

**MINUTES**  
**BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**June 25, 2025**

**TIME & PLACE:**

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at the BRADD Conference Center.

Chairman Joe Choate called the meeting to order.

Mayor Randall Curry led the prayer of invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**MINUTES:**

With no corrections or additions, the minutes of the May 28, 2025 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

**Motion was made by Judge/Executive Tim Flener, seconded by Judge/Executive Phil Baker to approve the May 28, 2025 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Chairman Choate introduced guest speaker the Department for Local Government (DLG) Commissioner, Matt Sawyers. Commissioner Sawyers presented an overview concerning the operations of the state department. All KY counties annual budgets have been submitted with review underway. He spoke about DLGs partnerships and projects over the years. Recent years budget increases have allowed DLG the ability to manage more programs. The department desires to serve communities, on the ground, being present with the work occurring. Mr. Sawyers spoke about the Governors Local Issues Conference to be held August 13-15 at the Galt House in Louisville. Mr. Sawyers expressed how important federal involvement is in the work done and specifically, about the importance of continuing to advocate for opportunities of economic growth. Commissioner Sawyers spoke about the disaster recovery funds and the importance of continuing to push for federal investment.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Executive Council Reports:**

#### **1. Clearinghouse Projects**

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

**Motion: Mayor Billy Phelps made a motion to approve four regional clearinghouse projects as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge/Executive Mason Barnes. Motion carried. (See attached)**

#### **2. FY 26 Budget**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Michael Stoyonovich, who reported the Executive Council met prior to this meeting and reviewed the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. A one-page summary of the budget is in your packet. For FY 2026, BRADD has a budget of approximately \$52.03 million in revenue and \$50.17 million in expenditure. Upon approval it will be placed on our website.

**Motion: Mr. Michael Stoyonovich made a motion to approve the FY 26 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Thurmond. Motion carried. (See attached)**

#### **3. Directors Report**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director. Mr. Sexton introduced new staff, Warren County Senior Center Manager, Ms. Tamatha Isom. Mr. Sexton informed the BRADD Annual Meeting will be held on September 30 in Hart County. Mr. Sexton noted the increase in the budget largely by \$20 million related to the Anchor Project for the regional mental health and substance abuse intake center. The Opioid Advisory Committee met recently and heard from guest speaker Chris Evans on abatement funds. The next Opioid Advisory Committee meeting will be September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 pm at the BRADD Office. Mr. Sexton spoke about July 1<sup>st</sup> transitions of the senior centers with BRADD becoming the direct service provider. Mr. Sexton informed the members packet contains a copy of the annual Tim Lee Carter and William H. Natcher annual service award nomination forms.

REPORTS:

## **Water Management Council**

Chairman Choate called on Judge/Executive Mason Barnes who reported The BRADD Water Management Council met on June 4, 2025. Members heard from Mr. Russell Neal, KIA staff assistant, who spoke about different KIA grant opportunities and their requirements. Mr. Neal dove into the most competitive grants, WWATERS and SRF, and their requirements for the upcoming application periods. The Council approved nine different projects. Zach updated the council on the status of KIA official system visits and reminded them that counties will begin the ranking process for projects at the upcoming county steering committee meetings. Zach reminded the Council that the next WMC meeting will be held on September 3, 2025, at 12:30 pm.

## **Regional Transportation**

Chairman Choate called on Judge/Executive Scott Lindsey who reported the BRADD regional transportation committee met On June 4th, with a brief presentation about different maps and data BRADD maintains that is available for counties and cities to use for planning purposes. The committee heard updates on transportation projects in progress from BRADD and KYTC Districts 3 and 4. The Committee also heard an interactive presentation on the Bowling Green Mammoth Cave Trail Study and had the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas about the project. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at the BRADD Conference Center at 11:00 am.

## **Regional Economic Development**

Chairman Choate called on Judge/Executive Tim Flener who reported, the committee met on June 4<sup>th</sup> and heard a brief presentation from Hire a Cyber Pro reviewing common findings from the recently completed Cybersecurity Assessments provided to communities by BRADD through a KY Office of Homeland Security grant. The committee heard updates on regional CEDS objectives. Ty Foster informed committee members of an anticipated grant opportunity for brownfield properties that is expected to be released this fall. Those interested were asked to contact Ty for more information. The next regular meeting is Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at the BRADD Conference Center at 10:00 am.

## **Community & Economic Development**

Chairman Choate called on Ms. Emily Hathcock, CED Director, who reported the members packet contains a project impact report. There are currently 89 active projects representing \$131 million in investment. There are 37 projects awaiting approval representing over \$30 million in investment and 53 projects in development.

#### **ADVISOR REPORTS:**

**Martha Jane King**, DLG Representative, informed the Lieutenant Governor has been in the region and attended the Glasgow Span Tech ribbon cutting, and Edmonton Food Pantry ribbon cutting and further spoke about the success of economic impact with both.

**Jessie Cooper**, Mammoth Cave National Park, spoke about park visitation which has increased since last month, but is down overall for the year. Tour schedules are available through September. The ferry was affected by the April flooding and a bridge study is underway.

**Greg Meredith**, KYTC Rural and Municipal Aid, introduce himself as Doug Taylors replacement. He spoke about a bridge program and LARD program which will impact county roads. Photos should be submitted of roads needing repair including every one-half mile of roadway. Mr. Meredith provided his cell phone number for best contact, 270-495-7291.

**Wes Watt**, KYTC, reported much roadwork continues throughout the region as construction season is underway. There are bridges projects currently underway in all BRADD counties. He spoke about the importance of maintenance of the current roadways.

**Jana Sublett**, TVA Community/Government Relations, spoke about her new role with TVA with government relations as she will work with Josh Tubbs covering the BRADD region. She spoke about TVAs intention to begin the TVA leadership program.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **ADJOURN**

**With no further business, a motion was made by Mayor David Burch and seconded by Judge/Executive Mason Barnes to adjourn.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joel Hat", written over a horizontal dashed line.

Signed, Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra Harper", written over a horizontal dashed line.

Approved, Secretary