

The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board at February 20, 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
February 20, 2026
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 9:01 a.m. (EST).

Roll Call

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

Absent Members: Matt Hinton and Neil Denton.

Notification of Media

Mr. Reed received verification from Hannah Sharp-Johnson, Boards 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 16, 2025, board meeting.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Kentucky Department of Agriculture Report

Mr. Reed 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. 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, and KADF committed funds report as of January 29, 2026, to the board.

Mr. McCloskey referenced the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund State Pool Tobacco Funds (*on file*) as of January 29, 2026.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund County Balances (*on file*) as of January 28, 2026.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed the K AFC Statement of Financial Position (*on file*) as of January 31, 2026.

Mr. Foree moved to approve the Financial Report, as presented; Ms. Chilton seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Committee Reports

KADB On-Farm Energy Committee

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

Mr. Barker moved to accept the committee report, as presented; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Memo Action Items

A2024-0130 End of the Road

Mr. Reed called on Ms. Smither to present a memorandum (*on file*) regarding a time extension request.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2024-0254 Woodford County Board of Education

Mr. Reed called on Alexis Scheidt to present a memorandum (*on file*) regarding a time extension request.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2024-0195 Logan Premium Meats and Processing LLC

Mr. Reed called on Brian Murphy to present a memorandum (*on file*) regarding a business plan update since board approval.

NO ACTION NEEDED

A2024-0263

UKRF Beef Analyzer Software Update

Mr. Reed called on Mr. McCloskey to present a memorandum (*on file*) regarding a budget amendment request.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Dr. Matthews and Ms. Graham Abstained.

New Business

New Applications for Referral

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

Mr. McCloskey referenced three (3) new applications for referral.

Dr. Jones moved to refer the submitted applications to the appropriate committees; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Programs Recommended for Approval

Mr. Reed called on Sarah Charles to present the programs recommended for approval.

Ms. Charles referenced five (5) CAIP totaling \$472,000; two (2) Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR) totaling \$20,000; and one (1) Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP) totaling \$20,000. The total funding is \$512,000.00.

Staff recommended approval of these applications.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Requested Program Amendments

Mr. Reed called on Ms. Charles to present the requested program amendments.

Ms. Charles referenced one (1) county request for additional funds for an existing CAIP totaling \$50,000 (Jessamine County).

Staff recommended approval of these amendments.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

On-Farm Energy Efficiency Incentives Program Recommendations for Funding

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

Ms. Smither referenced two (2) On-Farm Energy Program applications totaling \$10,966 in state funds: Wayne (\$4,666) and Bath (\$6,300).

Ms. Sanderfur moved to approve the energy projects as presented; Dr. Bernard seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Projects Recommended for Funding

Mr. Reed called on Landon Peach, Savanna Hill, and Ms. Scheidt to present the following projects.

A2025-0232 West Liberty Veterinary Clinic Operations LLC

Mr. Peach referenced the above application requesting \$83,333 in state funds and \$16,667 in multi-county funds as part of the Large & Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program to construct a new cattle working facility at their clinic.

The KADB Application Review and Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant's request of \$83,333 in state funds and \$16,667 in multi-county funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2026-0014 Metcalfe County 4-H Council, Incorporated

Ms. Hill referenced the above application requesting \$2,351 in Metcalfe County funds to purchase 45 hams for Metcalfe Co. 4-H members.

The KADB Application Review and Compliance Committee recommends funding up to \$2,351 in Metcalfe County funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2026-0016 Commonwealth Veterinary Clinic, PLLC

Ms. Scheidt referenced the above application requesting \$20,833 in state funds and \$4,167 in Scott County funds as part of the Large & Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program to purchase a mobile X-Ray unit to enhance on-farm diagnostic capabilities for large animal patients.

The KADB Application Review and Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant's request of \$20,833 in state funds and \$4,167 in Scott County funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Programs Recommendations for No Funding

A2026-0026 Kenton County Conservation District

Ms. Scheidt referenced the above application to administer a DAR in Kenton County. Staff recommends not funding this program due to the Kenton County Agricultural Development Council assigning a low priority and not committing county funds to this application.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Pending Applications

Mr. McCloskey stated three (3) applications are pending.

A2026-0017 Rock Solid Vet Service, PLLC

A2026-0015 Creekside Veterinary Services, LLC

A2026-0018 Rock Vet Animal Hospital, LLC

No action necessary on pending projects.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Reed 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, March 20, 2026, at the Franklin County Extension Office at 9:00 a.m. (EDT).

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Reed entertained a motion to adjourn the February meeting at 9:31 a.m. (EST).

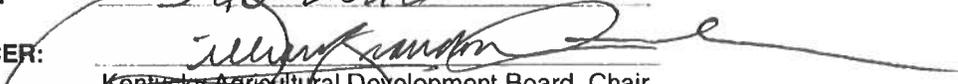
Ms. Graham moved to adjourn the February KADB meeting; Ms. Sanderfur seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

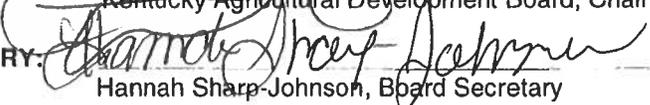
APPROVED DATE:

3-20-2026

PRESIDING OFFICER:


Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, Chair

BOARD SECRETARY:


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.

New Applications for Referral

| APP # | APPLICANT | COUNTY | COMMITTEE |
|------------|--|----------|-----------|
| A2026-0028 | Town & Country Animal Services, L.L.C. <i>Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program</i> | Boyle | ARC |
| A2026-0029 | Elkton Fire Department <i>Grain Bin Rescue Equipment</i> | Todd | ARC |
| A2026-0030 | Bluegrass Flow Co. <i>Cold-Pressed Juice Startup</i> | Calloway | ARC |

APPENDIX B:**Programs Recommended for Approval****CAIP**

| <u>Application</u> | <u>Program Administrator</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>State</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
|---|--|---------------|--------------|------------------------|
| A2026-0020 | Owen County Farm Bureau, Inc. | Owen | | \$20,000.00 |
| A2026-0021 | Rowan County Conservation District | Rowan | | \$89,000.00 |
| A2026-0025 | Kenton County Fair Association, Inc. | Kenton | | \$108,000.00 |
| A2026-0027 | Green County Cattlemen's Association, Inc. | Green | | \$30,000.00 |
| A2026-0031 | Fayette County Conservation District | Fayette | | \$225,000.00 |
| Total Recommended for Funding: 5 | | | | \$472,000.00 |

Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR)

| <u>Application</u> | <u>Program Administrator</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>State</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|
| A2026-0022 | Russell County Conservation District | Russell | | \$7,500.00 |
| A2026-0024 | Hardin County Fiscal Court | Hardin | | \$12,500.00 |
| Total Recommended for Funding: 2 | | | | \$20,000.00 |

Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP)

| <u>Application</u> | <u>Program Administrator</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>State</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|
| A2026-0032 | Fayette County 4-H Council, Inc. | Fayette | | \$20,000.00 |
| Total Recommended for Funding: 1 | | | | \$20,000.00 |

Total County Funds Recommended for Approval: **\$512,000.00**

Requested Program Amendments

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| App # | A2025-0085 |
| Applicant Name | Jessamine County FFA Alumni Association, Inc. |
| Original Amount Approved | \$100,000 + \$70,000 amendment |
| Execution Date | 06/06/2025 |
| Requested Change | <p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$50,000 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 \$220,000.</p> <p>Recommend Approval</p> |

APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Meeting Date: | February 20, 2026 |
| Meeting Location: | Franklin County Extension Office |
| Meeting Chair: | Brandon Reed |
| Attendees: | <p>Committee Members: Wayne Hunt, Al Pedigo, Bobby Foree, Heather Graham, Kevin Fields, Matt Stephens, Dr. Bernard, Dr. Jamie Matthews, Fritz Giesecke, Laura Sanderfur, Mark Barker, Ashlee Chilton, and Dr. Gordon Jones</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: | Jesse Moore |
| Meeting Call to Order: | 10:03 a.m. EDT |
| Meeting Adjourned: | 11:59 a.m. EDT |

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| Agenda Items: |
| <p>The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee reviewed applications A2026-0028, A2026-0030, A2023-0049, and A2024-0115.</p> <p>Mr. Wayne Hunt moved to adjourn into executive session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to discuss applications A2026-0028, A2026-0030, A2026-0018, A2023-0049, and A2024-0115; Mrs. Heather Graham seconded the motion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The committee entered executive session at 10:55 a.m.</i></p> <p>Mr. Fritz Giesecke 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; Dr. Benard seconded the motion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The committee reconvened in open session at 11:45 a.m.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A2026-0029 Elkton Fire Department <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$39,500 in multi-county funds to purchase grain rescue equipment. |

APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

Agenda Items:

2. A2026-0015 Town & Country Animal Services, L.L.C.
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended pending the applicant until county funds have been committed.
3. A2026-0030 Bluegrass Flow Co.
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended funding county funds matched by state funds as a cost-reimbursement grant, with the difference in a forgivable loan, up to \$93,833.
4. A2023-0049 Murray State University Center for Agricultural Hemp
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended approving amending the contract to allow the Recipient to use the funds through December 31, 2026.
5. A2024-0115 Clark County Fiscal Court
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended denying the Recipient's request to extend the time allowed to request reimbursements.

The committee also reviewed the following project annual reports:

6. A2024-0220 Kentucky Horticulture Council
7. A2024-0227 Kentucky Dairy Development Council
8. A2024-0228 Kentucky Beef Network
9. A2024-0222 Kentucky Proud Marketing Program

Adjournment:

Committee adjourned in acclamation.