

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FUND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the 2019 Interim

April 3, 2019

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 1st meeting of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee was held on Wednesday, April 3, 2019, at 10:00 AM, 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 Dennis Parrett and Whitney Westerfield; Representatives Kim King, Phillip Pratt, Brandon Reed, and Dean Schamore.

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

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

Representative Dossett was nominated to the position of co-chair of the committee. After a motion was made and seconded, the nominations ceased. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed with five yes votes.

Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy Report

Warren Beeler introduced new staff members and highlighted projects considered by the Agricultural Development Board from January to March.

In response to a question from Representative King, Mr. Beeler stated in agriculture it is important to find a market and work backwards instead of hoping consumers will buy your product.

In response to a question from Senator Parrett, Mr. Beeler stated the funds approved for Sunstrand, LLC, were a combination of a grant and a loan totaling \$380,000.

In response to a question from Senator Embry, Mr. Beeler stated HB 311 from the 2019 Regular Session should be used as a template for the dairy farms regarding the labeling of "soy milk" as milk.

In response to a question from Representative Schamore, Mr. Beeler stated GOAP has encouraged United States Department of Agriculture Forest Management to hire a part-time state executive to recruit membership and promote management of the crop.

Bill McCloskey described the Agricultural Development Board's projects for March under the program. Mr. McCloskey highlighted programs including the County Agricultural Investment Program, Deceased Farm Animal Removal, Next Generation Beginning Farmer, and Shared-use Equipment.

Requested program amendments discussed included:

- Estill County Conservation District requested to change priority for large animal to primary and small animal to secondary for the Estill County CAIP. The board recommended approval, which would keep the program total at \$85,000.

Projects discussed included:

- The Summersville Volunteer Fire Department was approved for \$445 in Green County funds to purchase one Turtle Tube grain bin rescue device.
- The Ohio Valley Farm Analysis Group was approved for up to \$105,000 in state funds to hire a third Kentucky Farm Business Management Specialist.
- Marksbury Farm Foods was approved for \$104,513 in state funds to obtain a Global Food Safety Initiative audit to determine what equipment and upgrades to the facility are needed.

Documents distributed during the meeting are available in the LRC Library and at www.lrc.ky.gov.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.