

Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts
Quarterly Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 10:00 am EST
Level 2, Room 9A, Central Bank Center, Lexington, Kentucky
Zoom Available

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Chair Steve Thurmond (BRADD) Chair	Judge Steve Henry (GRADD)
Mayor Rita Dotson (PuADD) 1st Vice-Chair	Judge Joe Choate (BRADD)
Judge Rick Stiltner (Gateway ADD) 2 nd Vice-Chair	Judge Randy Dial (LCADD)
Judge Matthew Wireman (BSADD) Secretary	Judge David Fields (NKADD)
Judge Orbrey Gritton (BGADD) Treasurer	Judge Myron Lewis (FIVCO)
Judge Scott Alexander (KRADD)	Judge Shane Gabbard (CVADD)
Judge David Daughtery (LTADD)	Mayor Kevin Cotton (PeADD)
Mayor Harold Sloan (FIVCO)	Judge James Smith (BGADD)
Judge Adam O’Nan (GRADD)	Judge George Sparks (BTADD)
Judge Stan Humphries (PeADD)	Ms. Penny Robinson (CVADD)
Judge Dan Ison (KIPDA)	County Attorney Jesse Melcher (BTADD)

ADD Directors Present:

Daniel London (LTADD)	Jeremy Buchanan (PuADD)
Eric Ratliff (BSADD)	Joanna Shake (GRADD)
Amy Kennedy (BTADD)	Tara Johnson-Noem (NKADD)
Jason Vincent (PeADD)	David Duttlinger (BGADD)
Michelle Allen, (KRADD)	Whitney Chesnut (CVADD)
Josh Farrow (Gateway ADD)	Jarrett Haley (KIPDA)
Kelly Ward (FIVCO)	

KCADD Staff:

Casey Ellis, Executive Director	Marilyn Eaton-Thomas, Executive Assistant
Bill Cooper, Business Development Manager	Molly Haines, Exe. Assist/Public Info. Officer

Guests:

Judge Jim Gazay, Gateway ADD	Eddie Barnes
Lena Muldoon, You Decide Kentucky	Robbie Williams
Shelby County Assistant Judge/Executive Jon Park (KIPDA)	

Call to Order and Welcome: Chair Thurmond called the meeting to order and welcomed members, guests and staff.

Confirmation of Quorum: He inquired of Executive Assistant Eaton-Thomas if a quorum was present and she confirmed a quorum existed with 22 members present and all 15 ADDs represented by Board members.

Approval of August 16, 2023 Minutes: Chair Thurmond called for approval of the minutes from the August 16 Council meeting. **County Judge/Executive Dan Ison offered a motion to approve with Judge Rick Stiltner issuing a second. All members voted in favor.**

KCADD Financial Report: Chair Thurmond recognized Judge Orbrey Gritton to offer the financial report. Treasurer Gritton advised Financial Reports were prepared by Lanham and Company, CPA's and sent electronically to all members to review prior to the meeting and copies were also included in today's meeting folder. He referred to the Monthly Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the period ending October 31, 2023. Treasurer Gritton noted that the expenditures are in-line and reasonable at this point in the fiscal year. Treasurer Gritton observed that the overall financial condition is very strong. With there being no questions or comments, **Treasurer Obrey Gritton offered the motion to approve the Financial Report as presented and Judge Myron Lewis issued a second. All members voted in favor.**

Business Development Manager Report: Chair Thurmond called on Bill Cooper to provide an update on his activities and the status of the Kentucky Healthcare Connection Initiative. Cooper opened by reporting his busy quarter of attending 9 webinars to stay totally informed of what was going on in senior health care. They included Partners to Align Social Care, AARP Community Age Friendly, ACL, and Manatt Webinar on Dementia, the Aging and Disability Institute, Partners in Care topics: Payment Structures, Multi-Payer Health Equity Solutions and Social Care Ecosystems. He advised he had attended all the KCADD, KADD, AAAIL and DAIL meetings during the quarter to which he was invited.

In regard to Kentucky Health Plans, he reported following up with Aetna and developing a new Scope of Work at their request and responded to their questions on new contacts for a proposed contract. He provided coordination between GRADD and Aetna. Cooper also received a new IT Security Assessment from Aetna. He shared a call with Director Haley to update him on Aetna negotiations and PCHP's Groundgame. He has also set a Zoom meeting for Nov. 16 with GRADD staff to update them on the new IT proposal from Aetna. The bottom line seems be that he and GRADD are very close to a contract with Aetna which will begin the demonstration program at GRADD and then spread to PeADD and on to FIVCO.

Cooper concluded by saying the faster we move with Aetna, the better since the states of Indiana and Ohio are already very successful with the program.

Introduction of Molly Haines: Chair Thurmond asked Executive Director Casey Ellis to introduce Molly Haines, the newly hired Executive Assistant/Public Information Officer. He said that in an effort to "brand" the ADDs and make the public more aware of their contributions to the Commonwealth, Ms. Haines prepared the KCADD/KADD first monthly newsletter. She will be doing daily posts to both Facebook and Twitter. Ellis also said a campaign has begun to highlight each of the 15 ADDs. Chair Thurmond and the Board gave Mrs. Haines a warm welcome.

Judge Alexander was recognized and he said that being on social media, especially Facebook, is a good thing because we need to tell our story and get our impact and our reports out there to the public.

Executive Director's Update: Chair Thurmond called on Executive Director Ellis to offer his report. Ellis opened by saying that telling our story was what he had been focusing on in recent days. He said that he had been doing allot of leg work and had meet with Rep. Jason Petrie, Rep. Brandon Reed and Sen. David

Givens. He advised he had also attended a meeting of the Joint Committees function during the interim. Ellis said he had been working with the Economic Development Cabinet and with their consultant, McKinsey & Company. He advised he will be meeting with them on a regular basis, in fact, they will be meeting with the KADD this afternoon at BGADD.

Ellis also related that he facilitated a two-day meeting in Morehead to discuss HB9. Such meetings will continue he added.

Chair Thurmond complimented Executive Director Casey and said the KCADD appreciates all he does.

KADD Report: Chair Thurmond announced that Director Sexton is sick and could not attend the meeting. He complimented all the work the Executive Directors do and advised he attended the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) in Cleveland this month. He observed that the ADD Directors were all very well behaved. He advised that, in his opinion, the best presentation made was from Colie Smith, GRADD Resiliency Coordinator and Economic Development Specialist. Director Shake thanked him for his high praise of Colie Smith and agreed with him.

Legislative Priority Update: Chair Thurmond called on KCADD Legislative Chair Steve Henry and KADD Legislative Chair Joanna Shake to bring the members up to date on legislative matters since the session will be starting 6 weeks from now. Judge Henry thanked his committee members for their work and said rebranding or creating a bigger voice with the legislature is very important and the whole Board needs to tell their legislators about the work the ADD do. Judge Henry said the KCADD's basic legislative position is that the ADDs need more money but more importantly, they need none to be taken away.

Judge Henry advised that the committee had over 1 hour in conversation with Rep. Jason Petrie and Rep. Brandon Reed regarding the Joint Funding Administration (JFA). Prior to the last session of the General Assembly, the JFA for ADD administration, had not been raised since 1997. The ADDs finally got relief when it was increased to \$4 million for the biennium last year. Consequently, the JFA is a top priority.

Judge Henry then addressed the second priority which is the Waiver Program. It proposes the participant directed coordination and financial management of the Home & Community Based Program, the Michelle P. Waiver (MPW) and the Community Living waiver programs. (The MPW is part of Kentucky's 1915(c) HCBS Medicaid waiver program. MPW provides assistance to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities to help them live in the community as independently as possible. It also supports ADD services provided regarding Waivers be reimbursed at a sustainable rate. The ADDs have been severely underfunded as verified by a couple of recent surveys.

The third priority pertains to Aging and the need to sustain the Expanded Senior Meal Program, currently funded at \$14.1 million. It has been stressful on the ADDs to provide meals to all in need.

The fourth priority is supporting Workforce efforts. The precise goal is to enhance the flexibility of workforce development efforts with the investment of state funds to complement the federal dollars ADDs currently get. State funding oftentimes allows the ADDs more flexibility to meet local needs.

Director Shake then advised that the sheet of Legislative Priorities is currently a working copy. The KADD Committee Chairs hope to refine the flyer, as well as, add another priority that pertains to the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority.

Judge Choate talked about the use of YOA dollars in his county.

Judge Henry added that the Board members should send their respective representatives and senators emails pertaining to extra funding for Workforce Training Programs. Currently, officials are dependent on Community and Technical College money and there needs to be more sources. Director Kennedy stated that state funds workforce dollars are not as restrictive as federal funds. Director Ellis said it is somewhat difficult to work with the Workforce Boards because there are 10 of them and they don't all align with ADD boundaries. Chair Thurmond thanked everyone for their work, but admonished KCADD members to be united in our set of priorities when they talk to legislators.

Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2024: Chair Thurmond said new KCADD officers need to be elected at the February 2024 meeting. The Chair appointed Mayor Harold Slone of Louisa, Judge Jerry Summers of Bullitt County and Judge Shane Gabbard of Jackson County to serve as the Nominating Committee. They were charged with proposing a slate of officers at that time.

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Chair Thurmond introduced Ms. Lena Muldoon, Executive Director of You Decide, Kentucky! (YDK!). The Chair noted Ms. Muldoon joined YDK! from her prior employment with the Louisville Metro Government's Office of the Mayor where she was an Intergovernmental Affairs Liaison. She graduated from DePaul University before completing her Master of Arts at a University in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She received an award from the Young Professional Association of Louisville.

Ms. Muldoon addressed the KCADD describing YDK! as an education campaign to help everyone understand that local communities need more say in investing their dollars. She explained that the proposed legislation requires a constitutional amendment approved by the voters of the Commonwealth. She added that it is hard to prepare the voters for this change. Muldoon said there are 34 members on the YDK! Board. In complementing one of KCADD's members, she noted that there is a gap since Mayor Les Stapleton went off the YDK! board. Muldoon said the roll of her organization is to raise money and increase support for the idea and they are closer than ever.

There were several comments following the YDK! Presentation. It was said there are critical challenges facing our cities and counties and all tools are needed to meet them. It was also said that the support of all the people in the room is needed and one way to stay informed is ky.org and input is important. KCADD needs to represent the state accurately and effectively and not let our influence slip away. Mayor Stapleton said that YDK! has been working feverishly and just ask for the opportunity to put the question on the ballot since this question has not been asked in 130 years. Ms. Muldoon said that the constitutional amendment language would be very simple, basically, how can you build your revenue.

Chair Thurmond suggested that everyone one go to the YDK! website and learn what you need to know. He also expressed the group's appreciation to Ms. Muldoon.

Inauguration Day Announcement: Executive Director Ellis announced there will be an Inauguration Day Open House at the KCADD House at 501 Capital Avenue on December 12, 2023. He handed out a flyer providing the details. It will be hosted in conjunction with KCADD's and KADD's partners KMCA, KCJEA, KACo and KLC.

Adjournment: Chair Thurmond thanked the members for their attendance and attention. He then inquired if there was any further business to come before the Council. There being no further business, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mayor Kevin Cotton offered the motion to adjourn and Mayor Les Stapleton issued a second. All members voted in favor.** The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am EST.