5,840 meeting the criteria for APS investigation. It is important to be aware of the many ways abuse may take place. Ms. Burgan described those include; physical, sexual, emotional/psychological, neglect, abandonment, financial/material, and self-neglect. Ms. Burgan encouraged members to know the signs, watch for red flags and report signs of abuse. KY is a mandatory reporting state. Ms. Burgan provided the process to make a report. Many members asked questions pertaining to the topic. Ms. Burgan informed an Ombudsman staff or volunteer must visit a nursing home facility at least once each quarter to assess the needs and serve as an advocate for the residents, signs of elder abuse is a top priority.

**MINUTES:**

With no corrections or additions, the minutes of the April 29, 2024 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

**Motion was made by Mayor Billy Phelps, seconded by Ms. Sue Parrigin to approve the April 29, 2024 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Officers:** No Report

**Council Reports:**

**Aging Council:**

Chairman Dillard called on Ms. Vickie Walker, who reported BRADD recently started two new partnerships with regional exercise facilities that will provide classes through Title III-D to the aging population. BRADD partnered with The Core of Scottsville in Allen County and the Carpenter Center in Russellville to provide Silver Sneakers classes. Title III-D classes are available throughout the region and include; Drums Alive, On the Move, Silver Sneakers, Tai Chi for Arthritis, and more. BRADD has continued to use America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to complete special projects in the region, including holding computer trainings at area senior centers, purchases to enhance senior centers including first aid kits, AEDs, and CPR/First Aid trainings for center managers. BRADD was also able to use funds to assist in-home clients including dentures, hearing aids, and HVAC repairs. BRADD recently updated the Aging Services Area Plan for FY 25 and submitted to Department for Aging and Independent Living for approval. The month of May is designated as Older American's Month. This year's theme is "Powered by Connection". There will be events taking place across the region in celebration. A listing of those events is provided in your board packet. For further recognition, BRADD staff attempt to identify those turning 100 years old within the year. If you know of someone reaching this amazing milestone, please contact the BRADD Office in efforts to recognize them for reaching this milestone. For those Aging Council members whose terms expire in July, letters will be sent to Mayors, Judges, and Senior Centers asking to reappoint their member or appoint a new member. Aging Council officer nominations will take place at the August meeting. May 15<sup>th</sup> was the final Aging Council Meeting for the fiscal year. The next Aging Council meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 10 am at the BRADD Conference Center.

**Special Advisors:**

**Ms. Hunter Whitaker**, Senator Mitch McConnell's Representative, noted this week as national peace officer's week with a memorial to be held in Washington D.C. Updates on behalf of the Senator included FAA re-authorization to highlight KY

priorities, The Career Act efforts with transitional housing pilot project, and higher education delays with FASFA. Ms. Whitaker encouraged members to contact her if the Senators office could be of assistance.

**Mr. Mark Lord**, Congressman Brett Guthrie's Representative, provided updates on the federal budget with the Congressman's work on 40 earmarked projects. \$35 million has been allocated towards 15 projects as sent to the House Budget for approval. Mr. Lord spoke about economic growth being good but leading to challenges and encouraged communities to request funding based on their area's need. The Congressman is concerned with healthcare pricing and fraud for older adults and is looking for secure process for data. Congressman Guthrie will be in the region this weekend for the Warren Co. Memorial Day celebrations.

**Mrs. Sandy Simpson**, Congressman Comer's Representative, provided a brief report and informed the House voted in favor of federal aviation. Further, she informed of the Congressman's efforts toward preventing illegal immigrants from election voting. She encouraged participation in the Congressional art competition which takes place each year.

**Mrs. Martha Jane King**, DLG Representative, spoke about the new website the Department for Local Government has now launched. Further mentions were House Bill 1 and House Bill 9, which entities will now need to re-submit projects to the Economic Development Cabinet for further processing. The Governors discretionary road funds are under consideration with the General Assembly.

**Mr. Joe Plunk**, KY Department of Transportation, spoke about the new highway plan which includes the department's budget with a list of projects for over two years. The plan includes 34 new projects, with over 50 ongoing projects. The plan is now published on the KYTC website. Mr. Plunk spoke about various regional projects including the new Bucees roundabout and exit ramp work with expected opening of the new business at the end of June.

**Mr. Jon Sowards**, Workforce Development, introduced guest Jennifer Capps with American Red Cross who spoke about the various services Red Cross provides including their response to home fires, direct client financial assistance in response to disaster, veteran services, and many more areas. Ms. Capps spoke about the need for volunteers to complete their mission.

**Mr. Barclay Trimble**, Mammoth Cave National Park, informed the park visitation was up eight percent. He provided updates on the Woodland cabin remodel

project which is being concluded. The park will host the first high school class for the summer park educational series. The Green River Ferry is currently in operation.

### **Staff Reports:**

**Ms. Emily Hathcock**, Associate Director of Economic Development, informed the members their packet contains a copy of the project impact report. The report outlines 72 active projects of which represent over \$95 million in investment, 92 projects awaiting approval representing over \$135 million in investment, and 33 projects in development. Ms. Hathcock informed members of various training opportunities including Complete Streets training, Tornado Awareness, and Infrastructure Protection Certificate. The members packet contained additional information about each. She also spoke about the BEAD Challenge process for the Broadband Equity, Access and Development (BEAD) program. Individuals can challenge the broadband map for areas with inadequate speeds. A flyer in the board packet contains information on how to participate. Members can visit BRADDs planning website for additional information.

**Mr. Eric Sexton**, Executive Director, provided various updates and announcements. Mr. Sexton introduced four new staff. Three new Case Managers in the Aging Department, Ms. Heather Barbour, Ms. Ceara Baker, and Ms. Hannah Addington. One Community Development Specialist in the Community and Economic Development Department, Mr. Tyler Hopkins. Mr. Sexton recognized milestone staff anniversaries. For one year, Ms. Brooke Edwards having preciously served four years. And twenty-year anniversaries, Mrs. Amy Carroll and Mrs. Hong Nguyen. Mr. Sexton informed the Department for Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) requires annual training for Board Members. Today's meeting will satisfy one required training. Another opportunity has been emailed for OnDemand training. Mr. Sexton encouraged members to complete the survey upon completion. Mr. Sexton spoke about House Bill 9 which will be administered by the Economic Development Cabinet. Additional information can be found at [ced.ky.gov/grant](http://ced.ky.gov/grant). Following the meeting, Sam Flynn with the KY Medical Cannabis Office, will be available via zoom to provide information about this program. Lastly, next month's board meeting will be held on an alternate date and time, Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 5:30 pm at the BRADD office, with a networking reception to begin at 5:00 pm.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Executive Council Reports:**

## 1. Clearinghouse Projects

Chairman Dillard called on Mayor Billy Phelps who informed the BRADD Executive Council met prior to the BRADD Board Meeting and reviewed and considered eleven regional clearinghouse projects. Detailed project descriptions are included in the member's packet. Upon review, the Council recommended approval.

**Motion: Mayor Phelps made a motion to approve eleven regional clearinghouse projects as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Dwayne Hatcher. Motion carried. (See attached)**

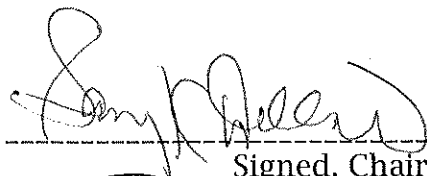
## 2. FY 25 Budget

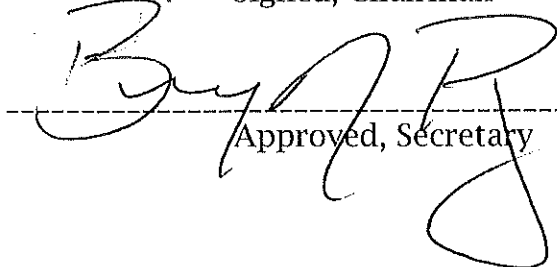
Chairman Dillard called on Judge/Executive Dennis Harper who reported the Executive Council met prior to the Board Meeting and reviewed the Fiscal Year 2025 budget. A one page summary of the budget is provided in the board packet. For FY 25 BRADD has a budget of approximately \$24.67 million in revenue and \$24.63 million in expenditure. Upon approval it will be placed on the BRADD website.

**Motion: Judge/Executive Dennis Harper made a motion to approve Fiscal Year 2025 budget. The motion was seconded by Mayor Billy Phelps. Motion carried. (See attached)**

ADJOURN

**With no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Michael Hughes and seconded by Judge/Executive Tim Flener to adjourn.**

  
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Signed, Chairman

  
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Approved, Secretary