

**MINUTES**  
**BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**January 22, 2025**

**TIME & PLACE:**

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at the BRADD Conference Center.

Chairman Joe Choate called the meeting to order. Chairman poled the meeting room for those in favor of starting the meeting at 12:30 pm rather than 1:00 pm. The majority responded in favor of starting the meeting 30 minutes sooner going forward.

Mayor Mark Stratton 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 December 18, 2024 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

**Motion was made by Judge/Executive Phil Baker, seconded by Mayor Dewayne Hatcher to approve the December 18, 2024 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Chairman Choate introduced guest speaker Dr. Brooke Justice Interim President of SKYCTC. Dr. Justice began with an introduction of how the once called, Bowling Green Community and Technical College has developed into what it is today. Dr. Justice spoke about the schools mission, the increased territory with multiple campus locations and the nine technical areas of program study offered. SKYCTC makes being a student while holding a job, manageable, to ensure students have time for both. Dr. Justice highlighted the RN nursing programs which are offered at Bowling Green and Glasgow. This program received

recognition for first and second in the state. Dr. Justice spoke about post school employment trends of graduates with over 80 percent still employed in the field three years after graduating. Dr. Justice introduced staff Dr. Lisa Hunt, VP of Academic Affairs. Dr. Hunt spoke about program development. A number of factors are taken into consideration with the addition of a new program. First is the growing need of the community and the community's support. Next, they look to see if it will be a high wage-earning income. The top earning program currently offered is the electrical program. Next, they will consider the cost of operating the program and the supplies, space and equipment needed. Any new programs must be approved by the post-secondary education council and the local KCTCS board. Dr. Hunt informed if there was a particular observed need to reach out and discuss possibilities of program creation. Dr. Hunt also spoke about a success with the Commercial Driver's License program which goes onsite in Hart County where eligible graduating seniors can complete the program.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Executive Council Reports:**

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

Chairman Choate called on Mayor Michael Hughes 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 Michael Hughes made a motion to approve four regional clearinghouse projects as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Mike Hughes. Motion carried. (See attached)**

#### **2. Quarter Two Financials**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Michael Stoyonovich who reported the Executive Council met prior to the board meeting and reviewed the financials for FY 25 for quarter two. The members packet contained a copy of the report for the second quarter ending December 31, 2024. In revenue, BRADD has recognized approximately \$18.2 million. This represents 47% of the annual revenue budgeted. In expenditures, approximately \$13.9 million has been spent for the same period. This represents 36% of the annual expenditures budgeted.

**Motion: Mr. Michael Stoyonovich made a motion to approve the quarter two financials as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Mark Stratton. Motion carried. (See attached)**

### **3. Aging Programs and Services FY 26-28**

Chairman Choate called on Judge/Executive Dennis Harper who reported the The BRADD Policy and Review Committee met on Monday, January 13, 2025, along with representatives from the Aging Council, to review requests for proposals for all major Aging Services programs. The full summary of the committee's findings and recommendations are provided in the members packet. It is recommended the following BRADD programs will remain the same for FY 26 - 28.

- SHIP & Legal Services to Kentucky Legal Aid
- Ombudsman/Elder Abuse Prevention to Kentucky Legal Aid
- Frozen Meal Services to G.A. Foods
- Hot Meal Preparation to Five Star Breaktime Solutions

For the In-Home Services proposals it is recommended to set aside the RFPs and reissue a Request for Qualifications with a fixed rate.

Additionally, it is recommended the following BRADD programs will be brought in-house for administration by BRADD for FY 26-28.

- Transportation Services
- Senior Center Services
- Hot Meal Delivery Services

**Motion: Judge/Executive Dennis Harper made a motion to approve the Aging Programs and Services FY 26-28 report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Larry Dixon. Motion carried. (See attached)**

### **4. Directors Report**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director. Mr. Sexton recognized three new hires, Ms. Paige Hadden, Public Administration Specialist, Mr. Julien Hodge, Community Development Specialist and Ms. Chandi Tanner Waiver Case Manager. Mr. Sexton informed the release of RFP for the construction phase of the Anchor Project. Mr. Sexton informed any county/city opioid funds can be put towards the Anchor Project. Mr. Sexton and staff will be presenting at the Logan Co. Fiscal Court meeting with more information on what making the contribution looks like and how it will impact the County/City. Members

interested in a presentation should reach out. Mr. Sexton asked members to complete the annual board member conflict of interest forms for BRADD and the Ombudsman program. Mr. Sexton invited members to ADD day in Frankfort on February 13, 2025, a flyer is attached in the packet with more information. Mr. Sexton spoke about the changes coming with Senior Center services, as presented earlier, for those services to be moved in-house at BRADD. Lastly, the next BRADD Board meeting will be held on Wednesday March 26, 2025 at the new start time of 12:30 pm.

## **REPORTS:**

### **1. Aging Council**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Jesse Varner, Aging Council Representative. Mr. Varner reported, The BRADD Aging Council met on Wednesday, January 15 at the BRADD Conference Center. A guest speaker from the University of Kentucky, for the Oasis Research Group, is designed to conduct research and assist those in Edmonson, Metcalfe, Monroe, and Hart counties with Type 2 Diabetes. Aging Council members reviewed and approved the recommendations from the Aging Services Review Committee regarding program services proposals from potential applicants. These recommendations, which the Aging Council supports, were just presented to you under new business. The next Aging Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the BRADD Conference Center.

### **2. Aging Services Division**

Chairman Choate called on Ms. Alecia Johnson, Director of Aging, who reported Two senior centers have recently relocated. BRADD staff worked with DAIL in order to finalize the approval process for the relocation of the Franklin Senior Center and the Edmonson County Senior Center. A special thanks to Judge Lindsey for his hard work and dedication to ensure that the new center in Brownsville would be operational with no disruption of services during this transition. Renovations were needed to meet compliance, and his efforts were greatly appreciated. BRADD staff will begin working on updating the Aging Services Area Plan for FY 26. A copy of the current plan is available on the BRADD website for your review. If you have any questions or comments regarding the Area Plan for FY 26, please let Alecia or Hollie know.

### **3. Community & Economic Development**

Chairman Choate called on Ms. Emily Hathcock, CED Director, who reported the members packet contains an updated project impact report. The pie chart

format reveals the top funding sources of grants. There are currently 82 active projects representing \$96 million in investment. There are 40 projects awaiting approval representing over \$29 million in investment and 41 projects in development. Ms. Hathcock notified members about an upcoming planning and zoning training. Further, Ms. Hathcock spoke about the RIASE grant RFP releases for design and feasibility as approved by Executive Council earlier today. The Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) has two different loan options and is currently accepting applicants to lend funds to. Lastly, the annual CEDS Summit will take place on May 19, 2025. This is a free training event and will satisfy many elected officials training requirements.

### **ADVISOR REPORTS:**

**Kylie Foushee**, Congressman Brett Guthrie's Representative, reported the Congressman gaveled in for the first time a chair. The federal Office is seeing 55 new staff members, while the local district personnel remain the same.

**Martha Jane King**, DLG Representative, informed the Governor is in Switzerland at the World Economic Forum. He recently traveled to Lotte Aluminum in Elizabethtown, where the aluminum is provided by the local Logan Aluminum, the company will make foil for EV batteries. The DLG budget workshop will be held at the BRADD Office on February 26, 2025.

**Hunter Whittaker**, Senator Mich McConnell's Representative, the Senators focus is advising and consent on all appointments of new officials as the first duty of government. He is looking into security and prosperity with the national defense authorization as the chair of defense appropriations. Additionally, a plant in Muhlenberg County will be a national supplier for defense.

**Christopher Walden**, KYTC representative, spoke about the plans and preparations for the upcoming busy spring construction season.

**Clark Arnold**, Senator Rand Paul's Representative, spoke about the Senators chair of homeland security and governments. Further, he is working with title nine on the matter of women's sports to prohibit the department of education to no longer withhold funding. Mr. Arnold encouraged members to contact him with any questions.

**Barclay Trimble**, Mammoth Cave National Park, spoke about the Floyd Collins event at the cave. Further, a large project for renovation of the historic trail is underway causing the trail to be closed until completion.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

ADJOURN

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

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

Signed, Chairman

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

Approved, Secretary