

The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board at August 21, 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  
August 21, 2026  
Hilton Garden Inn Louisville Airport  
2735 Crittenden Drive, Louisville, KY**

**Call to Order**

Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell, called the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) regular business meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. (EDT).

**Roll Call**

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

Absent Members: Neil Denton & Matt Hinton.

**Notification of Media**

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

**Welcome**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Shell entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2026, 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**

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 July 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**

Commissioner Shell called on Bill McCloskey, KOAP Deputy Executive Director, to present the compliance, financial report, and KADF committed funds report as of July 16, 2026, to the board.

Mr. McCloskey referenced the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund State Pool Tobacco Funds (*on file*) as of July 27, 2026.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund County Balances (*on file*) as of July 25, 2026.

Mr. McCloskey reviewed the KAFC Statement of Financial Position (*on file*) as of July 31, 2026.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Memo Action Items****4% County Agricultural Development Council Administrative Funds (FY27)**

Commissioner Shell called on Sarah Charles to present a memorandum (*on file*) regarding a 4% County Agricultural Development Council Administrative Fund. Staff recommends approval of \$2,500 in county funds for Clay County as part of the 4% County Agricultural Development Council Administrative Funds.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Food Safety & Efficiency Incentives Program Consultant Verification**

Commissioner Shell called on Mr. McCloskey to present a memorandum (*on file*) regarding an Food Safety & Efficiency Incentives Program meat consultant request.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**A2025-0231 Sustainable Harvest Farm**

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

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**New Business****New Applications for Referral**

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

Mr. McCloskey referenced four (4) new applications for referral.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

### **Programs Recommended for Approval**

Commissioner Shell called on Ms. Charles to present the programs recommended for approval.

Ms. Charles referenced nine (9) CAIP applications totaling \$1,066,723; two (2) Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR) applications totaling \$18,230; and four (4) Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP) applications totaling \$55,950. The total program funding is \$1,140,903.

Staff recommended approval of these applications.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

### **Requested Program Amendment**

Commissioner Shell 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 \$112,000 (Owsley County).

Staff recommended approval of these amendments.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

### **Projects Recommendations for Funding**

Commissioner Shell called on Jesse Moore, Savanna Hill, Alexis Scheidt, and Rachel Cowherd to present the following projects.

#### **A2026-0115 Creekside Veterinary Services, LLC**

Mr. Moore referenced the above application \$83,333 in state funds and \$16,667 in multi-county funds as a part of the Large & Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program to purchase a vet box, truck, and to upgrade the existing facility.

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

Dr. Bernard moved to approve the committee recommendation, as amended; Dr. Jones seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

#### **A2026-0129 Southern States Glasgow Cooperative, Inc.**

Ms. Hill referenced the above application requesting \$200,000 in county funds and \$4.8 million in state funds to construct a new fertilizer plant.

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends funding multi-county funds committed to the project with the difference up to \$1 million as a participation loan, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**A2026-0171 Webster County Fiscal Court**

Ms. Cowherd referenced the above application requesting \$59,277 in state funds and \$1,000 in Webster County funds to construct a farmers market pavilion.

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant up to \$1,000 in Webster County funds and up to \$59,277 in state funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**A2026-0178 Berkshire Farms LLC**

Ms. Scheidt referenced the above application requesting \$3,750 in state funds for consultation fees as part of the Food Safety and Efficiency Incentives Program.

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends funding the applicant's request of \$3,750 in state funds, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**A2026-0181 Primes Poultry Partners LLC**

Ms. Cowherd referenced the above application requesting \$5,000 in Taylor County funds and \$186,755 in state funds to purchase equipment for a poultry processing facility in Taylor County.

The KADB Application Review & Compliance Committee recommends funding up to \$4,000 in Taylor county funds and state funds as a forgivable loan up to \$162,755, subject to the terms and conditions.

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

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**Pilot Horticulture Incentives Loan Program**

Commissioner Shell called on Mr. McCloskey to present requests for the Pilot Horticulture Incentives Loan Program.

Mr. McCloskey referenced one (1) Pilot Horticulture Incentives Loan Program applications totaling \$250,000 in state funds:  
Monroe (\$250,000) county.

Dean Stephenson moved to approve the Pilot Horticulture Incentives Loan Programs as presented; Dr. Bernard seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Mr. Pedigo Abstained.

**Expired/Withdrawn Applications**

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

A2026-0095     McCreary County Heritage Foundation, Inc.

No action necessary on expired/withdrawn projects.

**Closing Remarks**

Commissioner Shell 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, September 18, 2026, at the Franklin County Extension Office at 9:00 a.m. (EDT).

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Commissioner Shell entertained a motion to adjourn the August meeting at 10:16 a.m. (EDT).

Mr. Barker moved to adjourn the August KADB meeting; Dr. Bernard seconded the motion.

VOTE: Motion Passed; Unanimous.

**APPROVED DATE:**

*9-18-2026*

**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 detailed list of requested applications under the Pilot Horticulture Incentives Loan Programs Appendix D.
  5. A copy of the KADB Application and Compliance Review Committee meeting minutes attached as Appendix E.

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## New Applications for Referral

| APP #      | APPLICANT                                                                    | COUNTY  | COMMITTEE |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| A2026-0197 | Seedleaf, Inc.<br><i>Compost Carpool Program</i>                             | Fayette | ARC       |
| A2026-0198 | Kanbol, Inc<br><i>Manufacturing Expansion</i>                                | Logan   | ARC       |
| A2026-0201 | Pine Mountain Perennials LLC<br><i>Eastern Kentucky Native Plant Nursery</i> | Letcher | ARC       |
| A2026-0202 | Carter County Fair Inc.<br><i>Upgrades to Fairgrounds</i>                    | Carter  | ARC       |

**APPENDIX B:**

Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund

**Programs Recommended for Approval**

| <b>CAIP</b>                             |                                                      |               |              |                        |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|
| <u>Application</u>                      | <u>Program Administrator</u>                         | <u>County</u> | <u>State</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
| A2026-0153                              | Carter County Soil Conservation District             | Carter        |              | \$93,575.00            |
| A2026-0182                              | LaRue County Beef Cattle Association, Inc.           | LaRue         |              | \$110,000.00           |
| A2026-0184                              | County Agriculture Investment Program Council Inc.   | Russell       |              | \$175,144.00           |
| A2026-0185                              | Knox County Soil Conservation District               | Knox          |              | \$94,212.00            |
| A2026-0186                              | Taylor County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.          | Taylor        |              | \$130,000.00           |
| A2026-0189                              | Elliott County Conservation District                 | Elliott       |              | \$160,627.00           |
| A2026-0192                              | Wayne County Agriculture Development Council, Inc.   | Wayne         |              | \$110,800.00           |
| A2026-0194                              | Edmonson Co Cattleman Association Inc.               | Edmonson      |              | \$75,000.00            |
| A2026-0196                              | Clinton County Farm Bureau, Inc. of Albany, Kentucky | Clinton       |              | \$117,365.00           |
| <b>Total Recommended for Funding: 9</b> |                                                      |               |              | <b>\$1,066,723.00</b>  |

| <b>Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR)</b> |                                   |               |              |                        |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|
| <u>Application</u>                        | <u>Program Administrator</u>      | <u>County</u> | <u>State</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
| A2026-0183                                | Hart County Conservation District | Hart          |              | \$15,000.00            |
| A2026-0191                                | Spencer County Fiscal Court       | Spencer       |              | \$3,230.00             |
| <b>Total Recommended for Funding: 2</b>   |                                   |               |              | <b>\$18,230.00</b>     |

| <b>Youth Ag Incentives Program (YAIP)</b> |                                                    |               |              |                        |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|
| <u>Application</u>                        | <u>Program Administrator</u>                       | <u>County</u> | <u>State</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> |
| A2026-0187                                | Taylor County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.        | Taylor        |              | \$21,350.00            |
| A2026-0190                                | Spencer County Conservation District               | Spencer       |              | \$5,100.00             |
| A2026-0193                                | Wayne County Agriculture Development Council, Inc. | Wayne         |              | \$19,500.00            |
| A2026-0195                                | Edmonson County 4-H Club LLC                       | Edmonson      |              | \$10,000.00            |
| <b>Total Recommended for Funding: 4</b>   |                                                    |               |              | <b>\$55,950.00</b>     |

Total County Funds Recommended for Approval: **\$1,140,903.00**

Requested Program Amendments

|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| App #                    | A2026-0076                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Applicant Name           | Owsley County Conservation District                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Original Amount Approved | \$142,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Execution Date           | 05/27/2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Requested Change         | <p>The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$112,000 in Owsley 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 \$254,000.</p> <p><b>Recommend Approval</b></p> |

APPENDIX D:

Pilot Horticulture Incentives Loan Programs Recommended for Approval

| APP #                                                 | APPLICANT                                                                  | COUNTY | Funds Requested |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| A2026-0188                                            | White Oak Produce LLC<br><i>Pilot Horticulture Incentives Loan Program</i> | Monroe | \$250,000.00    |
| Total State Funds Recommended for Approval in Program |                                                                            |        | \$250,000.00    |

## APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Meeting Date:</b>          | August 21, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Meeting Location:</b>      | Hilton Gardens Louisville                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Meeting Chair:</b>         | Brandon Reed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Attendees:</b>             | Committee Members: Mark Barker, Al Pedigo, Bobby Foree, Heather Graham, Dr. Jones, Kevin Fields, Dr. Bernard, Dean Laura Stephenson, Ashlee Chilton, Wayne Hunt, Laura Sanderfur, and Fritz Giesecke<br><br>KOAP Staff: Brandon Reed, Bill McCloskey, Brian Murphy, Savanna Hill, Alexis Scheidt, Jesse Moore, Sarah Charles, Rachel Cowherd, Bailey Siry-Crowder, Rebecca Besok, Alandria Whittemore, and Hannah Sharp-Johnson |
| <b>Minutes Issued By:</b>     | Alexis Scheidt                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Meeting Call to Order:</b> | 10:32 a.m. EDT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Meeting Adjourned:</b>     | 2:00 p.m. EDT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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| <b>Agenda Items:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p>The KADB Application Review &amp; Compliance Committee reviewed a request to approve applications A2026-0201, A2026-0197, A2026-0202, and A2026-0198.</p> <p>Mr. Fields moved to adjourn into executive session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to discuss applications A2026-0201, A2026-0197, A2026-0202, and A2026-0198; Mr. Hinton seconded the motion.</p> <p><i>The committee entered executive session at 12:22 p.m.</i></p> <p>Dr. Bernard moved to adjourn into open session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1) (g), to vote on applications A2026-0201, A2026-0197, A2026-0202, and A2026-0198; Dr. Jones seconded the motion.</p> <p><i>The committee reconvened in open session at 1:50 p.m.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A2026-0201 Pine Mountain Perennials             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The committee unanimously pended the application until it was reviewed by the Letcher County Agricultural Development Council.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. A2026-0197 Seedleaf Inc             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The committee unanimously recommended funding up to \$22,524 in county funds to relaunch their Compost Carpool program.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |

## APPENDIX D: Application Review & Compliance Committee Minutes

### Agenda Items:

3. A2026-0202      Carter County Fair Inc

- a) The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$30,000 in county funds only to construct an open area pole barn structure for their fairgrounds.

4. A2026-0198      Kanbol, Inc

- a) The committee unanimously recommended funding the applicant up to \$577,250 in state funds as a participation loan and referred the applicant to the Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Board.

### Adjournment:

Committee adjourned in acclamation.