

The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board at July 17, 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
July 17, 2026
Franklin County Extension Office
101 Lakeview Court, Frankfort, KY**

Call to Order

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

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), Ashlee Chilton (designee for Secretary Jeff Noel), Dean Laura Stephenson, Bobby Foree, Matt Hinton, Fritz Giesecke, Heather Graham, Laura Sanderfur, Kevin Fields, Dr. Gordon Jones, Mark Barker, and Al Pedigo.

Absent Members: Matt Sawyers (designee for Governor Andy Beshear), Neil Denton, and Wayne Hunt.

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 June 19, 2026, board meeting.

Mr. Foree moved to approve the minutes, with revisions to Appendix E on page 18 (6-7) Genuine Fertilizer Solutions, LLC and Eagle Mill Farms, LLC county money matched by state with no loan, refer to KAFC; Dean Stephenson. 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 June board meeting. Mr. Reed referenced the Update on 2026-2028 County Agricultural Development Council Submissions. Lastly, Mr. Reed referenced Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program total projects to date and dollar amount.

Deputy Executive Director's Report

Mr. Reed called on Bill McCloskey, KOAP Deputy Executive Director, to present the compliance, financial report, and KADF committed funds report as of June 30, 2026, to the board.

Mr. McCloskey referenced the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund State Pool Tobacco Funds (*on file*) as of June 30, 2026.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund County Balances (*on file*) as of June 30, 2026.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed the KAFC Statement of Financial Position (*on file*) as of June 30, 2026.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Memo Action Items**A2024-0019 P.H.A.R.M., LLC**

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

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

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.

Ms. Chilton moved to refer the submitted applications to the appropriate committees; Dr. Jones 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 eleven (11) CAIP applications totaling \$1,571,515; one (1) Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR) applications totaling \$10,000; and four (4) Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP) applications totaling \$89,000. The total program funding is \$1,670,515.

Staff recommended approval of these applications.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Requested Program Amendment

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

Ms. Charles referenced one (1) county requests for additional funds for existing CAIP program totaling \$8,000 (Garrard County).

Staff recommended approval of these amendments.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Projects Recommendations for Funding

Mr. Reed called on Jesse Moore, Savanna Hill, and Rachel Cowherd to present the following projects.

A2026-0151 Eagle Mill Farms, LLC dba Pepper's Hardin County Milling

Ms. Cowherd referenced the above application \$1.5 million in state funds to upgrade a modern feed facility.

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant multi-county funds matched by state funds with an option of a KADF participation loan, not to exceed a total amount of \$1,500,000 in KADF, subject to the terms and conditions.

Ms. Sanderfur made the motion to strike out "KADF participation loan not to exceed the total amount of \$1,500,000 in KADF" and replace with "refer to KAFC."; Ms. Graham seconded the motion.

VOTE: Mr. Barker Abstained.

Mr. Foree moved to approve the committee recommendation, as amended; Ms. Chilton seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Mr. Barker Abstained.

A2026-0159 Genuine Fertilizer Solutions, LLC

Ms. Savanna referenced the above application requesting \$480,170 in state funds to expand production equipment and storage capacity.

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends funding county funds matched by state funds with the difference in a participation loan up to \$480,170, subject to the terms and conditions.

Ms. Sanderfur made the motion to strike out "difference in a participation loan up to \$480,170" and replace with "refer to KAFC."; Ms. Graham seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Ms. Chilton moved to approve the committee recommendation, as amended; Mr. Barker seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2026-0162 Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Mr. Moore referenced the above application requesting \$62,000 to establish a statewide monitoring and education program targeting the invasion of the yellow-legged hornet.

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends funding the application up to \$62,000 in state funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Project Recommended for No Funding

Mr. Reed called on Ms. Hill and Ms. Cowherd to present requests for the Projects Recommended for No Funding.

A2026-0128 Foundation Christian Academy

Ms. Hill referenced the above application requesting \$10,098 in Warren County funds to purchase a greenhouse.

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends denying the application due to no commitment of county funds.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

A2026-0163 HUNYULE (DBA: Verdant Equus)

Ms. Cowherd referenced the above application requesting \$15,000 in state funds to establish a pilot-scale processing and deployment system to support equine skin health across Kentucky farms..

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends denying the application due to the determination that the project does not align with the mission of KADF.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

Pending Applications

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

A2026-0095 McCreary County Heritage Foundation, Inc.

A2026-0015 Creekside Veterinary Services, LLC

A2026-0129 Southern States Glasgow Cooperative, Inc.

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, August 21, 2026, at the Hilton Garden Inn at the KY State Fair at 9:00 a.m. (EDT).

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Reed entertained a motion to adjourn the July meeting at 10:07 a.m. (EDT).

Mr. Hinton moved to adjourn the July KADB meeting; Mr. Fields seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

APPROVED DATE:

August 21, 2020

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.

New Applications for Referral

APP #	APPLICANT	COUNTY	COMMITTEE
A2026-0171	Webster County Fiscal Court <i>Farmers Market</i>	Webster	ARC
A2026-0178	Berkshire Farms LLC <i>Food Safety & Efficiency Incentives Program</i>	Gallatin	ARC
A2026-0181	Prime Poultry Partners LLC <i>Poultry Processing Plant</i>	Taylor	ARC

Programs Recommended for Approval

CAIP				
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2026-0085	Bell County Conservation District	Bell	State	\$119,294.00
A2026-0164	Warren County Conservation District	Warren		\$133,814.00
A2026-0166	Barren County Conservation District	Barren		\$297,490.00
A2026-0168	Hickman County Conservation District	Hickman	State	\$55,500.00
A2026-0170	Grayson County Cattlemens Association Inc.	Grayson		\$175,000.00
A2026-0173	Graves County Conservation District	Fulton	State	\$38,000.00
A2026-0174	Nicholas County Conservation District	Nicholas		\$215,890.00
A2026-0176	Grant County Cattlemens Association, Inc.	Grant		\$200,000.00
A2026-0177	Greenup County Conservation District	Greenup		\$202,714.00
A2026-0179	Anderson County Conservation District	Anderson		\$107,231.00
A2026-0180	Whitley County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.	Whitley	State	\$26,582.00
Total Recommended for Funding: 11				\$1,571,515.00

Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR)				
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2026-0172	Bourbon County Fiscal Court	Bourbon		\$10,000.00
Total Recommended for Funding: 1				\$10,000.00

Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP)				
<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2026-0165	Warren County 4-H Foundation Inc.	Warren		\$35,000.00
A2026-0167	Barren County Conservation District	Barren		\$10,000.00
A2026-0169	Grayson County Cattlemens Association Inc.	Grayson		\$30,000.00
A2026-0175	Grant County Cattlemens Association, Inc.	Grant		\$14,000.00
Total Recommended for Funding: 4				\$89,000.00

Total County Funds Recommended for Approval: **\$1,670,515.00**

Requested Program Amendments

App #	A2026-0042
Applicant Name	Garrard County Farm Bureau, Inc.
Original Amount Approved	\$300,000
Execution Date	04/10/2026
Requested Change	The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$8,000 in Garrard County funds for the <i>CAIP Program</i>. The request received a <u>high</u> priority from the County Council. 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. Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$308,000. Recommend Approval

APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

Meeting Date:	July 17, 2026
Meeting Location:	Franklin County Extension Office
Meeting Chair:	Brandon Reed
Attendees:	Committee Members: Mark Barker, Al Pedigo, Bobby Foree, Heather Graham, Dr. Jones, Kevin Fields, Dr. Bernard, Dean Laura Stephenson, Ashlee Chilton, Laura Sanderfur, Matt Hinton, and Fritz Giesecke KOAP Staff: Brandon Reed, Bill McCloskey, Brian Murphy, Savanna Hill, Alexis Scheidt, Jesse Moore, Sarah Charles, Rachel Cowherd, Bailey Siry-Crowder, Rebecca Besok, Landon Peach, Emma Filiatreau, and Zoie Anglin
Minutes Issued By:	Savanna Hill
Meeting Call to Order:	10:19 a.m. EDT
Meeting Adjourned:	12:52 p.m. EDT

Agenda Items:
The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee reviewed a request to approve a consultant and applications A2026-0095, A2026-0129, A2026-0171, A2026-0181, and A2026-0178. The committee unanimously recommended approving Jessica Williams with Food Forward Thinking LLC as a consultant for the Food Safety & Efficiency program. Mr. Fields moved to adjourn into executive session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to discuss applications A2026-0095, A2026-0129, A2026-0171, A2026-0181, and A2026-0178; Mr. Hinton seconded the motion. <i>The committee entered executive session at 11:06 a.m.</i> Mr. Hinton moved to adjourn into open session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to vote on applications A2026-0095, A2026-0129, A2026-0171, A2026-0181, and A2026-0178; Mr. Giesecke seconded the motion. <i>The committee reconvened in open session at 12:49 p.m.</i> 1. A2026-0095 McCreary County Heritage Foundation a) The committee unanimously decided that, based on the guidelines, the application had expired. No action was needed.

APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

Agenda Items:

2. A2026-0129 Southern States Glasgow Cooperative, Inc.
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended funding county funds committed to the project, with the difference up to \$1 million as a participation loan.
3. A2026-0171 Webster County Fiscal Court
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$59,277 in state funds and up to \$1,000 in Webster County funds to construct a farmers market pavilion.
4. A2026-0181 Prime Poultry Partners LLC
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant for \$161,755 in state funds for a forgivable loan and up to \$4,000 in Taylor County funds for 5 years contingent upon removal of the GMC one ton truck.
5. A2026-0178 Berkshire Farms LLC
 - a) The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$3,750 in state funds as part of the Food Safety & Efficiency Incentives Program.

Adjournment:

Committee adjourned in acclamation.