MINUTES
BRADD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 26, 2026

TIME & PLACE:

The Barren River Area Development District Board of Directors met at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 26, 2026 at the BRADD Conference Center.

Chairman Joe Choate called the meeting to order.

Judge/Executive Scott Lindsey led the invocation and Mr. Carter Walden 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 May 27, 2026 meeting were approved as emailed. (See attached)

Motion was made by Judge/Executive Tim Flener, seconded by Mayor Billy Phelps to approve the May 27, 2026 board minutes as emailed. Motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Chairman Choate introduced guest speaker, Ms. Emily Hathcock, KY Representative for the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Ms. Hathcock provided a PowerPoint presentation concerning EDA 101, an overview of services provided by the federal agency. She highlighted the EDA investment programs including; Public Works, Planning and Local Technical Assistance, Assistance to Coal Communities, and Disaster Supplemental. Further, Ms. Hathcock provided the EDA investment priorities which include: critical infrastructure, workforce, innovation and entrepreneurship, economic recovery and resilience and manufacturing. Lastly, she covered eligibility and the steps for making a competitive EDA investment. Ms. Hathcock provided her contact information and suggested members reach out to her with any questions.

NEW BUSINESS:

Executive Council Reports:

1. **Clearinghouse Projects**

Chairman Choate called on Mayor Billy Phelps who reported the BRADD Executive Council met prior to the board meeting and considered fourteen regional clearinghouse projects. Project descriptions are included in the member packet. Upon review the Executive Council recommended approval.

Motion: Mayor Billy Phelps made a motion to approve the fourteen regional clearinghouse projects as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Thurmond. Motion carried. (See attached)

2. **FY 26 Quarter Four Financials**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Michael Stoyonovich who reported, the Executive Council met prior to the board meeting and reviewed the Fiscal Year 2026 quarter four financials. The members packet contains a financial report for the quarter end. In revenue BRADD recognized approximately $38.8 million. This represents 103 percent of the total revenue budgeted. In expenditure, approximately $35.7 million has been spent for the same period. This represents 103 percent of the annual expenditure budgeted.

Motion: Mr. Michael Stoyonovich made a motion to approve the FY 26 quarter four financials as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Larry Dixon. Motion carried. (See attached)

3. **FY 27 Aging Programs and Services Report**

Chairman Choate called on Judge/Executive Dennis Harper who reported, the Executive Council met prior to the Board Meeting and reviewed and approved the FY 2027 Aging Programs and Services Report, highlighting the funds received for the various programs operated through the BRADD Aging Department. A copy is provided in the members packet.

Motion: Judge/Executive Dennis Harper made a motion to approve the FY 27 Aging Programs and Services Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge/Executive Phil Baker. Motion carried. (See attached)

4. **Directors Report**

Chairman Choate called on Mr. Eric Sexton, Executive Director, who presented two staff five year anniversary recognitions to Ms. Kimberly Proctor and Ms. Emma Steen. Mr. Sexton recognized BRADD Treasurer Mr. Michael Stoyonovich for his recent honor by the Veteran and Military Affairs Public Protection Committee Meeting as August's Distinguished Veteran. Mr. Sexton extended condolences to the family of Mr. Jesse Varner, BRADD beloved Aging Council Chairman. Mr. Varner left a significant impact and legacy to the BRADD, he was a champion of service. Mr. Sexton further extended sympathies to the families of Judge/Executive Mason Barnes and Mayor Dwayne Hatcher due to recent loss of loved ones. Mr. Sexton invited all members to attend the BRADD Annual Meeting next month, September 30, 2026 at the Monroe County Extension Office and encouraged members to RSVP their attendance. Mr. Sexton provided the CED project impact report highlighting the current administration of 111 projects worth $195 million dollars of investment. With another 41 projects in development and 26 awaiting approval. Mr. Sexton encouraged members to attend the remaining Steering Committee meetings within the members' respective communities. Mr. Sexton spoke about the KY Education Foundation Freedom federal tax credit. BRADD recently hosted a lunch and learn concerning the topic. Taxpayers will have the option to invest tax return dollars to a local school district of their choice through a Scholarship Granting Organization SGO). Lastly, Mr. Sexton encouraged members to contact himself or Ms. Brooke Edwards to attend fiscal court or city council meetings to share about regional opioid response and how regional opioid abatement funds can be allocated in support.

REPORTS:

Aging Council

Chairman Choate called on Ms. Alecia Johnson who reported the BRADD Aging Council met on Wednesday, August 19, 2026 at the BRADD Conference Center. The FY 2027 Aging Programs and Services report was reviewed and approved. An orientation was provided by BRADD staff to discuss the role of the Aging Council. New Officers for FY 27 were elected, those include Mr. Lanny White as First Chair, Ms. Athalene Hollinsworth as Second Chair and Franchesta Bowsher as Second Vice Chair. The next Aging Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 10 am at the BRADD Conference Center.

ADVISOR REPORTS

Martha Jane King, DLG Representative, spoke about the recent Governors 50th Annual Local Issues Conference.

Clark Arnold, Senator Rand Paul's Representative, provided updates related to the region on behalf of the Senator.

Molly Shorer, Mammoth Cave National Park, reported park visitation has increased this month. The park has many activities leading into the fall season. She encouraged members to check out the happenings and visit the park soon.

Wes Watt, KYTC District 3, provided updates on all the many projects occurring across the region as the team works to wrap up several major road projects for the season.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

With no further business, a motion was made by Mayor Billy Phelps and seconded by Mayor Bob Greer to adjourn.

Signed, Chairman

Approved, Secretary