

**MINUTES  
BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
May 27, 2026**

**TIME & PLACE:**

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at the BRADD Conference Center.

Chairman Joe Choate called the meeting to order.

Mayor Randall Curry led the invocation and Ms. Kyliee Foushee, and son Nash, led the 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 April 22, 2026 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

**Motion was made by Judge/Executive Phil Baker, seconded by Judge/Executive Tim Flener to approve the April 22, 2026 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Chairman Choate introduced guest speaker, Mr. Eric Gibson, Division Director, for Kentucky Emergency Management. Mr. Gibson came to the role with a background in KY State Police, KY Fish and Wildlife and Department of Agriculture experience. Mr. Gibson spoke about current emergency management projects across the BRADD region which represent almost \$30 million in investment. Mr. Gibson commended all the local Emergency Managers, many of whom were in attendance, for the work they do and oversight of all local projects. Mr. Gibson further spoke about the challenges with FEMA and the frustrations many have felt with the slow-moving project process. Much work continues to be pushed for improved processes; Mr. Gibson continues to work alongside Congressman Guthrie and Senator Paul to advocate for the BRADD region. He spoke about the impact of the 76 independent search and rescue teams and his advocacy for line of duty death benefit for these volunteers. Mr. Gibson

concluded by answering any questions and promoting the bright future for KY Emergency Management.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Executive Council Reports:**

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

Chairman Choate called on Judge/Executive Dennis Harper who reported the BRADD Executive Council met prior to the board meeting and considered four regional clearinghouse projects. A project description is included in the member packet. Upon review the Executive Council recommended approval.

**Motion: Judge/Executive Dennis Harper made a motion to approve the four regional clearinghouse projects as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge/Executive Tim Flener. Motion carried. (See attached)**

#### **2. FY 27 Budget**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Michael Stoyonovich who reported, the Executive Council met prior to the board meeting and reviewed the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. A one page summary is provided in the members packet. For FY 27, BRADD has a budget of approximately \$51.44 million in revenue and \$ 54.44 million in expenditure and contingencies. Upon approval a copy of the budget will be placed on the BRADD website.

**Motion: Mr. Michael Stoyonovich made a motion to approve the FY 27 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge/Executive Dennis Harper. Motion carried. (See attached)**

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

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director, who introduced new staff, Mr. Russ Hurd, as the new CED Director. Mr. Sexton recognized staff anniversaries, with one year of service; Ms. Daisy Mills and Mr. Alex Witty. With five years of service, Mrs. Mikayla Patterson and Ms. Chelsea Ennis. With 20 years of service, Mr. Erick Roy. Mr. Sexton announced the members packet contains an updated copy of the BRADD Board Meeting dates, noting the change of the October meeting. The FY 2027 BRADD annual dues and aging donations have been sent. Mr. Sexton noted the project impact report located in the members' packet which outlines BRADDs 89 active projects, representing \$195 million dollars of investment. 31 projects are awaiting approval while another 33

projects are in development. Mr. Sexton further spoke about new program opportunity with the University of Louisville's Trager Institute, the Flourish Care Program for seniors. Mr. Sexton thanked those who participated in wearing green in recognition of mental health awareness month. Mr. Sexton reminded the members next Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, is BRADD Committee day for Water, Transportation, Economic Development, and Opioid Advisory Committees.

## REPORTS:

### **Aging Council**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Lanny White who reported the BRADD Aging Council met on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at the BRADD Conference Center. A presentation was provided by Heather Shaw from the University of Louisville's Trager Institute. She encouraged everyone to attend monthly steering committee meetings to learn more about the 4M's framework, which are Mobility, What Matters, Medication & Mentation. An update was also provided on a few pending senior centers changes, the council reviewed highlights from the aging department this fiscal year, and celebrated May's Older American's Month with a cake made by an Allen County Aging Council member. The next Aging Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, August 19, 2026 at 10am in the BRADD Conference Center.

## ADVISOR REPROTS

**Martha Jane King**, DLG Representative, spoke about the importance of the emergency management funding. She further spoke about the Lieutenant Governors visit to the region for Rockfield Elementary School's, Leader in Me designation. R.J. Corum Railroad is expanding its rail service which will alleviate truck volume on roadways by 5,000 trucks. The Glasgow YMCA will have a ribbon cutting for the new addition of senior services.

**Hunter Whitaker**, Senator McConnell's Representative, spoke about tracking funding appropriations. The Senator is pulling for Kentucky as he finished up his last seven months in office. She emphasized how important local advocates can be and is available to help and support wherever needed.

**Kyliee Foushee**, Congressman Brett Guthrie's Representative, is optimistic about the changes with FEMA with the work towards creating a better process for requests. Congressman Guthrie has a great partnership with KY Emergency Management and appreciates their work. Those stuck with FEMA denials or held

status can contact Congressman Guthrie's Office for further assistance. The Congressman continues to travel across the district and was recently in Edmonson and Hart counties.

**Jessica Cooper**, Mammoth Cave National Park, reported park visitation has decreased this month. The park has many spring projects underway and many upcoming events such as the Bark in the Park and the Summer Night Sky evening program.

**Joe Plunk**, KYTC District 3, reported the new highway plan is underway which will outline funding for the next two years. He spoke about the rural secondary roads operation budget and county road aid. Further, local access road program agreements are forthcoming for FY 27. The TAP Cycle ended and project awards will be announced soon. The department is busy working on many road projects throughout the district with 11 grade and drain related projects.

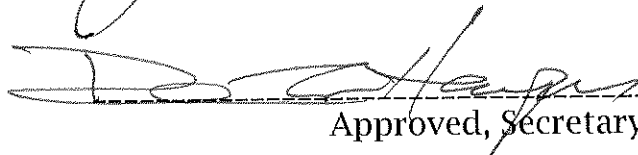
#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **ADJOURN**

**With no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Mike Hughes and seconded by Mayor Dwayne Hatcher to adjourn.**



Signed, Chairman



Approved, Secretary