

The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board at the February 21, 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  
February 21, 2025  
Franklin County Extension Office  
101 Lakeview Court, Frankfort, KY**

**Call to Order**

Brandon Reed designee for Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell presiding, called the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) regular business meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. (EST).

**Roll Call**

The following members were present: Brandon Reed/Mark Bowling (designee for Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell), Matt Stephens (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, Kevin Fields, Mark Barker, Al Pedigo, Bobby Foree, Dr. Gordon Jones, Neil Denton and Laura Sanderfur.

Absent Members: Matt Hinton, Fritz Giesecke, and Heather Graham.

**Notification of Media**

Mr. Reed received verification from Hannah Sharp-Johnson, Board Secretary, that the media had been notified of the KADB monthly meeting.

**Welcome**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Reed entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2025, board meeting.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Kentucky Department of Agriculture Report**

Commissioner Shell updated the board on activities of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA).

**Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Reed gave an overview of his activities since the January board meeting. Lastly, Mr. Reed referenced the Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program total projects to date and dollar amount.

**Mr. Bowling assumed chair at 9:25 a.m.**

**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 January 31, 2025.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund County Balances (*on file*) as of January 24, 2025.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed the KAFC Statement of Financial Position (*on file*) as of January 31, 2025.

Dr. Jones moved to approve the Financial Report, as presented; Mr. Fields seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Committee Reports**

**KADB On-Farm Energy Committee**

Mr. Bowling called on Chelsea Smither to give the KADB On-Farm Energy Committee report.

Mr. Pedigo moved to accept the committee report, as presented; Ms. Sanderfur 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. Pedigo moved to refer the submitted applications to the appropriate committees; Dr. Bernard seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Programs Recommended for Approval**

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

Ms. Bryant referenced one (1) County Agricultural Incentives Program (CAIP) applications totaling \$76,718; one (1) Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR) totaling \$12,500; one (1) Shared-Use Equipment Program totaling \$16,500; one (1) Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP) totaling \$30,000. The total program funding is \$135,718.

Staff recommended approval of these applications.

Mr. Foree moved to approve all programs meeting state guidelines, as presented; Mr. Pedigo seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Requested Program Amendments**

Mr. Bowling called on Ms. Bryant to present the requested program amendments.

Ms. Bryant referenced one (1) county requests for additional funds for existing CAIP programs totaling \$100,000 (Jessamine County).

Staff recommended approval of these amendments.

Mr. Pedigo moved to approve staff recommendation, as presented; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**On-Farm Energy Efficiency Incentives Program Recommendations for Funding**

Mr. Bowling called on Ms. Smither to present requests for On-Farm Energy Efficiency Incentives Program funds.

Ms. Smither referenced six (6) On-Farm Energy Program applications totaling \$53,591 in state funds: Union (\$10,300), Rockcastle (\$10,300), Graves (\$5,181), Carlisle (\$10,300), Ohio (\$7,210), and Breckinridge (\$10,300) counties.

Mr. Fields moved to approve the energy projects as presented; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Projects**

Mr. Bowling called on Mr. McCloskey, Ms. Smither, & Savanna Hill to present the following projects.

**A2024-0283 Kentucky Halal Meats, LLC**

Mr. McCloskey referenced the above application requesting \$1,350 in state funds for consultation fees as part of the Food Safety and Efficiency Incentives Program.

The KADB Application Review Committee recommends funding the request of \$1,350 in state funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**A2024-0284 Metcalfe County 4-H Council, Incorporated**

Ms. Hill referenced the above application requesting \$2,063 in Metcalfe County funds to purchase 40 hams for Metcalfe County 4-H members.

The KADB Application Review Committee recommends funding the request of \$2,063 in Metcalfe County Funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Projects Recommendations for No Funding**

**A2024-0280 Gary Smith**

Ms. Smither referenced the above application requesting \$10,300 in state funds to purchase solar panels for a poultry operation.

The On-Farm Energy Committee recommends not funding the applicant's request due to being eligible within program guidelines.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Pending Applications**

Mr. McCloskey stated four (4) applications are pending.

A2024-0238 Grow Farms, LLC

A2024-0247 Three Rivers Vet Services, PLLC

A2024-0265 Kentucky Hala Meats LLC

A2024-0278 Henpecked Farms, Inc.

No action necessary on pending projects or programs.

**Closing Remarks**

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

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

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Bowling entertained a motion to adjourn the February board meeting at 10:26 a.m. (EST).

Mr. Hunt moved to adjourn the February KADB meeting; Mr. Pedigo seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

APPROVED DATE: March 21, 2025

PRESIDING OFFICER: Wen Baul  
Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, Chair *-Wen Baul*

BOARD SECRETARY: Hannah Sharp-Johnson  
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/Compliance Committee meeting minutes attached as Appendix.

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**New Applications for Referral**

APP #	APPLICANT	COUNTY	Cmte.
A2025-0013	Sugarloaf Mountain Meats and Processing <i>Food Safety &amp; Efficiency Incentives Program</i>	Rowan	ARC
A2025-0015	Hopkinsville Elevator Company, Inc. <i>Rail Expansion</i>	Christian	ARC

**Programs Recommended for Approval**

<b>CAIP</b>			
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2025-0017	Floyd County Soil Conservation District	Floyd *	\$76,718.00
			<b>\$76,718.00</b>
<b>Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR)</b>			
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2025-0002	Hardin County Fiscal Court	Hardin	\$12,500.00
			<b>\$12,500.00</b>
<b>Shared-Use Equipment Program</b>			
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2025-0014	Mercer County Conservation District	Mercer	\$16,500.00
			<b>\$16,500.00</b>
<b>Youth Ag Incentives Program (Youth)</b>			
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2025-0016	Casey County Extension District Board	Casey	\$30,000.00
			<b>\$30,000.00</b>
<b>Total County Funds Recommended for Approval in Programs:</b>			<b>\$135,718.00</b>

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

Requested Program Amendments

<b>App #</b>	<b>A2024-0081</b>
<b>Applicant Name</b>	<b>Jessamine County FFA Alumni Association, Inc.</b>
Original Amount Approved	\$100,000 + \$100,000 amendment
Execution Date	05/13/2024
Requested Change	<p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$100,000 in Jessamine 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 second 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 \$300,000.</p> <p><b>Recommend Approval</b></p>

## APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	February 21, 2025
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Franklin County Extension Office
<b>Meeting Chair:</b>	Brandon Reed
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p><b>Committee Members:</b> Wayne Hunt, Al Pedigo, Bobby Foree, Neil Denton, Kevin Fields, Ashlee Chilton, Laura Sanderfur, Mark Barker, Dr. Gordon Jones, Dr. Jamie Matthews (UK), Dr. Marcus Bernard (KSU), and Mark Bowling (KDA).</p> <p><b>KOAP Staff:</b> Brandon Reed, Bill McCloskey, Brian Murphy, Savanna Hill, Alexis Scheidt, Becca Besok, Chelsea Smither, Sarah Bryant, Bailey Siry-Crowder, Hannah Johnson, and Jeff Parman.</p>
<b>Minutes Issued By:</b>	Becca Besok
<b>Meeting Call to Order:</b>	10:40 a.m. EDT
<b>Meeting Adjourned:</b>	2:15 p.m. EDT

<b>Agenda Items:</b>
<p>The Application Review Committee reviewed an amendment for A2023-0049 and applications A2025-0015, A2024-0238 (pending), A2024-0265 (pending), A2021-0059 (pending), A2025-0013, and A2022-0016.</p> <p>Mr. Pedigo moved to adjourn into executive session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to discuss applications A2023-0049 and applications A2025-0015, A2024-0238 (pending), A2024-0265 (pending), A2021-0059 (pending), A2025-0013, and A2022-0016.; Mr. Hunt seconded the motion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The committee entered executive session at 12:15 p.m.</i></p> <p>Mr. Hunt moved to adjourn into open session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to vote on applications A2023-0049 and applications A2025-0015, A2024-0238 (pending), A2024-0265 (pending), A2021-0059 (pending), A2025-0013, and A2022-0016.; Mr. Pedigo seconded the motion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The committee reconvened in open session at 1:18 p.m.</i></p>



## APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

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### Agenda Items:

1. A2023-0049 Murray State University Center for Agriculture Hemp
  - a. The committee unanimously recommended approving the time extension and budget amendment to extending the project for one year and allowing the remaining balance to be used to support the project.
  
2. A2025-0015 Hopkinsville Elevator Company, Inc.
  - a. The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$300,000 in multi-county funds to renew, expand, and develop rail accessibility.  
*Mr. Hunt, Mr. Pedigo, and Mrs. Sanderfur abstained.*
  
3. A2024-0283 Grow Farms, LLC (pending)
  - a. The committee unanimously recommended not funding the application due to the performance structure.
  
4. 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.
  
5. A2021-0059 RedLeaf Biologics, Inc. (pending)
  - a. The committee unanimously recommended extending the acreage forgiveness for 1 year and approving them for \$160,000.
  
6. A2025-0013 Sugarloaf Mountain Meats & Processing
  - a. The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$3,750 in state funds for revising and developing HACCP for poultry production and training services for certification.
  
7. A2021-0016 Alliance Packing
  - a. The committee unanimously recommended entering into a subordination agreement with the applicant's lender.  
*Mr. Pedigo abstained.*

### Adjournment:

Committee adjourned in acclamation.