

**Kentucky Council of
Area Development Districts**
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MEETING MINUTES

Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts (KCADD)
Quarterly Meeting | 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 11, 2025
Marriott Griffin Gate, 7th Floor Conference Room

Members Present

Judge Matthew Wireman (BSADD), Chairman
Ms. Penny Robinson (CVADD), Secretary
Mayor Harold Slone (FIVCO), Treasurer
Judge Todd Cooper (PuADD)
Judge Joe Choate (BRADD)
Judge John Frank (LCADD)
Mr. Craig Lindon (KRADD)
Judge Jerry Summers (KIPDA)
Judge George Sparks (BTADD)

Judge Mark McKenzie (BSADD)
Judge Myron Lewis (FIVCO)
Judge Adam O’Nan (GRADD)
Ms. Lisa Wilson-Plajer (NKADD)
Mr. George Spragens (LTADD)
Mayor Al Botts (GADD)
Judge David Fields (NKADD)
Attorney Jesse Melcher (BTADD)
Judge Steve Henry (GRADD)

ADD Staff Present

Joanna Shake (GRADD)
Kevin Cornette (BTADD)
Jeremy Buchanan (PuADD)
Joshua Farrow (GADD)
Eric Sexton (BRADD)

Eric Ratliff (BSADD)
Jason Vincent (PeADD)
Michelle Allen (KRADD)
Tara Johnson-Noem (NKADD)

KCADD Staff Present

Casey Ellis, Executive Director
Molly Haines, Public Information Officer

Call to Order

Chairman Matthew Wireman formally called the quarterly meeting of the Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts (KCADD) Board to order at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at the Marriott Griffin Gate, Seventh Floor Conference Room, 1800 Newtown Pike, Lexington, KY 40511.

Confirmation of Quorum

Chair Wireman inquired of KCADD Executive Director Casey Ellis regarding the presence of a quorum. Ellis confirmed that a quorum was established with 18 members present, representing 13 Area Development Districts (ADDs).

Approval of Minutes

Chair Wireman requested approval of the minutes from the meeting held Feb. 13, 2025. A motion was made by Judge Myron Lewis and seconded by Ms. Lisa Wilson-Plajer. The motion carried.

Financial Report

With Treasurer Slone attending virtually, Chair Wireman invited Executive Director Ellis to present the financial report. As of the reporting date, 75% of projected receipts had been collected, while only 60% of budgeted expenditures had been incurred, indicating a favorable budget position. A motion to approve the financial report as presented was made by Judge O’Nan and seconded by Judge Choate. The motion carried.

New Business—Approval of FY25-26 KCADD Budget

Due to the abbreviated nature of the June meeting, the proposed FY25-26 budget was circulated to members two weeks in advance for review. The only modifications to the budget included a cost-of-living adjustment to salaries and fringe benefits in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Additionally, a new line item was introduced to support an associate membership category. Further details regarding the purpose and scope of this initiative will be shared in upcoming meetings. This addition is tied to a forthcoming revenue-generating program. In preparation for this initiative, KCADD staff are exploring enhancements to KCADD’s monthly newsletter, with the goal of delivering added value to partners and stakeholders. A proposal is anticipated for presentation at the KCADD fall meeting, with potential implementation targeted for the next calendar year. A motion to approve the budget was made by Judge Frank and seconded by Judge Henry. The motion carried.

Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Ellis provided an update on recent legislative advocacy efforts, particularly concerning proposed cuts to federal waiver programs. In response to initial discussions at the federal level regarding potential reductions, KCADD staff collaborated with all 15 Area Development Districts to compile and submit a one-page fact sheet to Congressman Brett Guthrie and the relevant congressional committee with favorable results.

This proactive engagement has led to broader discussions about the impact of potential funding reductions across several key federal programs, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Economic Development Administration (EDA), Delta Regional Authority (DRA), Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Legislative Committee has agreed to begin collecting program-specific data in order to prepare additional one-pagers for use with state and federal policymakers as needed.

Legislative Update

Green River Area Development District Executive Director Joanna Shake, who serves as Chair of the Kentucky Association of District Directors’ Legislative Committee provided a brief legislative update, noting an invitation from the Legislative Research Commission for the KCADD to present at the Interim Joint Committee on Local Government at 9 a.m., Tuesday, June 24. Lincoln Trail Area Development District Executive Director Daniel London, Rowan County Judge/Executive Harry Clark, Judge Henry, and Mayor Kevin Cotton will be giving the presentation. Members were encouraged to attend to support their ADD.

Adjournment

There being no other business, Chair Wireman called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Judge McKenzie and seconded by Judge Lewis. The motion carried. The KCADD adjourned at 4:56 p.m.