

The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board at January 16, 2026, 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 16, 2026
Franklin County Extension Office
101 Lakeview Court, Frankfort, KY**

Call to Order

Deputy Commissioner Warren Beeler presiding, called the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) regular business meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. (EST).

Roll Call

The following members were present: Warren Beeler (designee for Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell), Dr. Marcus Bernard (designee for KSU President Dr. Koffi C. Akakpo), Matt Sawyers (designee for Governor Andy Beshear), Dean Laura Stephenson, Wayne Hunt, Kevin Fields, Bobby Foree, Heather Graham, Fritz Giesecke, Al Pedigo, Mark Barker, and Laura Sanderfur

Absent Members: Dr. Gordon Jones, Ashlee Chilton (designee for Secretary Jeff Noel), Matt Hinton, and Neil Denton.

Notification of Media

Deputy Commissioner Beeler received verification from Hannah Sharp-Johnson, Boards Secretary that the media had been notified of the KADB monthly meeting.

Welcome

Deputy Commissioner Beeler welcomed everyone to the KADB meeting. Board members and guests participated in person.

Approval of Minutes

Deputy Commissioner Beeler entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2025, board meeting.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Kentucky Department of Agriculture Report

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

Executive Director's Report

Deputy Commissioner Beeler 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 Regional Manager Map. Lastly, Mr. Reed referenced the Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program total projects to date and dollar amount.

Deputy Executive Director's Report

Deputy Commissioner Beeler called on Bill McCloskey, KOAP Deputy Executive Director, to present the compliance, financial report, KADF committed funds report as of January 25, 2026 to the board.

Mr. McCloskey referenced the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund State Pool Tobacco Funds (*on file*) as of January 5, 2026.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund County Balances (*on file*) as of January 4, 2026.

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

Ms. Graham moved to approve the Financial Report, as presented; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Memo Action Items

A2023-0231 Kentucky State University

Deputy Commissioner Beeler called on Landon Peach to present a memorandum (*on file*) regarding a budget amendment request.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Dr. Bernard Abstained.

New Business

New Applications for Referral

Deputy Commissioner Beeler called on Mr. McCloskey to present the new applications for referral.

Mr. McCloskey referenced five (5) new applications for referral.

Mr. Barker moved to refer the submitted applications to the appropriate committees; Mr. Pedigo seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Programs Recommended for Approval

Deputy Commissioner Beeler called on Sarah Charles to present the programs recommended for approval.

Ms. Charles referenced six (6) CAIP totaling \$1,176,112; (1) Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR) totaling \$2,500; (3) Shared-Use Equipment Program totaling \$43,375; (3) Youth Ag Incentives Program (Youth) totaling \$49,000 total funding: \$1,270,987.00

Staff recommended approval of these applications.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Requested Program Amendment

Deputy Commissioner Beeler called on Ms. Charles to present the requested program amendment.

Ms. Charles referenced one (1) county request for additional funds for existing CAIP program totaling \$56,400 (McClellan County).

Staff recommended approval of these amendment.

Mr. Fields moved to approve staff recommendation, as presented; Ms. Graham seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Projects Recommended for Funding

Deputy Commissioner Beeler called on Jesse Moore to present the following projects.

A2025-0252 Owensboro Farmers Market, Inc.

Mr. Moore referenced the above application requesting \$45,000 in Daviess County funds for a commercial kitchen.

The KADB Application Review and Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant up to \$45,000 in Daviess County funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2025-0254 Washington County Board of Education

Mr. Moore referenced the above application requesting \$100,000 in Washington County funds to support the construction of a 40'x60' agricultural working facility.

The KADB Application Review and Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant up to \$100,000 in Washington County funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2025-0255 Green River Area Agent Association

Mr. Moore referenced the above application requesting \$12,900 in multi-county funds to support costs to participate in the cooperative Extension Leadership Experience.

The KADB Application Review and Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant up to \$12,900 in multi-county funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Ms. Graham & Dean Stephenson Abstained.

A2025-0257 Gate Keeper Cattle Company, LLC

Mr. Moore referenced the above application requesting \$55,000 in multi-county funds and requesting \$250,000 in state funds for their expansion which is for the construction of a 4,000 sq ft structure.

The KADB Application Review and Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant in multi-county funds matched by state funds up to \$110,000 and encouraged the applicant to pursue a loan with KAFC, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Pilot KADF Horticulture Incentives Loan Program

Deputy Commissioner Beeler called on Mr. McCloskey to provide an update on eight (8) Pilot KADF Horticulture Incentives Loan Program projects.

No action necessary.

Pending Applications

Mr. McCloskey stated one (1) application is pending.

A2025-0232 West Liberty Veterinary Clinic Operations LLC

No action necessary on pending projects.

Closing Remarks

Deputy Commissioner Beeler stated the KADB Application and Compliance Review Committee will meet thirty minutes following adjournment of the KADB meeting.

The next KADB meeting will be on Friday, February 20, 2026, at the Franklin County Extension Office at 9:00 a.m. (EST).

Adjournment

There being no further business, Deputy Commissioner Beeler entertained a motion to adjourn the January meeting at 10:11 a.m. (EST).

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

APPROVED DATE:

2-20-2026

PRESIDING OFFICER:

[Signature]
Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, Chair

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 and Compliance 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	COMMITTEE
A2026-0014	Metcalfe County 4-H Council, Incorporated <i>4-H Country Ham Project</i>	Metcalfe	ARC
A2026-0015	Creekside Veterinary Services, LLC <i>Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program</i>	Whitley	ARC
A2026-0016	Commonweath Veterinary Clinic, PLLC <i>Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program</i>	Scott	ARC
A2026-0017	Rock Solid Vet Services, PLLC <i>Large & Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program</i>	Adair	ARC
A2026-0018	Rock Vet Animal Hospital, LLC <i>Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program</i>	Rockcastle	ARC

Programs Recommended for Approval

CAIP				
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2026-0001	Simpson County Conservation District	Simpson		\$67,549.00
A2026-0002	Lewis County Conservation District	Lewis		\$273,245.00
A2026-0003	Bracken County Soil Conservation District	Bracken		\$246,318.00
A2026-0005	Mason County Conservation District	Mason		\$264,000.00
A2026-0007	Breckinridge County Soil Conservation District	Breckinridge		\$250,000.00
A2026-0011	Breathitt County Farm Bureau of Breathitt County, Kentucky	Breathitt		\$75,000.00
Total Recommended for Funding: 6				\$1,176,112.00

Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR)				
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2026-0010	Garrard County Fiscal Court	Garrard		\$2,500.00
Total Recommended for Funding: 1				\$2,500.00

Shared-Use Equipment Program				
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2026-0008	Breckinridge County Extension District Board	Breckinridge		\$12,000.00
A2026-0009	Garrard County Conservation District	Garrard		\$19,425.00
A2026-0013	Pulaski County Conservation District	Pulaski		\$11,950.00
Total Recommended for Funding: 3				\$43,375.00

Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP)				
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2026-0004	Bracken County Soil Conservation District	Bracken		\$20,000.00
A2026-0006	Mason County Conservation District	Mason		\$19,000.00
A2026-0012	Breathitt County Farm Bureau of Breathitt County, Kentucky	Breathitt		\$10,000.00
Total Recommended for Funding: 3				\$49,000.00

Total County Funds Recommended for Approval: **\$1,270,987.00**

Requested Program Amendments

App #	A2025-0070
Applicant Name	Green River Area Beef Improvement Group, Inc. (McLean County)
Original Amount Approved	\$20,000
Execution Date	06/03/2025
Requested Change	<p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$56,400 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 \$76,400.</p> <p>Recommend Approval</p>

APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

Meeting Date:	January 16, 2026
Meeting Location:	Franklin County Extension Office
Meeting Chair:	Brandon Reed
Attendees:	<p>Committee Members: Wayne Hunt, Al Pedigo, Warren Beeler (KDA), Bobby Foree, Heather Graham, Kevin Fields, Matt Sawyer, Dr. Bernard, Dean Laura Stephenson, Fritz Giesecke, Laura Sanderfur, and Mark Barker</p> <p>KOAP Staff: Brandon Reed, Bill McCloskey, Brian Murphy, Savanna Hill, Alexis Scheidt, Becca Besok, Jesse Moore, Sarah Charles, Rachel Cowherd, Hannah Johnson, Bailey Siry-Crowder, Landon Peach, and Jeff Parman</p>
Minutes Issued By:	Alexis Scheidt
Meeting Call to Order:	10:24 a.m. EDT
Meeting Adjourned:	10:54 a.m. EDT

Agenda Items:

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee reviewed applications A2026-0014, A2026-0015, A2026-0016, A2026-0017, and A2026-0018.

Mr. Warren Beeler moved to adjourn into executive session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to discuss applications A2026-0015, A2026-0016, A2026-0017, and A2026-0018; Mr. Wayne Hunt seconded the motion.

The committee entered executive session at 10:46 a.m.

Laura Sanderfur moved to adjourn into open session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to vote on applications A2026-0015, A2026-0016, A2026-0017, and A2026-0018; Mr. Bobby Forree seconded the motion.

The committee reconvened in open session at 10:51 a.m.

1. A2026-0014 Metcalfe County 4-H Council, Incorporated.
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$2,351 in Metcalfe County funds to purchase 45 hams for Metcalfe Co. 4-H members.

APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

Agenda Items:

2. A2026-0015 Creekside Veterinary Services, LLC
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended pending the applicant until county funds have been committed.

3. A2026-0016 Commonwealth Veterinary Services
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$4,167 in Scott County funds and \$81,625 in State funds as part of the Large & Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program to purchase a mobile x-ray unit.

4. A2026-0017 Rock Solid Vet Services, PLLC
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended pending the applicant until county funds have been committed.

5. A2026-0018 Rock Vet Animal Hospital, LLC
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended pending the applicant until county funds have been committed.

Adjournment:

Committee adjourned in acclamation.

APPENDIX F: On-Farm Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date:	February 4, 2026
Meeting Location:	Zoom Meeting
Meeting Chair:	Bill McCloskey
Attendees:	<p>KOAP Staff: Bill McCloskey and Chelsea Smither.</p> <p>Members: Glenn Miller, Morgan Hayes, and Michael Montross.</p> <p>Advisory: Doug Overhults and Josh Bills.</p>
Minutes Issued By:	Chelsea Smither
Meeting Call to Order:	9:00 a.m. EDT
Meeting Adjourned:	9:25 a.m. EDT
<p>New Applications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A2025-0258 Double Oak Poultry The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$4,666 in state funds to install vent doors on a poultry operation. 2. A2025-0259 Lan Mark Farm, LLC The committee unanimously recommended funding the request of \$6,300 in state funds to install solar panels on a livestock operation. <p>Alternative Funding Resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. KOAP staff and others present provided other resources in the state to receive funding for on-farm energy projects. <p>With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation.</p>	