

**EAST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**JUNE 13, 2017  
MINUTES**

The East Tennessee Development District's Executive Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at the ETHRA Offices in Knoxville, TN. The following Executive Committee members were present:

Terry Frank, Anderson County Mayor  
Johnny Merritt, Mayor of Luttrell  
E.L. Morton, Campbell County Mayor  
Ron Woody, Roane County Executive  
Tim Thompson, Development Representative  
Don Mull, Mayor of Alcoa  
Crystal Ottinger, Cocke County Mayor  
Tim Yates, Monroe County Mayor  
Dale Perdue, Scott County Mayor  
Roland Dykes, III, Member at Large

**Guests**

Don Woods, ADC  
Rick Yakubic, ETDD  
Sarah Fansler, Knox County  
Bryan Hall, Monroe County Economic Development  
Bert Robinson, TVA  
Tammy Merritt, Congressman Fleischmann's Office  
Cindy Boshears, Congressman Fleischmann's Office

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Terry Frank called the meeting to order.

## **MINUTES**

Chairman Terry Frank presented the minutes of the May 9, 2017 meeting to the Executive Committee for approval. City of Alcoa Mayor Don Mull made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, it was seconded by Member at Large Roland Dykes III, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending April 30, 2017 was presented by ETDD Financial Officer Rick Yakubic. Campbell County Mayor E.L. Morton made the motion to accept the report as presented and it was seconded by City of Alcoa Mayor Don Mull and it was approved by all.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Terry Bobrowski, ETDD Executive Director, gave his Director's report:

### **Grants Update**

There are several items to report on:

Our grant application work has slowed considerably from previous months.

First I am pleased to report that THDA is looking to increase our funding for our Emergency Repair Program for the Elderly program. Normally the program would end on June 30 and not be renewed until after July 1. However, the THDA Board recently approved a blanket 12-month extension of all 2017 ERP Grant Contracts in order to allow sufficient time to expend current funding allocations. THDA will issue grant amendments to extend all existing funding awards through June 30, 2018. THDA plans to issue this grant amendment in late June 2017. The Board also approved for THDA to award up to \$2.7M in additional funding for State FY 2018. First, THDA will evaluate each Agency's status in expending funding currently under contract in late June 2017. At that point, THDA may award up to \$300,000 in additional funding to each agency depending on expenditures to date. To simplify the administrative process, this award allocation of new funds will be included in the grant amendment issued in late June extending the 2017 grant period.

Also, there is \$35 million that is going to be awarded in grants through the Tennessee Commission for Aging & Disability for statewide initiatives that impact seniors (age 60 and over) in four major categories: senior housing, transportation, legal services and dental. It is anticipated that development districts statewide will file an application for additional funds to augment the THDA ERP funds. The grant applications is due by midnight on July 31<sup>st</sup>, it is a competitive process, TCAD is going to administer all of the funds, and contract periods will be for 1 – 3 years. Our thought process is that we request \$200,000 - \$300,000/ district.

### **Awards Banquet Update**

I wanted to remind everyone that our Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> this year at a facility called the Venue in Lenoir City. This is a really great new facility and we expect to have a great crowd – invitations went out last week and we are getting a really good response so far. We have developed a great list of awards this year and they are:

1. New Madisonville Library
2. Sweetwater Visitors Center/Train Depot Project
3. Jefferson County/NMUD Water Line Extension Project
4. Jefferson City Mossy Creek Park Facility
5. Dandridge/KUB Water Line Interconnection
6. Campbell County Comprehensive Cultural Resource Survey
7. Morgan County Bicentennial Celebration
8. Oneida Centennial Celebration
9. Anderson County Tennessee College of Applied Technology Facility
10. Lenoir City Event Facility – The Venue
11. Roane County Riley Creek Campground and Pavilion
12. Sevierville Main Street Program
13. Knox County Extreme Energy Makeover Program
14. Claiborne County Little Sycamore Water Line Extension Project
15. Monroe County Water Line Extension

We also plan to hold an Executive Committee meeting prior to the awards banquet. I pleased to report that the Venue has a great meeting room for this and we will be able to meet in a much more comfortable and private setting than in the past.

### **Federal Budget Overview**

You will find in your packet and overview of the FY 2018 federal budget as presented by the President to Congress. I won't go over the entire document but I think there are some important items to note. First, many of the programs that have a direct impact on local communities in terms of infrastructure development have been zeroed out in the administration budget. The CDBG program, the ARC program and the EDA program have all be targeted for elimination by the administration. Other important programs targeted for elimination include the Water and Wastewater loan and grant programs through USDA, FEMA's flood hazard mapping program and many of EPA's categorical grants such as brownfields assistance.

Our national association, the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), is already contacting members of Congress in regard to the importance of these programs and other national organizations such as the National Association of Counties and the National League of Cities are working the aisles as well. I am not sure when the 2018 budget will be formally discussed – sometime in late summer I would imagine – but if you get the chance I would encourage you to advocate for these important programs whenever you can.

### **Salary Schedule Review**

As I mentioned last month, we pulled together our proposed salary levels for all of our employees for next year. We emailed that information out to all Executive Committee members a couple of weeks ago for your review. Last year in FY 2017, the total salary level for all employees was \$998,767. The new proposal outlines a 3% raise for the ETDD staff which increases the total salary level for the agency to \$1,001,851, an increase of \$13,084 over last year for the District. This amount has been factored into our FY 2018 fiscal year budget and we can easily accommodate the proposed increase.

Madam Chair, we propose to implement any approved changes on July 1 so I would ask for a motion to consider the approval of the salary proposal. I think Rick has a copy of the salary information if anyone would like to review it or ask a question.

City of Luttrell Mayor Johnny Merritt made the motion to approve the salary proposal and it was seconded by Monroe County Mayor Tim Yates and approved by all.

## **Calendar Matters**

The next ETDD/ETHRA meeting will be held on July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Venue at Lenoir City at about 5:30 pm followed immediately by the Annual Awards Banquet. We have secured a nice meeting room in the building where we can meet in a comfortable space without being interrupted by folks that are arriving for the reception. I will also mention that we normally take a summer break and cancel the August Executive Committee meeting if there is no objection.

There were no objections.

Mr. Bobrowski mentioned that the planning staff will be providing training workshops. One of which is the Tennessee Department of Transportation will have a workshop on Street Development Process. Two locations, first on July 27<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson City Fire Department from 6-8 and another on July 31<sup>st</sup> at Farragut Town Hall from 6-8.

Another Planning Commissioner Training will be on Private Property Rights with Dan Hawk on August 29<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson City Fire Hall from 6-8 and August 31<sup>st</sup> at Farragut Town Hall from 6-8.

## **Other Business**

Bert Robinson with TVA gave a brief presentation on Estimated Economic Impacts from Recreational Expenditures Associated with TVA Reservoirs.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business the meeting was adjourned.