

**Lake Cumberland Area Development District  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 23, 2025 @ 11:00 am CST (12:00 pm ET)**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Eddie Thomas called the meeting to order at 11:00 am CT in the large conference room of the LCADD in Russell Springs, Kentucky. This meeting was held in-person as well as by Zoom.

**Opening Prayer**

Prayer was given by Judge-Executive-Executive Jimmie Greene.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Waylon Wright, Executive Director, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Seating of Citizen Members**

Chairman Eddie Thomas gave the following names as nominated for the Seating of the LCADD Board of Directors Citizen Members. Those names are as follows: Ms. Nicole Cross (Clinton Co.), and Ms. Laura Wilds (Taylor Co.), Mr. Brian Scott (Cumberland Co.), and Ms. Vickie Wells (Cumberland Co.). Mr. Nick Hazel made a motion to approve the Seating of the Citizen Members. Seconded by Mr. Hershell Key. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call**

Ms. Ronda Abrell, Assistant, gave the roll call and a quorum was established.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Eddie Thomas asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2024 Board of Directors meeting, November 21, 2024 Executive Committee meeting, and December 18, 2024 Executive Committee minutes. Mr. Allan Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Judge-Executive Randy Dial. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

**Nominating Committee Report/Election of Officers**

Chairman Eddie Thomas asked Judge-Executive Barry Smith to present the recommendations for the Nominating Committee Report/Election of Officers. Judge-Executive Smith stated that the recommendations are as follows: Judge-Executive John Frank, Chairman, Mr. Hershell Key, Vice-Chair, Mayor Robert Lawson, Secretary, Judge-Executive Jimmie Greene, Treasurer, and Mayor Eddie Thomas, Past Chair. Judge-Executive Barry Smith asked for a motion from the floor to approve the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. Ms. Sharon Payne made a motion to approve the Election of Officers. Seconded by Mr. Curtis Hardwick. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

In the absents of Judge-Executive John Frank, Chairman, Mayor Eddie Thomas asked Mr. Hershell Key, Vice Chari to step in and conducting the remainder of the meeting.

## **Seating of Executive Committee**

Mr. Hershell Key, Vice-Chair stated the Appointments as follows: Adair County Citizen Member Mr. Curtis Hardwick, Wayne County Judge-Executive Scott Gehring, Casey County Judge-Executive Randy Dial, Cumberland County Mayor Laurel Irby, Ms. Sharon Payne, At-Large-Member, and Taylor County Judge-Executive Barry Smith. Vice-Chair Hershell Key asked for a motion to approve those Appointments. Motion to approve made by Mayor Robert Lawson. Seconded by Mayor Eddie Thomas. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Committee Chair Appointments were given by Chairman Thomas. Those Appointments are as follows: RLF Loan Committee Chairman Citizen Member Mr. Allan Chapman, Transportation Committee Chairman Mayor Dennis Benningfield of Campbellsville, and Regional Water Committee Chairman Judge-Executive Ricky Craig of Clinton County. Vice-Chair Hershell Key asked for a motion to approve those Appointments. Mr. Curtis Hardwick made a motion to approve. Seconded by Ms. Sharon Payne. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

## **KCADD Appointments**

Chairman Thomas stated that Judge-Executive John Frank and Judge-Executive Randy Dial, will be the Appointments representing the LCADD for the Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts. Vice-Chair Hershell Key asked for a motion to approve. Motion made by Judge-Executive Barry Smith to approve the Appointments. Seconded by Ms. Sharon Payne. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

## **FY 2023 Audit Report**

Mr. Tony Meeks, Director of Finance provided the LCADD Statement of Operations by Program for the Year Ending June 30, 2024. Vice-Chair Hershell Key asked for a motion to approve the FY 2024 Audit Report. Motion was made by Mr. Garland Hoskins. Seconded by Mayor Robert Lawson. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

## **Workforce Development**

Ms. BJ Wilkerson, Assistant Director of WIOA reported that there are currently 74 active participants in the WIOA Program. 67 of those participants are enrolled in training programs. WIOA has supplied supportive services to 6, and 1 work experience. 23 clients have exited the program. WIOA continues to monitor those 23 clients, as well as tracking their employment history and performance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

The following has been spent on WIOA Programs:

- \$61,869.78 – Adult Workers Program.
- \$109,342.23 – Youth Program
- \$4,133.20 – Dislocated Workers Program

Ms. Wilkerson went on to report that WIOA is currently out of funds for training. The only available fund are for the NDWG. This is due to the funding increase and services that WIOA has provided. To compensate for that the Workforce is adding additional programs that are currently being worked up. WIOA applied for an ARC grant, which that has recently been matched for \$43,785 for the VR Goggles for students. WIOA has also applied for a GROW grant that can be partnered with the ARC grant. The pre-application for the GROW grant has been approved, which leads us to be able to work on the full-application. This will be used to hire one grant writer and one career manager.

The Opioid Abatement program currently has 39 participants enrolled and have served 9 participants with supportive services.

Putting Young Kentuckians to Work Program is currently serving youth ages 16 – 24 in Adair, Casey, Green, Cumberland, Russell and are scheduled for Whitley and Pulaski Counties.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Waylon Wright, Executive Director complimented WIOA staff and Ms. Wilkerson's leadership. As Ms. Wilkerson has explained we have historically always relied on one federal program to fund Workforce activities. Ms. Wilkerson has ventured out and has been applying for state grants to help with new business opportunities for us to serve our 10-county region plus the 3 counties in addition that we serve because of the Workforce Board.

- February 13, 2025 will be proclaimed as the Area Development Districts Day. The event will take place at the Capitol Annex in Frankfort. All board members are welcome to attend.
- LCADD is currently trying to build capacity in-house on finding and building potential housing projects.
- Once again, we have contracted Mr. Scott Merusi, Housing Consultant. Mr. Merusi is helping us with capacity review for the Kentucky Housing Corporation and the capacity review for Federal Home Loan Bank in Cincinnati, OH. Once we have successful reviews, we can start accessing some of their programs. LCADD already has partners in place that stand ready to work with us.
- Ms. Lori McKnight from Ohio University met with Mr. Wright in January sharing with him that they have gotten an ARC application which allows them to go around some Appalachia counties in Ohio, North Carolina, and Kentucky and survey needs for local airports. Ms. McKnight would like to come and speak to our board during the March board of directors meeting.
- Mr. Wright thanked Mayor Eddie Thomas for serving as Chairman commenting that Mayor Thomas has done a good job as Chairman and has helped him, as well as our agency through-out the past year.

Vice-Chair Mr. Hershell Key introduced Ms. Sandy Simpson, Field Rep. for Congressman Comer, Ms. Mary Carter Barton, Field Rep. for Congressman Comer, Mr. Scott Surber with the Center for Rural Development, and Mr. Bruce Crouch, Kentucky Emergency Management Area 10 Manager. All spoke very positive about LCADD and the Region we serve.

With no other business or comments, Vice-Chair Mr. Hershell Key asked for a motion to adjourn. Judge-Executive-Executive Randy Dial made a motion to adjourn at 11:59 am. Seconded by Mr. Curtis Hardwick. All in Favor. Motion Carried.



Judge-Executive John Frank, Chairman



Mayor Robert Lawson, Secretary