

# **TOBACCO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FUND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

## **Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the 2018 Interim**

**September 5, 2018**

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The 5th meeting of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee was held on Wednesday, September 5, 2018, at 10:00 AM (EST), in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Myron Dossett, 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 Paul Hornback, Stephen Meredith, Dennis Parrett, and Whitney Westerfield; Representatives Kim King, Phillip Pratt, Rick Rand, Brandon Reed, and Dean Schamore.

Guests: Warren Beeler, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP); Bill McCloskey, Deputy Executive Director, GOAP; Van Ingram, Executive Director, Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy (KODCP); Heather Wainscott, Branch Manager, KODCP; and Amy Andrews, Program Manager, Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy.

LRC Staff: Nathan Smith, Kelly Ludwig, Tanya Monsanto, and Rachel Hartley.

### **Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy Report**

Warren Beeler discussed his schedule for August through October.

In response to a question from Representative Schamore, Mr. Beeler stated the water bonds will be paid off by 2024.

In response to a question from Senator Meredith, Mr. Beeler stated there are grants to buy solar panels through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and solar usage by farmers will increase.

Representative Dossett stated the USDA purchased \$50 million of milk from dairy farmers. Kentucky should receive 2.3 million gallons of milk for the food banks.

Bill McCloskey described the Agricultural Development Board's projects for August. He highlighted programs including the County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP), On-Farm Energy Program, and the Youth Agricultural Incentives Program.

Requested program amendments discussed included:

- Owen County Farm Bureau, Inc., requested an additional \$25,000 in Owen County funds for CAIP. The board recommended approval, which would bring the program total to \$270,000.
- McCracken County Soil Conservation District requested an additional \$30,000 in McCracken County funds for CAIP. The board recommended approval, which would bring the program total to \$145,000.

Projects discussed included:

- The Wingfield Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., was approved for \$890 in Edmonson County funds to purchase two Turtle Tube grain bin rescue devices.
- The University of Kentucky Research Foundation was approved for \$390,189 in state funds over a two-year period to support the State Viticulture and Enology Extension Program. The funding will be divided into \$200,097 for the first year and \$190,092 for the second year.

In response to a question from Representative Reed, Mr. Beeler stated wine makes farmers money, and if it helps farmers make money, then it is a priority.

### **Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy**

Van Ingram stated six weeks ago the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy (KODCP) released its annual overdose report and there were 1,565 preventable deaths. Illicit fentanyl produced in China is the reason for the high number of deaths. Fentanyl is being produced by rogue pharmaceutical manufacturers in China because they do not have regulations over the chemicals. Fentanyl is 10 times more potent than heroin. The Drug Enforcement Agency estimates a \$6,000 investment in fentanyl production will net an income of \$6,000,000 when sold.

Mr. Ingram stated a website was developed with a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant that is a treatment locator for heroin addiction. A statewide help center was also launched with trained professionals answering phone calls.

Heather Wainscott stated grassroots efforts are the heart of the community response. Local boards can address what the main issues are in their communities. There are 118 local boards in 120 counties. The local boards are made up of mostly volunteers. The Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy (KY-ASAP) has a state board that advises the local boards.

There are now 198 permanent prescription drug disposal boxes at local law enforcement offices. KY-ASAP participates in drug take-back programs.

Ms. Wainscott stated there is now a website to help prevent overdoses that has the locations of pharmacies that will dispense Naloxone. KY-ASAP also has a social media presence and a partnership with the Kentucky Broadcasters Association.

Amy Andrews stated in Fiscal Year 2018 each county was awarded \$16,000. In 2020 the award will be \$20,000. The local boards have been focusing on treatment, transport, and childcare.

In response to a question from Representative Reed, Mr. Ingram stated he supports the concept of 2018 HB 428, which would have provided for an opioid assessment detention after an overdose, but does not know how to address the constitutional issues raised.

In response to a question from Representative Schamore, Mr. Ingram stated he recognizes transportation is a crucial issue for individuals needing treatment.

In response to a question from Representative Dossett, Mr. Ingram stated synthetic marijuana is still a problem, and it is shipped from Asia.

The next meeting of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee will be October 3, 2018. Documents distributed during the meeting are available in the LRC Library and at [www.lrc.ky.gov](http://www.lrc.ky.gov).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.