

**EAST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2023
MINUTES**

The East Tennessee Development District's Executive Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at the ETHRA offices in Knoxville, TN. The following Executive Committee members were present:

Joe Brooks, Claiborne County Mayor
Ron Williams, Mayor of Farragut
Brian Langlely, Morgan County Executive
Glenn Jacobs, Knox County Mayor
Terry Frank, Anderson County Mayor
Mike Byrd, Grainger County Mayor
Bill Brittain, Hamblen County Mayor
Mark Potts, Jefferson County Mayor
Wade Creswell, Roane County Executive
Jerried Jeffers, Scott County Mayor
Jason Bailey, Union County Mayor
Neal Pucciarelli, Mayor of Cumberland Gap
Roland "Trey" Dykes, Mayor of Newport
Terrence Carter, Member at Large

Guests

Alan Woods, ETDD
Tim Hendrick, ETDD
Ron Woody, ETDD
Gary Holiway, ETHRA
Tammy Merritt, Congressman Fleischmann's Office
Riley Lovingood, Senator Hagerty's Office
Rebecca Foster, Congressman John Rose's Office
Lana Moore, TVA
Kyle Hensley, TN Department of Agriculture
Avero, Mike Caffrey

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Joe Brooks called the meeting to order.

MINUTES

Chairman Joe Brooks presented the minutes of the January 11, 2023, meeting to the Executive Committee for approval. Morgan County Executive Brian Langley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, it was seconded by Hamblen County Mayor Bill Brittain and the minutes were unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending December 31, 2022, was presented by Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs. Mayor of Farragut Ron Williams made the motion to accept the report as presented and it was seconded by Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank, and it was approved by all.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rick Yakubic, ETDD Executive Director, gave his director's report:

Grants

Mr. Yakubic reported on Grants. In your packets you will see a sheet with a grants update. Did not go over all of them but did mention a couple of them. ETDD is assisting Grainger County with a EPA Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant application for approximately \$550,000. Also, ETDD was just awarded approximately 1.6 million from the U.S. Department of Labor through a Growth Opportunity Grant multi-state effort with Land of Sky Regional Council in North Carolina.

Legislative Appointments

Mr. Yakubic gave an update on the Legislative Appointments. In our last meeting, the committee approved having Senator Richard Briggs and Representative Elaine Davis to serve on our Executive Committee and wanted to mention that they have graciously accepted our confirmation to serve.

Planning Advisory Services

Mr. Yakubic reported on the Local Planning Services regarding the proposal of an increase for FY23-24. In your packet, there are two worksheets that he went through and explained a breakdown of the calculations with comparisons for our current year and the proposed adjustment of a 10% increase with a \$750.00 charge for zoning starting 7/1/2023 with a 2-year contract. The worksheet

reflected our total revenue including the State Planning Assessment of \$50,000.

Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank made a motion to approve the proposed increase as explained, it was seconded by City of Newport Trey Dykes and approved by all.

Further discussion, it was asked by the committee for Rick to write a letter to the State to request our appropriation to increase from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank made a motion to authorize Mr. Yakubic to write a letter to the State to request an appropriation increase as discussed, it was seconded by Hamblen County Mayor Bill Brittain and approved by all.

Mayors Retreat

Mr. Yakubic gave an overview of the 2nd Annual Mayors Retreat. A sheet is in your packet on what was discussed. Some of the highlights of the meeting are:

Being a Regional Convener by starting with convening with our regional partners.

Board Engagement by having sub-groups in the region of municipal mayors and development representatives, and to have a representative from that group come to the Executive Committee. Also, better communications by sending out a monthly status update for all the projects in the county. This would go out to all the county and municipal mayors on the first week of every month starting in April.

Executive Committee meetings was discussed on how much we should meet. After looking at the annual calendar, we could cancel January, March, June, and August. Bylaws state we need to meet at least 6 times a year.

- Legislative Agendas, we would develop in September, approve them in October and meet with legislators in December.
- Packets for the meetings. We will send out the Director's report and everything in the packet prior to the meeting. The only thing in the folder would be your mileage reimbursement sheet and your name tent. If there are any questions on the reports, then they will be answered in the meetings unless there are things that need to be voted on. The main part of the meetings would be a subject of interest. Subjects that were picked were Solid Waste, Workforce issues, Broadband, and Housing. We will start with Solid Waste in the April meeting and bring in Solid Waste Directors.
- Annual Business Meeting, we are looking at the possibility of making it a regional event.
- Annual Awards Banquet is our special event to honor the projects of the region. Looking at the possibility of doing the awards banquet as a breakfast meeting. Will be looking at some options and report back on it.

Under Initiatives, we discussed the TACIR reports. Ron Woody made a presentation and wanting to see how the report can be changed with the data it provides and what would be more useful. The feeling was if we changed the reporting around to identify those responsibilities, that it would help the communities better identify their needs to aid in developing a Capital Improvement Plan. A copy of the letter in your packets to send to TACIR to ask for these changes if you would like for us to send this.

Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank made a motion to send the letter to TACIR asking for changes to the way the data is reported, and it was seconded by Mayor of Farragut Ron Williams and approved by all.

The Pilot Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) was discussed for ETDD to help the counties with their CIP and Mayor Terry Frank agreed to be our pilot program. Ron Woody and Mr. Yakubic met with Anderson County, and they are off to a great start.

Relationship Managers. Mr. Yakubic explained that we are moving toward a relationship manage model. They will be reaching out at some point to touch base with you and discuss any projects and identify any needs to improve or help in assisting the communities.

American Rescue Plan

Mr. Yakubic introduced Mr. Kyle Hensley from the Department of Agriculture made a few comments. Mr. Hensley announced the roll out of the cost-share program using funds from the American Rescue Plan and highlighted the program briefly. He provided a website for everyone to visit and get more information. It is <https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/topic/farm.html>.

Other Business

Appoint the Nominating Committee

Chairman Joe Brooks reported to the Executive Committee, that each year the Chair appoints a Nominating Committee to recommend a slate of officers to the full Board during the annual business meeting that is scheduled to be held on May 9, 2023. Chairman Joe Brooks would like to appoint the following members to the Nominating Committee:

Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank, Chair
Hamblen County Mayor Bill Brittain
Cocke County Mayor Rob Mathis
Jefferson County Mayor Mark Potts
Claiborne County Mayor Joe Brooks

The Nominating Committee will be provided with historical data regarding past officers by ETDD

soon. The Nominating Committee will meet immediately prior to the April ETDD Executive Committee meeting and report its recommendations to the full Committee.

Roane County Executive Wade Creswell made a motion to accept the appointment of the Nominating Committee, and it was seconded by Morgan County Executive Brian Langley and approved by all.

Avero Presentation

Chairman Joe Brooks introduced the Avero Group to address some of the concerns that some of us may be having with little funding in the IT space. Mike Caffrey with Avero gave a brief presentation to highlight best practices and the services they can provide to assist the smaller communities with IT services.

Adjournment

With no other business, the Executive Committee was adjourned.