

MINUTES
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
KENTUCKY RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
September 18, 2019
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. Gary Campbell
Mr. Ray Moore
Mr. Roy Darrell Herald
*Ms. Mildred Lee Rogers

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

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

LESLIE - Mayor Carol Joseph
Mr. Eugene Stewart

LETCHER - Judge Terry Adams
Mayor Todd DePriest

- OWSLEY** - *Mr. Dale Bishop*
- PERRY** - *Judge Scott Alexander
Mayor Tom Burns
Mayor Ernest Back
Mr. Neil Napier
Ms. Meriwether Wash-Hall
Mr. Gregory Whitson
Mr. Derrick Bowling*
- WOLFE** - *Judge Raymond Banks
Ms. Pam Pilgrim*

*Quorum verified by Secretary Gregory Whitson: Twenty-nine (29) 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. Jessica Leedy, Community and Economic Development Specialist
Mr. Kasey Malone, Community and Economic Development Specialist
Ms. Angie Hall, Assoc. Dir. Community and Economic Development
Ms. Kimberly Sapp-Allen, Executive Assistant
Ms. Jennifer McIntosh, Water and Wastewater Planner
Ms. Eunice Holland, Transportation Planner
Ms. Sherry Burchell, Human Services Planner/Title V Coordinator
Mr. John Chester, GIS/GPS Specialist/IT Manager*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Judge Chuck Caudill to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2019 Board Meeting; motion seconded by Mayor Tracy Neice, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion made by Mr. Derrick Bowling to approve the August 2019 Financial Reports as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Tom Burns, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.

BUSINESS

Chairman Pam Pilgrim then turned the meeting over to Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director, who then introduced Guest Speaker, Commissioner, Sandy Dunahoo, Department for Local Government.

Commissioner Dunahoo addressed those in attendance saying that the very first KRADD meeting she attended was with the late Mayor Charles Long many years ago. The loss of Mayor Long was far reaching. The Commissioner informed those attending that she is a working member and is completely hands on in her responsibilities and in her office. The Commissioner's office asks tough questions and researches each project, and is happy to assist in project submission and any details needed. Any project that has merit, is a good project, and is needed for our region will be funded.

Since 2015, over \$764,000,000 has been invested in project funding, with most of that having matched funds which has been used to leverage other dollars, making that number substantially larger. In our communities, every single one has had one or more projects funded, most have had multiple. Commissioner Dunahoo's office has been diligent in assisting in project funding. The end goal is to make our region competitive with the rest of the nation and NOT being economically distressed. Being recognized by the government as distressed is not a good thing. We need to invest in ways that we are competitive. Commissioner Dunahoo commended Congressman Rogers for his assistance in gaining additional funding for our region. Commissioner Dunahoo also commended Mayor Tracy Neice for his hard work on sewer lines, etc...in Hindman, Kentucky. The Commissioner also talked about some projects with Senator Smith that will maximize the use of our trails in our area. Knott County and Breathitt County investments in trail head links with other counties will ultimately tie our region into McCoy/Hatfield Trail in West Virginia and the Spearhead Trail in Virginia. The Governor's list of priorities include: Strengthening the financial foundation of the Commonwealth, (the DOG is operating with 20% less staff than there ever has been, all obligations have been paid off and the DOG has a clean slate), improving the economy, creating a healthy Kentucky, strengthening communities, improving the education of the workforce, and serve those who serve us. There have been 54,000 new jobs created in Kentucky within the last three (3) years, and there have been 12,000 new/expanded facilities. Also, Kentucky has had the lowest reported unemployment rate ever, 4%, based on current labor statistics. In the area of health, the DOG has started a program which provides medical/dental/vision care for our citizens in various counties by way of mobile clinics. The US Military does an Innovative Readiness Training, which is military training for troops for deployment in the medical field for other countries. It was determined that people in Kentucky could greatly benefit from these services, therefore the DOG applied and has received approximately 1.5 million in medical care to people in the counties of Lee, Owsley, Breathitt, and Estill; such as dental care-fillings, extractions, cleaning; the US Navy made and provided glasses; general medical care; the counties of Jackson, Leslie, Clay, and Knox also benefited from these services during the second round. The DOG has applied for the 2020 and 2021 years as well. It was determined that the majority were working people who go to work every day, who may not have had vision insurance, dental insurance, lots of children, and the providers were all top notch. The DOG has deployed over \$764,000,000 in the areas as follows: over 8.8 million in housing, over 6 million in first responders, over 9.4 million in parks and recreation facilities, over 8.5 million in Recovery Kentucky Centers, over 3 million in senior citizen centers and facilities, and over 619 million in water and waste water projects. The two projects to announce during today's meeting that are due to be funded are: (1) Leslie County/\$250,000 for ten (10) miles of ATV trails, trailhead facilities, signage, benches, trash cans and other necessary items. (2) Central Appalachia Distressed Counties-this money may be used in distressed counties only and for infrastructure projects only—this project is for the county of Owsley/City of Booneville, \$1,526,000 for inflow and infiltration, 8280 linear feet of sewer line, manholes, master meter to measure the flow, and replacing and/or rehabilitating sewer line. Judge Alexander thanked the Commissioner for her assistance in obtaining the funding for the Galen College of Nursing, Hazard, Kentucky, project. Senator Smith acknowledged the Commissioner for helping our area, and commended her for her hard work and thanked her for being a true champion for Eastern Kentucky. Commissioner Dunahoo thanked Senator Smith and commended him for being such a strong advocate for our area.

Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director then stated that the next item on our agenda was the purchase of a new telephone system for the KRADD office. Mr. John Chester, GIS/GPS Specialist/IT Manager, gave a presentation detailing the three (3) bids received as follows: (1) AHC Computers \$40,160.12 (2) American Business Machines \$55,934.16 (3) Windstream \$19,568.80.

Motion made by Judge Chuck Caudill to approve the low bid of Windstream in the amount of \$19,568.80 as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Scott Jackson, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.

Ms. Michelle Allen, Executive Director stated that the next item of business is a letter of support for the Challenger Learning Center, Hazard, Kentucky. The Challenger Learning Center is going to apply for an ARC grant for a new program. Ms. Allen introduced Mr. Tom Cravens, Director. Mr. Cravens then explained that the grant assistance would be used to upgrade a section of the center that will be all about the Artemis Moon Missions, to include interactive exhibits plus there are 11 companies that will be making contributions to these missions and the center plans to highlight these companies. Motion made by Mayor Scott Cornett to provide a letter of support; motion seconded by Mr. Greg Whitson, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.

Ms. Allen then introduced Ms. Angie Hall, Associate Director, Community and Economic Development, who gave a CEDS Update. Ms. Hall informed those in attendance that she would be setting up committees and meetings. Ms. Hall then informed all about an ADF project that was approved by the Board during its last meeting, City of Hyden, Office Furniture, in the amount of \$2943.00, however, after receiving the quotes, that amount needs to be increased to \$3022.95. Motion made by Mayor Scott Cornett to approve the ADF amount increase as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Laura Thomas, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Allen then introduced Ms. Jennifer McIntosh, Water and Wastewater Planner, who discussed the Breathitt Waterline Extensions, Phase II, which will be 4 roads, Creekside Road, War Creek Road, Joe Ward Fork Road, and Mann Road and service 28 households; the the City of Campton, South Valeria Water Extension Project, which will service 39 households. Motion made by Mayor Scott Cornett to approve these projects as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Scott Jackson, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried.

Ms. Allen then asked Senator Smith if he had anything he'd like to address the Board about. He commended and thanked KRADD for their service.

Ms. Allen asked Ms. Andrea Begley, Field Representative, Congressman Hal Rogers Office, if she had anything to share with the Board. Ms. Begley informed those in attendance that Governor Bevin and Congressman Rogers had just wrapped up the SOAR Summit and announced \$34,000,000 Abandoned Mine Lands Project with about half of that amount coming back to the Kentucky River District. Ms. Begley detailed the amounts as follows: 2.5 million Advanced Manufacturing Hazard Community and Technical College, 1.5 million USA Droneport Knott County partnered with Perry County, over 700,000 to the Troublesome Creek Environmental Authority to run water/sewer out to the Droneport, 1.5 million to Knott County, 3.5 to Letcher County for Thunder Mountain, 2 million to Leslie County for a telecommunications project, 1.25 to Lee County for the town square and tourism, and 1.345 to Breathitt County.

Judge Noble commended Ms. Begley and Commissioner Dunahoo for all their help and hard work for our region.

Ms. Allen announced that Ms. Angie Hall's department was currently working on a record of 79 current grants for our district. This is the highest amount at one time in the history of KRADD, and

thanked her and her department on behalf of the Board for all their hard work and dedication to the district.

Ms. Allen reminded all present that the October 30, 2019 KRADD Board of Directors Meeting will be held at Kelsey's On Main, in Jackson, Kentucky. Luncheon will begin at 12:00pm with our business meeting to immediately follow.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Judge Chuck Caudill to adjourn; Mayor Scott Jackson seconded, all in favor with no oppositions, motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Pam Pilgrim, Chairman

Gregory Whitson, Secretary

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