

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FUND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the 2018 Interim

August 2, 2018

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 4th meeting of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee was held on Thursday, August 2, 2018, at 10:00 AM, in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Senator C.B. Embry Jr., Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator C.B. Embry Jr., Co-Chair; Representative Myron Dossett, Co-Chair; Senators Stephen Meredith, and Dennis Parrett; Representatives Kim King, Phillip Pratt, Rick Rand, and Brandon Reed.

Guests: Warren Beeler, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP), and Bill McCloskey, Deputy Executive Director, GOAP.

LRC Staff: Kelly Ludwig, Tanya Monsanto, Shelby Bevins-Sullivan, and Rachel Hartley.

Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy Report

Warren Beeler stated that a growing area in agriculture is beekeeping. The Kentucky Beekeepers Association is partnering with state officials to explore the idea of starting a certified honey program. The beekeepers are unable to receive County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP) funds, but there are cost share programs available.

Mr. Beeler said that there is discussion regarding advancing the agricultural technology programs due to a shortage of large animal veterinarians.

Mr. Beeler discussed his schedule for July through September.

In response to a question from Representative King, Mr. Beeler stated the poultry barn is in the Whitesville area of Ohio County.

In response to a question from Representative Rand, Mr. Beeler stated he has not heard anything regarding how the \$12 billion bailout for farmers from the federal government will be administered.

In response to a question from Senator Meredith, Mr. Beeler stated he has prepared maps pertaining to the Vet Taskforce and will send them to members.

In response to a question from Senator Parrett, Mr. Beeler stated Kentucky's statutes require a veterinarian to be on-site if any medical care is received.

In response to a question from Representative Dossett, Mr. Beeler stated the veterinarians have not responded to the idea of veterinary practitioners because the process is still in development.

Mr. McCloskey described the Agricultural Development Board's projects for June. Mr. McCloskey highlighted programs including CAIP and the Deceased Farm Animal Removal Program.

Requested program amendments discussed included:

- Magoffin County Agriculture Investment Program Incorporated requested an additional \$71,366 in Magoffin County funds for CAIP. The board recommended approval, which would bring the program total to \$131,366.
- Greenup County Conservation District requested an additional \$52,738 in Greenup County funds for CAIP. The board recommended approval, which would bring the program total to \$117,960.

Projects discussed included:

- The Kentucky State Fair Board was approved for \$5,000,000 in state funds to demolish Cardinal Stadium at the Kentucky Exposition Center.
- The Kentucky State Fair Board was approved for \$1,000,000 in state funds to demolish the old Department of Transportation building at the Kentucky Exposition Center.
- The Berry Center, Inc. was approved for \$5,000 in Henry County funds to purchase mobile cattle scales.
- The Mercer County 4-H Council, Inc. was approved for \$1,500 in Mercer County funds to purchase gates to build pens for small livestock.
- The Jessamine County Future Farmers of America Alumni Association, Inc. was approved for \$5,000 in Jessamine County funds to aid in the expansion of an educational walking trail, including koi pond construction, raised beds, fruit trees, and bee hives.
- The Hancock County Fair Board, Inc. was approved for \$600 in Hancock County funds to purchase small animal holding pens.
- The Hancock County Farm Bureau was approved for \$1,800 in Hancock County funds for the purchase of grain bin rescue equipment to be placed at four local fire departments.

- Pumpkin Vine Creek Farm, LLC was denied for \$40,000 in Madison County funds and \$455,000 in state funds to acquire RediFlame business equipment and startup costs due to limited producer impact.
- Eastern Kentucky University was denied for \$1,258.04 in Madison County funds for their community garden due to no committed county funds and the project was given low priority.

In response to a question from Senator Parrett, Mr. Beeler stated that rose veal comes from a veal calf that is humanely raised.

In response to a question from Representative King, Mr. Beeler stated that there is only discussion of a bee project and a cost-share program. The programs through GOAP are not for hobby farming.

The next meeting will be September 5, 2018. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.