

**KENTUCKY RIVER AUTHORITY
MEETING NO. 197
AGENDA**

Date: November 10, 2020

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99356945788?pwd=TnczenpOUWMxY2UrTUU0Z3haaEFtQT09>

Meeting ID: 993 5694 5788

Passcode: 393554

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ag6bIh8KT>

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Financial Report – Jennie Wolfe
4. Presentation and Consideration of Ky. River Watershed Grants – Malissa McAlister, UK
5. Update on Marketing and Consideration of Branding Communications Outreach – Jonathan Lang
6. Election of Officers
7. Executive Director Report – David Hamilton
8. Chairman Report – Mark Smith
9. Discussion - Other
10. Comments from the public
11. Executive Session
 - Proposed Litigation KRS 61.810 (c)
 - Property Acquisition KRS 61.810 (b)
 - Personnel Matters KRS 61.810 (f)
15. Adjourn

The Kentucky River Authority will maintain and manage water resources of the Kentucky River Basin to provide a clean and reliable water supply for the citizens of the Basin. The Kentucky River Authority will provide leadership and a common forum for all stakeholders of the Kentucky River Basin in order to promote the highest and best uses of the water resources of the Kentucky River Basin.

A meeting of the Kentucky River Authority (KRA) was held at 1:00 pm via Zoom meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, pursuant to a meeting advisory posted at www.kra.gov and emailed to the KRA's distribution list. The following board members were present: Scott Althausser, David Farrar, Carey Johnson for Secretary Goodman, Cassidy Connell for Secretary Johnson, Jonathan Lang, Angela Muncy, Harold Rainwater, Barry Sanders, Mark Smith, Amanda Stacy, Thomas Stephens and Huston Wells. Also in attendance were David Hamilton Executive Director for the Kentucky River Authority, KRA Staff members, Sue Elliston and Jennie Wolfe. The guests in attendance were Malissa McAlister (UK), Ben Webster (Stantec), Robert Hatton (Stantec), Ed Wilcox (KSU), Bethany Couch (Finance), David West (Jessamine County Judge Executive) and Lindell Ormsbee (UK).

1. Call to Order. Chairman Mark Smith called the meeting to order, Sue Elliston took the roll call and announced there was a quorum.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes. Upon the motion made by Huston Wells and second by Barry Sanders the board unanimously approved the August 11, 2020, board meeting minutes.

3. Financial Report. Jennie Wolfe summarized the financial reports for the months July, August and September. Upon a motion made by Angela Muncy and second by Scott Althausser the board unanimously approved the financial reports for the first quarter of the fiscal year.

4. Presentation and Consideration of Kentucky River Watershed Grants. Malissa McAlister with the University of Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute presented the 2020-2022 Watershed Grants to the board. To recap the program, since 2004, the Kentucky River Authority has supported 99 watershed projects totaling \$247,000. This year Malissa received 12 applications. The program has \$30,000 available for the two-year period. Malissa suggested the following projects to receive the grant funding:

- **Red Bird Mission** – the project is in Clay, Leslie and Bell Counties and impacts solid and sewage waste in the area. There is also septic system education for the homeowners. Award amount \$5,000.
- **Southwest Clark Neighborhood Association** – the project is going to create a River Guide for Madison and Clark Counties. This will model the guide Jessamine County created several years ago. Award amount \$5,000.
- **Kentucky Waterways Alliance** – Red River Festival. The event will host a boat race with entry fees. The entry fees will sustain the festival for the future. Plan B for COVID is to create an educational video about the river. Award amount \$5,000.
- **CREEC** – Clarks Run in Boyle County. The project will manage storm water runoff that flows into Herrington Lake. They plan to remove low head dams, add habitat and reduce erosion. Award amount \$5,000.
- **Headwaters – Whitesburg.** The area of the project is the Big Sandy, Upper Cumberland and Kentucky River Basins. The watershed plan is to reduce erosion by installing streamside vegetation. This could be a demonstration project for the rest of the River Basin. Award amount \$3,000.
- **City of Stanford and Friends of Logan's Fort.** Interpretive trail Buffalo Springs to Logan's Fort in downtown Stanford. Annual field day event for the elementary school students. Award amount \$5,000.
- **Kentucky Riverkeeper** – school lesson plans and artistic design for the Annual Kentucky River Sweep t-shirts. The amount granted is less than the amount requested, but the amount awarded will finish the project. Award amount \$2,000.

Malissa then summarized the remaining five projects were not awarded during this round of grants. She explained there were other sources of funds for some of the projects or the group could re-apply in two years. Jonathan Lang asked if the signage the projects use incorporate the KRA logo and Malissa said yes. Huston Wells asked for Malissa's email address so people in and around Frankfort could apply for the grants – mmcalister@uky.edu. Lindell Ormsbee thanked the KRA Board for continuing to support the grants. Upon a motion made by Thomas Stephens and second by Harold Rainwater the board unanimously approved the grant funding presented by Malissa McAlister.

5. Update on Marketing and Consideration of Branding Communications Outreach. Jonathan Lang gave an update on the marketing initiative. In September, the marketing firm Bandy Carroll Hellige presented a Communication Plan as the next phase of the KRA marketing plan. The plan consists of print and digital media to explain, “What does the Kentucky River Authority do?” Some ideas include Paid Media in which we would use the Facebook application for 60 days for location and interest targeting. Another idea is Earned Media in which we write one consistent message that goes to all people interested in the river. Chairman Mark Smith or David Hamilton would write a message and Bandy Carroll Hellige would compose a final draft. Another idea to get people engaged in a river event, even though in person events are not possible at this time, is a Virtual Cleanup Challenge using social media. Malissa McAlister stated she is helping the City of Whitesburg with a similar challenge and would report to KRA how that goes. The budget for this phase is \$8,365 and would be launched mid-March, before boating season begins. Upon a motion made by Huston Wells and second by Thomas Stephens the board unanimously approved the funding for the Communication Plan of marketing the Kentucky River Authority brand.

6. Election of Officers. The board officers for 2020 are Mark Smith as Chair, Jonathan Lang as Vice Chair, Barry Sanders as Secretary and Harold Rainwater as Treasurer. Scott Althausser made a motion on the floor to re-appoint all officers but include Huston Wells as the Secretary beginning January 1, 2021, since Barry Sanders term expires in 2020. Huston Wells seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved the vote.

7. Executive Directors Report. David Hamilton summarized for the board the lockage's for the 2020 boating season. The final totals, for all four locks, include 4,126 individuals. The numbers for 2019 were much higher but those totals included the commercial passenger vessels, which were shut down for some of the boating season or could only have limited passengers. The number of non-commercial boaters was very consistent with prior seasons. David Hamilton re-visited a discussion from last board meeting regarding the transfer of ownership of Locks and Dams 1 – 4 from the Army Corps of Engineers. At a recent meeting, David Hamilton requested the Corps conduct the Environmental Study before Locks and Dams 1 through 4 are transferred to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the Corps agreed. This will add approximately six months to the deed transfer, which will now be late spring/early summer. Next David Hamilton discussed the Budget Office proposal of 8% General Fund Budget Reduction for fiscal year 2021. If a budget reduction does go into effect for this fiscal year, KRA would use Tier I funds to cover expenses in the general fund, which is mostly personnel costs. Dam 10 had a good construction season and is on schedule to be completed by July 5, 2021.

8. Chairman Report. Mark Smith set the dates for the upcoming board meetings in calendar year 2021. The dates are February 9th, May 11th, August 10th and November 9th. Mark Smith thanked

the KRA staff for their hard work and being stewards of the river. Mark Smith requested the board members to pick a subcommittee to be involved with in 2021. Then Barry Sanders thanked the Kentucky River Authority for being a part of the board and is excited to see what has and is being done to further promote the River.

There was no discussion or comment from the public. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.