

MINUTES

**KENTUCKIANA REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
(KIPDA)**

JANUARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

**MEETING CONDUCTED THROUGH ZOOM
AND STREAMED ON THE AGENCY'S YOUTUBE PAGE**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2021 – 2:00 P.M.

The 553rd meeting of the Board of Directors of the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency met at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2021 via Zoom video conference. Members in attendance were:

Mr. Kevin Baity, Chairman, representing Honorable Ryan Ramsey, Town Board President, Clark County, Indiana

Honorable David Voegelé, Vice Chairman, Oldham County Judge/Executive, Oldham County, Kentucky

Honorable Shawn Carruthers, President, Floyd County Commissioners, Floyd County, Indiana

Honorable Jerry Summers, Bullitt County Judge/Executive, Bullitt County, Kentucky

Honorable David Eaton, Mayor of Shelbyville, Shelby County, Kentucky

Honorable Dan Ison, Shelby County Judge/Executive, Shelby County, Kentucky

Honorable Beverly Chester-Burton, Mayor of Shively, Jefferson County, Kentucky

Mr. Jeff O'Brien, representing Honorable Greg Fischer, Mayor of Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

Mr. Keith Griffée, Bullitt County Fiscal Court, Bullitt County, Kentucky

Honorable Todd Pollock, Trimble County Judge/Executive, Trimble County, Kentucky

Honorable Joe Robinson, Mayor of Bedford, Trimble County, Kentucky

Honorable Jim Travis, District 3 Magistrate, Spencer County, Kentucky

Honorable John Riley, Spencer County Judge/Executive, Spencer County, Kentucky

Honorable John Black, Mayor of LaGrange, Oldham County, Kentucky

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OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Jarrett Haley
Mr. Tom Pope
Ms. Kelly Tyra-Cecil
Ms. Rachael Miller
Ms. Jennifer Wahle
Ms. Danielle Story
Mr. Justin Carter
Ms. Hayden Kandul
Ms. Olivia Ranseen
Ms. Jenna Graham
Ms. Amanda Spencer
Mr. Adam Forseth
Mr. Randall Embry
Ms. Jessica Elkin
Ms. Lynne Evans
Mr. Jon Park
Ms. Stacie Rockaway
Ms. Mitzi Wyrick

REPRESENTING

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Shelby County
Congressman Massie
Wyatt, Tarrant, & Combs

ROLL CALL

Executive Director Haley called roll and stated a quorum was present.

WELCOME

Chairman Baity welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

MINUTES

Judge Pollock moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting held November 24, 2020. Mayor Eaton seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

DECEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. Pope presented the December financial report. The budget that is reflected on the Summary of Elements on the first page of the report is the same as the one from last year which the Agency has been operating under. The actual

budget for FY2021 will be presented later in the meeting, and it will enable more meaningful comparisons of actual expenditures to the budget. The new budget shows that there are not any problems regarding available funding. This report shows the Agency's expenses through December.

The summary of work element expenditures, agency-wide line-item expenditures, and the balance sheet all show that the Agency is in a sound financial position.

Judge Pollock moved to approve the report. Judge Ison seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Mr. Michael G. Adams, Kentucky Secretary of State, gave a report on current affairs in Kentucky. The recent elections, including the primary and general elections, were a success according to every metric. There was a 64% voter turnout, which is the highest voter turnout in the state in a decade and a half. That is good by any mark but to have that high turnout in the middle of a pandemic is really remarkable. The election was safe despite having millions of people come out to vote, and there were no resulting spikes in cases of COVID-19 after both the primary election and the general election. Both elections were clean, fair, and free elections despite the accusations of voter fraud. There was no connivance or fraudulent activity despite the claims. Voters can come away from this experience with confidence in the election systems.

Mr. Adams stated that he learned two valuable lessons during the recent general election. The first is that there cannot be election officials involved in the process who are partisan or seen as partisan. They must be seen as fair-minded and neutral. The other big lesson learned is that people really do listen to what others with opposing views say despite claims of political polarization. Even though many Republicans in politics did not agree with the measures taken to make the elections safer and allow absentee voting, approximately 60% of Republican voters voted via absentee ballot during the primary election. In a span of just a couple of months, Mr. Adams and others were able to get Republican voters to listen, change their opinion, and use the absentee ballot or early voting option to create a safer general election during the pandemic. The situation was similar during the general election. Ultimately, about 25% of individuals voted in-person on election day, 45% voted early in-person, and 30% voted via absentee ballot.

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Taking all of this information into account, Mr. Adams has some suggestions on how to make permanent changes to improve the election system. All the things that Kentucky did in 2020 to have successful elections that made it the envy of the country were done through emergency powers and all of those executive orders have since expired and are not renewable. Mr. Adams stated that he does not have the authority to renew these improvements and make them permanent, but he has asked the legislature to act on their authority by making permanent improvements to the election system in Kentucky. There are four things that were done in 2020 that Mr. Adams would like to keep in the future.

The first improvement that should be made is to make in-person early voting permanent. The election should not take weeks, but he does think a few days that could include a weekend, would be really good for the voting system. It would be good for voter turnout and convenience for working people to find a time to vote, and it is also easier for officials to monitor the polling sites for any potential fraud. It also makes it easier for the ballots to be counted. This would not make it more difficult for candidates running a campaign, either.

Second, the vote center model that was used in 2020 should be kept. Mr. Adams is not in favor of abolishing precincts overall but having at least one place in a county that is a centralized, easily accessible location is a really good improvement. This would prevent voters from being disenfranchised if they went to the wrong precinct to try and vote. It is also a very efficient way to get voters in and out than the old model because some precincts are in locations that are hard to find. It is also easier and much less expensive for the counties that have to fund these elections and fewer poll workers are needed.

The third improvement should be to keep the absentee ballot request portal. Absentee voting is in the state constitution, so it codified in the state's laws. Therefore, it should be made as convenient as possible to apply for the absentee ballot. This also makes it easier for the state to confirm voter identity and surveil absentee ballots. The state can also track the ballots to see if any have been lost or stolen. For the first time in history, these ballots were transparent. A voter could log-on and track his or her ballot in the process. These tracking capabilities were never possible before.

Fourth, the cure process should be implemented permanently. This process allows the state to contact voters if there is a discrepancy on his or her absentee ballot. For example, if a voter's signature on the absentee ballot did not match his or her signature on the voter registration, officials called the voter to verify his or her

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identity. This allowed the rate of failure of absentee ballots to be cut in half from 7.5% to 3.8%. Another benefit is that the voter can alert officials if he or she did not even submit that absentee ballot. This gives the state an inquiry into potential fraud.

All these improvements address potential fraud, make it easier to count the ballots, and help ensure improved enfranchisement of voters. Mr. Adams also supports the state transitioning to using paper ballots for elections. This would improve voter confidence and provide a paper trail to make any recounts easier to undertake. Mr. Adams would also like to ban ballot harvesting, which is when absentee ballots are collected by the truck load and then taken and dropped off to a county clerk. This situation can cause corruption and has caused corruption in other states. It is not legal in Kentucky, but the state needs to add penalties to ensure it does not happen. Also, more aggressive action is needed to get the state voter rolls cleaned up.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. Spencer reported that the Transportation Policy Committee met on Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom video conference. Ms. Bernadette DuPont with the Federal Highway Administration was the guest speaker at the meeting, and she gave a presentation on bicycle and pedestrian activities. Staff provided a report to the Committee on all the public involvement activities that they have conducted and the public input that has been received since the last Council meeting in November. Mr. Kevin Baity and Councilman Bernard Bowling were elected as chairman and vice-chairman for the Council for 2021. The Council was also made aware of the election of Mr. Keith Griffie and Ms. Brittany Montgomery and chairman and vice-chairwoman of the Transportation Technical Coordinating Committee (TTCC) for 2021.

Staff kicked off the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Connecting Kentuckiana 2050, and shared the schedule for the plan. The Plan has a planned completion date for the fall of 2023. A status update was provided for the Dedicated Funding Program, and the Council approved a cost increase in Phase Shift that was requested by project sponsors. The schedule for the third amendment opportunity was shared with the Council, which will be the third opportunity to add or revise projects to the current Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Connecting Kentuckiana 2040 or the current Transportation Improvement Program 2020 – 2025. The schedule allows applications to be accepted through February 1, 2021 and the quality conformity activities from February to April. The public comment period will take place in April.

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It will then be taken back to the committees with a recommendation in May and final federal approval can be expected to occur in June.

The next Transportation Policy Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

Judge Voegele moved to approve the report. Ms. Chester-Burton seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS

Ms. Amanda Spencer requested Board approval for the two following Division of Transportation Agreements.

The Board is asked to consider approving the release of a Request for Qualifications for approximately \$50,000.00 in consultant services for creation of a new Division of Transportation Project Database and potentially server and web services. These services will allow for improved efficiency and transparency.

Judge Pollock moved to approve the request. Judge Voegele seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

The Board is asked to consider approving an upgrade of KIPDA's current general maintenance agreement with ESRI to an Enterprise Agreement. This change will meet needs for additional professional licenses and features such as improved software. The Enterprise Agreement cost is \$27,500.00 per year to be shared by KIPDA Divisions.

Judge Riley moved to approve the request. Judge Voegele seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

Mr. Embry reported that the Regional Transportation Council met on Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom video conference. Mr. James Ballinger, the State Highway Engineer with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), was the guest speaker at the meeting. He gave an update on KYTC activities during the pandemic in 2020 and future funding and projects for 2021. The Council heard transportation updates from the counties, and Mr. Embry gave an update on the Kentuckians for Better Transportation online conference that he recently attended.

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Mr. Embry presented the Council with the 2020 KYTC Strategic Highway Investment Formula for Tomorrow (SHIFT) schedule and provided an overview of the upcoming activities and deadlines. Mr. Embry also gave the Council an update on the Active Transportation Plan and Survey that is performed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and will be focusing on bike and pedestrian projects.

The next Regional Transportation Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

Judge Riley moved to approve the report. Mayor Eaton seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Ms. Story reported that the Regional Planning Council met on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom video conference. Dr. Natasha Udu-gama with Thriving Earth Initiative gave the Council a presentation about how Thriving Earth Initiative will be working with KIPDA to study issues in the KIPDA region, such as climate change, that will have a profound impact on hazard mitigation in the not-too-distant future. The Council also heard the quarterly planning updates from the counties. Ms. Ranseen presented the Council with the KIPDA Hazard Mitigation Plan update. The elections for officers were held and Mr. Ryan Libke and Judge Todd Pollock were elected chairman and vice-chairman for 2021.

The next Regional Planning Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom video conference.

Mayor Black moved to approve the report. Judge Ison seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Mr. Carter reported that the Regional Water Management Council met on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom video conference. Ms. Sandy Williams with the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority (KIA) gave an update on upcoming projects and the next cycle of federal funding. Mr. Russell Neal with the Kentucky Division of Water gave a presentation on 2021 activities and the project funding cycle. Ms. Allie Terrell gave a presentation on HomeServe USA's Servline Program which provides repair services to consumers through utility partners and municipalities. Mr. Justin Carter reported on the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan

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cycle and the fiscal year 2021 system visits. The Council approved one new project in Shelby County that will address the Norfolk Southern Sewage Pump Station and Force Main at an estimated cost of \$2,470,000. The Council elected Mr. Russ Rose and Mr. Scot Treece as chairman and vice-chairman for 2021.

The next Regional Water Management Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

Judge Ison moved to approve the report. Judge Pollock seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

COUNTY BUDGET WORKSHOPS

Ms. Story reported that the Department for Local Government (DLG) is holding the Budget Basics workshops virtually this year. DLG has partnered with the area development districts (ADDs) to host these virtual workshops. There will be six trainings, each hosted by a different ADD. KIPDA will be assisting with the training held on February 10, 2021 hosted by Lincoln Trail and February 12, 2021 hosted by Northern Kentucky. The trainings teach budgeting basics and statutory budgetary requirements, and individuals will earn three hours of county officials training credit. Registration must be completed at least one week prior to the training.

Governor Beshear announced a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coronavirus Response for the utility assistance program. There has been \$38 million available to local governments to assist Kentuckians with overdue and past due utility bills. Each unit of local government can request up to \$200,000.00 for assistance, and the deadline for the application is June 30, 2022. Households will be eligible for up to \$250.00 per month for six consecutive months if they live in a city or county approved for funding and they have been financially impacted by COVID and are struggling to pay their water, sewer, and/or, electric bill. Households will need to be delinquent and will need to have received either a disconnection notice or show on their bill that they are delinquent. This funding will be distributed through community action agencies.

CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT

Ms. Ranseen reported that last summer KIPDA partnered with Indiana University Bloomington and had one of their students assist with creating a climate change report for the KIPDA region, excluding Jefferson County as they handle their

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own climate reporting. The information in this report will be included in the KIPDA Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Kentucky already has a fairly unpredictable climate and things will only get more unpredictable and more intense as the effects of climate change increase. Intense heat and humidity can be expected to increase. This means that summers in the region will only become more hot and more humid. The region will also experience increased precipitation and flooding, which will certainly cause issues.

The United States Climate Resilience Tool Kit, which is a federal government entity, maps out the change in average maximum daily temperatures for the summer months from 2000 through 2050. The map shows that the average high temperature per day in the summer months in the KIPDA region was about 87.3 degrees Fahrenheit. In a higher emissions scenario, the region will experience an average daily high temperature in the summer months of about 92.4 degrees Fahrenheit by 2050, which is an increase of nearly five degrees. This is a substantial increase when considering how hot the summer months already are in the KIPDA region.

Indiana University has a great tool for the Indiana counties called the Hoosier Resilience Index. A chart was created using this tool that shows the number of extreme heat events. Extreme heat events are when the temperature is so hot that there will be a certain number of people who will suffer from hyperthermia or other heat related illnesses. Currently in Clark and Floyd Counties, there are around 40 days each year with extreme heat. By the year 2050, there is the potential for that to increase to between 85 to over 100 days with extreme heat per year.

This is so troubling because this extreme heat is paired with the high humidity in the region, and the humidity levels are only going to intensify as the years go on. The extreme heat and the high humidity combine together to create high wet bulb temperatures, which are problematic because high heat and high humidity mean that the human body can no longer cool itself by sweating. This can further increase the risk of heat stroke and death, especially among the homeless population and individuals that do not have access to air conditioning.

A map of the United States showing temperature projections every few decades shows the Ohio River Valley and the Mississippi River Valley as the epicenter of the increase in these high heat and high humidity days per year. Not only will this be challenging for people to handle, but it will also be challenging for agriculture. Projections by county for days from 2040 to 2060 that will be high heat and high humidity days show that the counties in the KIPDA region will experience anywhere

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from 10 to 40 days. The counties that show the highest number of days are Bullitt, Floyd, Jefferson, and Spencer.

With this changing climate, the KIPDA region will experience about a 10-15% increase in precipitation and about a 40% increase in heavy precipitation by 2100. This can cause increased flooding, which can increase the likelihood of dam failures, puts a strain on agricultural drainage, and can lead to more landslides. It is important for KIPDA to be cognizant of these issues because the 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan is currently undergoing an update. A large part of this Plan is estimating the vulnerability of the communities to natural disasters, and climate change must be brought into the equation to determine what the region might face in the future. Individuals can visit www.kipdahazardmitigation.org to learn about the 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan and provide input.

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES BUSINESS

The Division of Social Services is requesting approval by the Board to authorize the Executive Director signing the following for fiscal year 2021.

Business Action for Consideration	Reason for Action	Action Requested by the Board
Meals on Wheels America (MOWA) Amendment #2 to the Master Agreement, and Scope of Work #3.	KIPDA is requesting the Board to approve the Executive Director signing the Meals on Wheels America (MOWA) Amendment #2 extending the Master Agreement from January 1, 2021 through April 1, 2022, and the Scope of Work #3 continuing services as described in prior versions.	Approve the Executive Director signing the MOWA Contract Amendment #2 and Scope of Work #3.
Title III-B Financial Management RFP – Special Condition Sole Source Release	Elderserve discontinued the Financial Management segment of their services effective December 31, 2020. All clients were securely and appropriately transferred to KEPT, Inc., the only other known agency to provide these services. Therefore, KIPDA DSS would like board approval to open a Special Condition, Sole Source RFP to that agency.	Approve the release of Title III-B Financial Management RFP as Sole Source opportunity.
Title III-B Supportive Services Mid-Year Subcontract Revisions	KIPDA DSS would like to request Board approval of Mid-Year Revisions to the following provider contracts. These revisions are based on activities provided during the first half of FY 21 and full distribution of CARES funds:	Approve the Title III-B Subcontract Revisions as listed below:

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Agency	Original	Increase/Decrease	Total Federal/State Budget
Elderserve	\$55,943	\$21,064	\$77,007
Highlands	\$34,004	\$44,762	\$78,766
Multi-Purpose CAA	\$130,817	\$44,762	\$175,579
Tri-County CAA	\$124,310	\$21,064	\$145,374
Louisville Wheels	\$297,282	- \$167,182	\$130,000
Tri-County CAA III-B Transportation	\$102,468	\$137,532	\$240,000
Title III-D Health Promotion Mid-Year Subcontract Revision	KIPDA DSS would like to request Board approval of the Mid-Year Revision to the following Title III-D Subcontract:		Approve the Title III-D Subcontract Revisions as listed below:
Agency	Original	Increase/Decrease	Total Federal/State Budget
Tri-County CAA (Bingocize cancelled)	\$19,868	- \$9,186	\$10,682

Mayor Black moved to approve the request for the Executive Director to sign the Meals on Wheels contract amendment. Judge Pollock seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mayor Eaton moved to approve the request to release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Title III-B financial management services. Judge Pollock seconded. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Carruthers moved to approve the request for Title III-B supportive services subcontract revisions. Mr. O'Brien seconded. Judge Pollock and Judge Riley abstained from the vote. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

NEED FOR HOMECARE AIDES

Ms. Elkin reported that KIPDA HomeCare providers are having grave difficulty finding aides to provide services for clients. There is a flyer in the Board packet that lists the HomeCare agencies that KIPDA utilizes. Ms. Elkin requested that Board members distribute the information on the flyer to help the HomeCare agencies find aides. KIPDA's rate of delivery of HomeCare services program has dropped dramatically. Clients are still being served, but they are not being served at 100%. The shortage of HomeCare aides also makes it difficult for KIPDA to accept new clients into the HomeCare programs.

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Ms. Elkin also stated that she attended a Title-III providers meeting where it was discussed that other services out there are experiencing similar struggles. One of those services that is struggling is the Louisville Wheels program. The program is in desperate need of drivers. Also, Louisville Metro Senior Nutrition Program is looking for volunteers to assist with meal delivery and hand-out at the drive-up sites. Jewish Family Community Services is also in need of aides for their care program.

COVID VACCINATION OVERVIEW

Ms. Elkin stated that KIPDA staff are working multiple times daily to stay up to date on all the information that is available about the vaccines and their distribution. KIPDA has also been working diligently to establish relationships with local health departments and agencies to be able to have a good idea on how best to serve KIPDA clients and the rest of the community. Each piece of information will be distributed as it is received to the KIPDA media sites. KIPDA is also working to assist individuals with registration to receive a vaccine. The registration process can be confusing and cumbersome. The agency has also worked on compiling and providing the numbers of individuals who are active KIPDA program clients who might be interested in receiving a vaccine as requested by the Department for Aging and Independent Living (DAIL). All updates about the vaccine situation can be accessed via KIPDA's social media sources.

LEGISLATION - KENTUCKY

Mr. Haley reported that the Kentucky legislative session began on Tuesday, January 5, 2021. Legislators are tasked with crafting a one-year budget during the 30-day session. To date, 280 House bills and 100 Senate bills have been filed. It was a busy start to the session with the legislature sending seven bills to the governor's desk. Six of these bills related to the governor's executive powers and were vetoed by the governor. Senate Bill 9, the Born Alive Infant bill, became law without the governor's signature. Legislators will return for part two of session on February 2, 2021 and are expected to override the governor's vetoes at that time, and Governor Beshear has stated that he anticipates those bills ending up in court. With 22 days left in the session, some important dates to remember are February 10th is the last day for new Senate bills; February 11th is the last day for House bills; and the session concludes on March 30th.

Included in the Board packet is a list of bills that could potentially impact local government and the Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living (AAIL). This list will grow as bills are filed, and next month there will be a better idea of where