

MINUTES  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
KENTUCKY RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
January 22, 2020  
12:00pm

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

*Chairman Pam Pilgrim called the meeting to order.*

**INVOCATION**

*Mr. Larry Parke gave the invocation.*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Chairman Pam Pilgrim led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.*

**CALL OF ROLL**

*Secretary Gregory Whitson called the roll with the following members present:*

**BREATHITT** - Judge Jeff Noble  
Mayor Laura Thomas  
Mr. Ray Moore  
Mr. Gary Campbell  
\*Ms. Mildred Lee Rogers

**KNOTT** - Judge Jeff Dobson  
Mayor Tracy Neice  
Mayor Scott Cornett  
Mr. Zach Sandlin  
Mr. Larry Parke  
Mr. Larry Perkins

**LEE** - Judge Chuck Caudill  
Mayor Scott Jackson  
Mr. Doug Brandenburg  
Mr. Everett Marshall

**LESLIE** - Mayor Carol Joseph  
Mr. Hiram Cornett

- LETCHER** - Judge Terry Adams  
Mayor Todd DePriest  
Mr. Fred Hall  
\*Mr. Bennie McCall  
\*Ms. Donna Perkins
- OWSLEY** - Judge Cale Turner  
Mr. Dale Bishop
- PERRY** - Mayor Tom Burns  
Mayor Ernest Back  
Mr. Gregory Whitson  
Ms. Meriwether Wash-Hall  
\*Mr. Carlos Campbell
- WOLFE** - Ms. Pam Pilgrim

*Quorum verified by Secretary Gregory Whitson: Thirty (30) members present with all eight (8) counties represented, therefore meeting commenced. (\*Denotes proxy/designated representative.)*

- KRADD Staff** - Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director  
Ms. Karlena Campbell, Human Resources Coordinator/Staff Accountant  
Ms. Angie Hall, Assoc. Dir. Community and Economic Development  
Ms. Sherry Burchell, Human Services Planner/Title V Coordinator  
Ms. Kimberly Sapp-Allen, Executive Assistant  
Ms. Jennifer McIntosh, Water and Wastewater Planner  
Ms. Kimberly Coomer, Finance Officer  
Ms. Stacie Noble, Associate Director Human Services  
Ms. Donna Hardin, Community and Economic Development Planner  
Ms. Shana Agee, Public Administration Specialist  
Ms. Eunice Holland, Transportation Planner  
Ms. Jessica Leedy, Community and Economic Development Specialist  
Mr. Kasey Malone, Community and Economic Development Specialist  
Ms. Autumn Mullins, Homecare Case Manager

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Motion made by Mayor Todd DePriest to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2019 Board Meeting; motion seconded by Mayor Tom Burns, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.*

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

*Motion made by Mr. Gary Campbell to approve the December 2019 Treasurer’s Report as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Tom Burns, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.*

*Chairman Pam Pilgrim then turned the meeting over to Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director, who introduced the Guest Speaker, Ms. Angie Hall, Associate Director Community and Economic Development, who presented the 2020 ARC Power Grant Guidelines. Ms. Hall stressed that*

*sustainability after the ARC monies have been spent is absolutely essential. A copy of the Summary with Important Dates detailed is provided for the official record.*

## **BUSINESS**

*Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director, went over the proposed upcoming 2020 meeting dates for the Board. A copy of this list is included for the official record. Ms. Allen asked for a motion to approve the dates; motion was made by Mr. Everett Marshall to approve as submitted; motion seconded by Judge Terry Adams, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.*

*Chairman Pam Pilgrim then presented the ADF Report. There was one consideration, the City of Hazard for sidewalk improvements, \$2,286.15. Chairman Pilgrim asked for a motion to approve as submitted; motion was made to approve by Mr. Gary Campbell; motion seconded by Mayor Tom Burns, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.*

*Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director, addressed the Board to discuss the Federal Prison Resolution Letter for Letcher County. The Board voted at last meeting to do the resolution and a copy of which is included in the official record. Ms. Allen asked for a motion to approve the proposed resolution letter; motion was made by Mayor Tracy Neice to approve as submitted, motion seconded by Judge Jeff Dobson, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.*

*Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director, then turned the meeting over to Mayor Todd DePriest to discuss the Expanded Gambling Resolution. Mayor DePriest detailed the benefits of the proposed casino/resort in Jenkins, Kentucky, and discussed the proposed resolution in support of the casino/resort. Mayor DePriest informed all that this casino/resort would represent approximately 1000 jobs, and with the decline in recent years in our region to coal related employment, would make a huge positive impact, which would supersede any supposed negatives. The positive impact to the state would be approximately 500/700 million dollars coming back into the state of Kentucky. This influx would additionally help fund the state pension plan. Therefore, Mayor DePriest asked those in attendance for questions/comments. Judge Chuck Caudill stated that he did not see his folks in Lee County being supportive of this at all unless he talked with them first, and states that it would be difficult for him to support a resolution without talking to them. Mayor DePriest replied that anyone that wanted to go to casinos/resorts were already traveling out of town to do that, with one in our region, the money would be spent here. Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director then asked if anyone would want to entertain a motion to approve the resolution. Motion to approve was made by Judge Terry Adams; motion seconded by Mr. Gary Campbell. Opposed were Judge Chuck Caudill, Mayor Scott Jackson, Mr. Larry Parke, Mayor Scott Cornett, and Judge Jeff Dobson; motion did not carry.*

*Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director then introduced Mr. Cain Hobson with TMobile. Mr. Hobson discussed that TMobile is absorbing Sprint and they were investing 150 million dollars in our area. Their coverage and capacity will double. TMobile has started a Heros Initiative program which provides free cell phone service to all public safety personnel employees for ten years. These are defined as: firefighters, police officers, EMS, or traveling nurse. TMobile will provide unlimited talk, unlimited text, unlimited data, and prioritization on the network. Mr. Hobson left his card and asked those in attendance to contact him for more detailed information. Mayor Tracy Neice asked if TMobile would be partnering with Appalachian Wireless. Mr. Hobson replied by stating that TMobile partners with AT&T. A question was posed about volunteer public safety personnel, i.e. volunteer firefighters. According to Mr. Hobson, those personnel will be applicable to that program as well on a case by case basis, i.e. if a particular community only had volunteer personnel.*

*Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director, then discussed the Code of Ethics; a copy of which is included for the official record. Changes to the Code of Ethics regarding nepotism were reviewed during our last board meeting and were tabled to allow further research. Other ADDs were contacted to learn what their particular policies mandated. The majority of those have second degree. (Second degree is defined as: grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.) Currently, ours is third degree, which includes all those stated in second degree, plus first cousins. Therefore, in regard to the nepotism issue, a proposed change to the second degree to include employment of first cousins, and also a change to the Personnel Policies to include the proposed change to the second degree which also allows employment of first cousins. Therefore, both documents would be consistently uniform. Ms. Allen then asked the Board for a motion to change ours from third degree to second degree; motion was made to accept this change to the Code of Ethics as presented by Judge Chuck Caudill, motion seconded by Judge Jeff Dobson, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried. Ms. Allen stated that with the approval of that change to the Code of Ethics, a motion is also needed to make that same change in our Personnel Policies. Motion was made by Judge Jeff Dobson; motion seconded by Mr. Doug Brandenburg, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.*

*Ms. Allen then addressed those in attendance about reviewing their road systems for Mr. John Chester, and signing off on those.*

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

*Ms. Michelle Allen informed the board about the Legislative Breakfast scheduled for February 13; a flyer is included in the packet. Also included in the board packet is a flyer about Public Town Hall meetings, with areas and times.*

*Ms. Allen asked if anyone had any announcements; Ms. Andrea Begley, Field Representative, Congressman Hal Rogers, stated that the deadline for the Rogers Scholar is January 24<sup>th</sup>; and there are a lot of funding availability with USDA for the 5<sup>th</sup> District. Ms. Begley stated that if anyone would like a letter of support, the Congressman's office would be happy to help with that.*

*Ms. Allen asked if Ms. Donna McClure, Field Representative, Senator McConnell, had anything she'd like to share. Ms. McClure stated that the Health Resources and Services Administration announced a funding opportunity for the opioid impact program 11.5 million dollars for 19 awards with \$600,000 per award for a 4 year project. Ms. McClure also informed those present about internships for college sophomores/juniors being available. Ms. McClure stated that the Senator's office is also happy and available to write letters of supports for projects.*

*Ms. Allen then recognized Ms. Donna Hardin, Community and Economic Development Planner, who will be retiring on January 31, 2020. On the 28<sup>th</sup> we will be having a retirement party and invited all to attend.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion made by Mayor Tracy Neice to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned.*

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*Pam Pilgrim, Chairman*

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*Gregory Whitson, Secretary*

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