

The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board at the January 17, 2025, business meeting. This is provided in summary form; an official record of the meeting is available in the permanent records of the Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy, 107 Corporate Drive, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.



**Kentucky Agricultural Development Board
Summary Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting
January 17, 2025
Franklin County Extension Office
101 Lakeview Court, Frankfort, KY**

Call to Order

Chief of Staff Mark Bowling presiding, called the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) regular business meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. (EST).

Roll Call

The following members were present: Mark Bowling (designee for Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell), Matt Sawyers (designee for Governor Andy Beshear), Ashlee Chilton (designee for Secretary Jeff Noel), Dr. Jamie Matthews (designee for Dean Laura Stephenson), Dr. Marcus Bernard (designee for KSU President Dr. Koffi C. Akakpo), Wayne Hunt, Fritz Giesecke, Kevin Fields, Mark Barker, Al Pedigo, Bobby Foree, Matt Hinton, and Laura Sanderfur.

Absent Members: Neil Denton, Dr. Gordon Jones, and Heather Graham.

Notification of Media

Mr. Bowling received verification from Hannah Sharp-Johnson, Boards & Special Events Manager, that the media had been notified of the KADB monthly meeting.

Welcome

Mr. Bowling welcomed everyone to the KADB meeting. Board members and guests participated in person.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bowling entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2024, board meeting.

Mr. Hinton moved to approve the minutes, as presented; Mr. Sawyers seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Kentucky Department of Agriculture Report

Mr. Bowling updated the board on activities of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA).

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Bowling called on Brandon Reed to give the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Reed gave an overview of his activities since the December board meeting. Mr. Reed referenced the updated KADF Meat Processor Investment list. Lastly, Mr. Reed referenced the Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program total projects to date and dollar amount.

Deputy Executive Director's Report

Mr. Bowling called on Bill McCloskey, KOAP Deputy Executive Director, to present the compliance and financial report to the board.

Mr. McCloskey referenced the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund State Pool Tobacco Funds (*on file*) as of December 31, 2024.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund County Balances (*on file*) as of December 31, 2024.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed the KAFC Statement of Financial Position (*on file*) as of December 31, 2024.

Mr. Pedigo moved to approve the Financial Report, as presented; Mr. Hunt seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Presentations

Karen Karp & Partners

Mr. Bowling called on Mr. Reed to introduce presenters Shayna Cohen and Brian DeCorte to provide an overview of the KADF evaluation.

Memo Action Items

Project Time Extensions

Mr. McCloskey referenced (2) projects requesting time extensions (*on file*).

Staff recommended approval of one time extension request.

Mr. Giesecke moved to approve the staff recommendation, as presented; Mr. Hunt seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

New Business

New Applications for Referral

Mr. Bowling called on Mr. McCloskey to present the new applications for referral.

Mr. McCloskey referenced two (2) new applications for referral.

Mr. Foree moved to refer the submitted applications to the appropriate committees; Mr. Hinton seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Programs Recommended for Approval

Mr. Bowling called on Mr. McCloskey to present the programs recommended for approval.

Mr. McCloskey referenced seven (7) County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP) applications totaling \$1,295,115; one (1) Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR) totaling \$2,500; two (2) Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP) totaling \$70,000. The total program funding is \$1,367,615.

Staff recommended approval of these applications.

Mr. Fields moved to approve all programs meeting state guidelines, as presented; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Requested Program Amendments

Mr. Bowling called on Mr. McCloskey to present the requested program amendments.

Mr. McCloskey referenced four (4) county requests for additional funds for existing CAIP programs totaling \$140,062 (Daviness, Pike, Grant, and McLean Counties) and one (1) county request for additional funds for existing YAIP program totaling \$5,000 (Grant County).

Staff recommended approval of these amendments.

Mr. Giesecke moved to approve staff recommendation, as presented; Mr. Barker seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Projects

Mr. Bowling called on Alexis Scheidt, Chelsea Smither, & Savanna Hill to present the following projects.

A2024-0264 Community Farm Alliance, Inc.

Ms. Scheidt referenced the above application requesting \$868,008 in state funds over a two year period to continue supporting market and nutrition incentives, increasing access to local food for low income populations, and leveraging federal funds to support the food and farming systems in Kentucky.

The KADB Application Review Committee recommends funding the request of \$868,008 in state funds over a two year period, subject to the terms and conditions.

Mr. Foree moved to approve the committee recommendation, as presented; Mr. Fields seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2024-0274 Rockcastle County Conservation District

Ms. Scheidt referenced the above application requesting \$3,212.00 in county funds to purchase exhaust fans for the fairgrounds.

The KADB Application Review Committee recommends funding the request of \$3,212.00 in Rockcastle County Funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

Mr. Hunt moved to approve the committee recommendation, as presented; Mr. Barker seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2024-0275 Rockcastle County Conservation District

Ms. Scheidt referenced the above application requesting \$3,367.50 in county funds to purchase livestock panels for the fairgrounds.

The KADB Application Review Committee recommends funding the request of \$3,367.50 in Rockcastle County Funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

Mr. Hinton moved to approve the committee recommendation, as presented; Ms. Chilton seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2024-0276 Kentucky State Beekeepers Association

Ms. Smither referenced the above application requesting \$109,000 in state funds over two years to support the Certified Kentucky Honey Program.

The KADB Application Review Committee recommends funding the applicant up to \$109,000 in state funds over a two years, subject to the terms and conditions.

Mr. Pedigo moved to approve the committee recommendation, as presented; Mr. Barker seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Projects Recommendations for No Funding

A2024-0261 Kentucky Young Farmer Association

Ms. Smither referenced the above application requesting \$30,885 in state and multi-county funds to purchase welders for 25 farmers who will complete the requirements of a welding training program.

The KADB Application Review Committee recommends not funding the applicant’s request due to the understanding that they would only be funding the 2023 pilot program.

Mr. Hinton moved to approve the committee recommendation, as presented; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2024-0267 Marksbury Farm Foods, LLC

Ms. Hill referenced the above application requesting \$250,000 in state funds to expand their processing operations.

The KADB Application Review Committee unanimously recommended denying the applicant’s request due to the project not increasing harvest capacity.

Mr. Hinton moved to approve the committee recommendation, as presented; Mr. Giesecke seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Pending Applications

Mr. McCloskey stated two (2) applications are pending.

A2024-0238 Grow Farms, LLC

A2024-0247 Three Rivers Vet Services, PLLC

No action necessary on expired/withdrawn projects or programs.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Bowling stated the KADB Application Review Committee will meet immediately following adjournment of the KADB meeting.

The next KADB meeting will be on Friday, February 21, 2025, at the Franklin County Extension Office at 9:00 a.m. (EST).

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Bowling entertained a motion to adjourn the January board meeting at 11:43 a.m. (EST).

Mr. Hinton moved to adjourn the January KADB meeting; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

APPROVED DATE:

2-21-2025

PRESIDING OFFICER:

[Signature]
Commissioner Jonathan Shell

- Brandon Reed, Exec. Dir.

BOARD SECRETARY:

[Signature]
Hannah Sharp-Johnson, Board Secretary

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1. A detailed list of the New Applications for Referral is attached as Appendix A.
 2. A detailed list of the applications funded under the listed programs is attached as Appendix B.
 3. A detailed list of requested Program Amendments is attached as Appendix C.
 4. A copy of the KADB Application Review Committee meeting minutes attached as Appendix D.
 5. A copy of the KADB On-Farm Energy Committee meeting minutes attached as Appendix E.

New Applications for Referral

| APP # | APPLICANT | COUNTY | Cmte. |
|------------|---|--------------|--------|
| A2024-0268 | White Farms <i>On-Farm Energy</i> | Union | Energy |
| A2024-0277 | Sylvatica Forest Farm, LLC <i>On-Farm Energy</i> | Rockcastle | Energy |
| A2024-0278 | Henpecked Farms, Inc <i>On-Farm Energy</i> | Wayne | Energy |
| A2024-0279 | Barr Farms Organic Produce, LLC <i>On-Farm Energy</i> | Breckinridge | Energy |
| A2024-0280 | Gary Smith <i>On-Farm Energy</i> | Breckinridge | Energy |
| A2024-0281 | Manford Derum <i>On-Farm Energy</i> | Graves | Energy |
| A2024-0282 | Hobbs Farms, LLC <i>On-Farm Energy</i> | Carlisle | Energy |
| A2024-0284 | Metcalfe County 4-H Council, Incorporated <i>Country Ham Project</i> | Metcalfe | ARC |

Programs Recommended for Approval

| CAIP | | | |
|--------------------|--|---------------|------------------------|
| <u>Application</u> | <u>Program Administrator</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
| A2025-0005 | Simpson County Conservation District | Simpson | \$77,572.00 |
| A2025-0006 | Lewis County Conservation District | Lewis | \$199,007.00 |
| A2025-0007 | Bracken County Conservation District | Bracken | \$322,536.00 |
| A2025-0008 | Estill County Conservation District | Estill | \$80,000.00 |
| A2025-0009 | Fayette County Conservation District | Fayette | \$225,000.00 |
| A2025-0010 | Breckinridge County Soil Conservation District | Breckinridge | \$300,000.00 |
| A2025-0011 | Rowan County Conservation District | Rowan | \$91,000.00 |
| | | | \$1,295,115.00 |

| Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR) | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| <u>Application</u> | <u>Program Administrator</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
| A2025-0001 | Garrard County Fiscal Court | Garrard | \$2,500.00 |
| | | | \$2,500.00 |

| Youth Ag Incentives Program (Youth) | | | |
|--|--|---------------|------------------------|
| <u>Application</u> | <u>Program Administrator</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
| A2025-0003 | Bracken County Conservation District | Bracken | \$20,000.00 |
| A2025-0004 | Madison County Farm Bureau, Inc. of Madison County, Kentucky | Madison | \$50,000.00 |
| | | | \$70,000.00 |

Total County Funds Recommended for Approval in Programs: **\$1,367,615.00**

Requested Program Amendments

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| App # | A2024-0098 |
| Applicant Name | Green River Area Beef Improvement Group, Inc. (Daviness County) |
| Original Amount Approved | \$100,000 |
| Execution Date | 06/17/2024 |
| Requested Change | <p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$58,575 in Daviness County funds for the <i>CAIP Program</i>. The request received a <u>high</u> priority from the County Council.</p> <p>This is the first request for an amendment to this application number. The term of the program shall remain 12-months from the execution date of the original agreement.</p> <p>Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$158,575.</p> <p>Recommend Approval</p> |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| App # | A2024-0138 |
| Applicant Name | Pike County Conservation District * |
| Original Amount Approved | \$30,000 |
| Execution Date | 07/26/2024 |
| Requested Change | <p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$4,000 in Pike County and state funds for the <i>CAIP Program</i>. The request received a <u>high</u> priority from the County Council.</p> <p>This is the first request for an amendment to this application number. The term of the program shall remain 12-months from the execution date of the original agreement.</p> <p>Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$34,000.</p> <p>Recommend Approval</p> |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| App # | A2024-0152 |
| Applicant Name | Grant County Cattlemen's Association, Inc. |
| Original Amount Approved | \$190,000 |
| Execution Date | 09/19/2024 |
| Requested Change | <p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$12,000 in Grant County funds for the <i>CAIP Program</i>. The request received a <u>high</u> priority from the County Council.</p> <p>This is the first request for an amendment to this application number. The term of the program shall remain 12-months from the execution date of the original agreement.</p> <p>Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$202,000.</p> <p>Recommend Approval</p> |

* Indicates a portion of the project is funded from the "State Funds To Support to Counties with Limited Allocation initiative."

Requested Program Amendments

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| App # | A2024-0153 (YAIP) |
| Applicant Name | Grant County Cattlemen's Association, Inc. |
| Original Amount Approved | \$5,000 |
| Execution Date | 09/19/2024 |
| Requested Change | <p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$10,000 in Grant County funds for the <i>YAIP Program</i>. The request received a <u>high</u> priority from the County Council.</p> <p>This is the first request for an amendment to this application number.</p> <p>The term of the program shall remain 12-months from the execution date of the original agreement.</p> <p>Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$15,000.</p> <p>Recommend Approval</p> |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| App # | A2024-0154 |
| Applicant Name | Green River Area Beef Improvement Group, Inc. (McLean County) |
| Original Amount Approved | \$32,810 |
| Execution Date | 07/25/2024 |
| Requested Change | <p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$65,487 in McLean County funds for the <i>CAIP Program</i>. The request received a <u>high</u> priority from the County Council.</p> <p>This is the first request for an amendment to this application number.</p> <p>The term of the program shall remain 12-months from the execution date of the original agreement.</p> <p>Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$98,297.</p> <p>Recommend Approval</p> |

* Indicates a portion of the project is funded from the "State Funds To Support to Counties with Limited Allocation initiative."

APPENDIX D: Application Review Committee Minutes

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Meeting Date: | January 17, 2025 |
| Meeting Location: | Franklin County Extension Office |
| Meeting Chair: | Brandon Reed |
| Attendees: | <p>Committee Members: Mark Barker, Laura Sanderfur, Matt Sawyers, Kevin Fields, Ashlee Chilton, Dr. Jamie Matthews (UK), Mark Bowling (KDA), Wayne Hunt, Dr. Marcus Bernard, Al Pedigo, Fritz Giesecke, Neil Denton, and Matt Hinton.</p> <p>KOAP Staff: Brandon Reed, Bill McCloskey, Brian Murphy, Savanna Hill, Alexis Scheidt, Becca Besok, Chelsea Smither, Bailey Siry-Crowder, and Landon Peach.</p> |
| Minutes Issued By: | Chelsea Smither |
| Meeting Call to Order: | 12:30 p.m. EDT |
| Meeting Adjourned: | 2:14 p.m. EDT |

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| Agenda Items: |
| <p>The Application Review Committee reviewed applications A2024-0284, A2024-0283, A2024-0265 (pending), A2024-0238 (pending), and A2021-0059.</p> <p>Mr. Hinton moved to adjourn into executive session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to discuss applications A2024-0284, A2024-0283, A2024-0265 (pending), A2024-0238 (pending), and A2021-0059; Mr. Giesecke seconded the motion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The committee entered executive session at 1:33 p.m.</i></p> <p>Mr. Beeler moved to adjourn into open session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to vote on applications A2024-0284, A2024-0283, A2024-0265 (pending), A2024-0238 (pending), and A2021-0059; Mr. Hunt seconded the motion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The committee reconvened in open session at 2:11 p.m.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A2024-0284 Metcalfe County 4-H Council, Inc. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$2,063 in Metcalfe County Funds to purchase hams for 4-H members. |

APPENDIX D: Application Review Committee Minutes

Agenda Items:

2. A2024-0283 Kentucky Halal Meats, LLC
 - a. The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$1,562.40 in state funds for reimbursement for the consultation with Bobby Pace.

3. A2024-0265 Kentucky Halal Meats, LLC (pending)
 - a. The application is already pending due to no current updates regarding this project, so no action was necessary at this time.

4. A2024-0238 Grow Farms, LLC (pending)
 - a. The committee unanimously recommended pending the application for further information.

5. A2021-0059 RedLeaf Biologics, Inc.
 - a. The committee unanimously recommended pending the application for further information.

Adjournment:

Committee adjourned in acclamation.

APPENDIX E: On-Farm Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Meeting Date: | February 5, 2025 |
| Meeting Location: | Zoom Meeting |
| Meeting Chair: | Bill McCloskey |
| Attendees: | Committee Members: Andy Miller, Michael Montross, Morgan Hayes, and Alan Goble. KOAP Staff: Bill McCloskey, Chelsea Smither. Advisory: Doug Overhults, Sam McNeill, Zachary Byrd, and Josh Bills. |
| Minutes Issued By: | Chelsea Smither |
| Meeting Call to Order: | 9:00 a.m. EST |
| Meeting Adjourned: | 9:38 a.m. EST |

Approved Auditors:

1. Jason Delambre – Midwest Clean Energy Enterprise, LLC
The committee unanimously recommended approving the auditor to be added to the guidelines.

2. Bruce Everly – Energy Improvement Matters (EIM), LLC
The committee unanimously recommended approving the auditor to be added to the guidelines.

New Applications:

1. A2024-0268 White Farms
The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$10,300 in state funds to install a grain dryer for a grain operation.

2. A2024-0277 Sylvatica Forest Farm
The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$10,300 in state funds to install solar panels for a horticulture operation.

3. A2024-0278 Henpecked Farms
The committee unanimously recommended pending the application for further information.

4. A2024-0279 Barr Farms Organic Produce LLC
The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$10,300 in state funds to install solar panels for a horticulture operation.

5. A2024-0280 Gary Smith
The committee unanimously recommended not funding the application because it does not fit within the guidelines.

APPENDIX E: On-Farm Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

6. A2024-0281 Manford D. Crum

The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$5,181 in state funds to install a refrigeration compressor for a dairy operation.

7. A2024-0282 Hobbs Farms LLC

The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$10,300 in state funds to install a grain dryer for a grain operation.

8. A2025-0012 James Beatty

The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$7,210 in state funds to install solar panels for a beef operation.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Next meeting: June 4, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom.