



Report for the
**Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund
Oversight Committee**

March 20, 2020

Meeting of the
Kentucky Agricultural Development Board



Governor Andy Beshear's Office of Agricultural Policy

For Immediate Release

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Gov. Andy Beshear and the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board Approve More Than \$2.6 million in Agricultural Investments *Broadband Feasibility Study and Plasma Cutting Machine Among Sixteen Projects Approved*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Mar. 20, 2020) –The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board approved \$2,684,122 in 16 agricultural diversification and rural development projects across the Commonwealth at its monthly board meeting.

“I have stated before about the importance of agritechnology and access to high-speed internet to the future of the Commonwealth’s economy,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “Projects like these approved today get us one step closer on both fronts.”

State Investments:

Kentucky State Fair Board

The Kentucky State Fair Board was approved for an additional \$1,700,061 in State funds to address various deferred maintenance and renovation needs for agricultural events held at the Kentucky State Fair and Exposition Center. \$200,000 in State funds will be used for Freedom Hall suites and West Wing renovations. \$1,500,061 in State funds will be used to demolish and renovate Gate One and Gate Six. For more information on this project, contact Cody Patterson at (502) 367-5000 or Cody.Patterson@kyvenues.com.

University of Kentucky Research Foundation

The University of Kentucky Research Foundation was approved for \$228,800 in State funds to support expansion of water quality monitoring stations in Western Kentucky. The study will collect water quality monitoring data for 8-10 years with collaborative efforts between the University of Kentucky, United States Department of Agriculture, National Resource and Conservation Service and Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board. For more information on this project, contact Brad Lee at (859) 257-0156 or Brad.Lee@uky.edu.

Lake Barkley Partnership Broadband Study

Pennyrile Area Development District, Inc. was approved for up to \$6,018 in State and \$6,018 in various County funds to conduct a broadband feasibility study. The Pennyrile Area Development District, Inc. in conjunction with the Lake Barkley Partnership will conduct a feasibility study to develop a plan and cost for implementing a fiber, wireless, or hybrid internet system throughout Caldwell, Crittenden, Livingston and Lyon counties. The study will also evaluate the cost-effectiveness on implementing four separate projects in each county versus a larger, regional project. The study will be conducted by Neo Partners, LLC. For more information on this project, contact Jason Vincent at (270) 886-9484 or jason.vincent@ky.gov.

County Investments:

Plasma Cutting Machine

Caldwell County Board of Education was approved for up to \$5,500 in Caldwell County funds to purchase a Computer Numerical Controlled (CNC) plasma cutting machine for agriculture construction classes at the Caldwell County High School. The machine will be used primarily as a learning tool, but also as a method for students to fundraise and sustain department funding for additional programs. The machine is the first of its kind available in the local community. For more information on this project, contact Wes York at (270) 365-8010 or wes.york@caldwell.kyschools.us.

On-Farm Investments

The County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP) offers 11 investment areas that give Kentucky agricultural producers the ability to increase net farm income, add value to their products and diversify their operations. This cost-share program incentivizes farmers to build infrastructure, improve genetics, forages, farm management, technology and more. CAIP benefits and enhances agriculture across the state by stimulating markets for Kentucky agricultural products. Seven CAIPs were approved by the board totaling \$684,575 in Breathitt (\$75,000), Lee (\$45,700), Lyon (\$31,000), Madison (\$296,000), Owen (\$25,000), Rockcastle (\$86,875) and Spencer (\$125,000) counties.

Environmental Stewardship

The Deceased Farm Animal Removal Program serves as a measure to facilitate the coordination of environmentally sound and cost effective disposal of deceased livestock for Kentucky producers. Three Deceased Farm Animal Removal Programs totaling \$44,500 were approved for Clark (\$15,000), Scott (\$15,000) and Taylor (\$14,500) counties.

Shared-Use Equipment Program

The Shared-Use Equipment Program assists broad-based community organizations with the purchase of farm equipment. The equipment purchased is made available for producer use in a specific county on a leased basis. One Shared-Use Equipment Program was approved totaling \$3,600 in Taylor County for a chain harrow.

Youth Agricultural Incentives Program

The Youth Agricultural Incentives Program (Youth) was developed to encourage youth to engage in and explore agricultural opportunities. One Youth Program was approved by the board totaling \$5,050 in Spencer County.

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Programs Recommended for Approval

CAIP

<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2020-0026	Breathitt County Farm Bureau of Breathitt County, Kentucky	Breathitt	\$75,000.00
A2020-0028	Spencer County Conservation District	Spencer	\$125,000.00
A2020-0030	Lyon County Conservation District	Lyon	\$31,000.00
A2020-0033	Rockcastle County Conservation District	Rockcastle	\$86,875.00
A2020-0036	Madison County Conservation District	Madison	\$296,000.00
A2020-0037	Owen County Farm Bureau, Inc.	Owen	\$25,000.00
A2020-0038	Lee County Conservation District	Lee	\$45,700.00
			\$684,575.00

Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR)

<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2020-0024	Taylor County Conservation District	Taylor	\$14,500.00
A2020-0029	Scott County Conservation District	Scott	\$15,000.00
A2020-0040	Clark County Conservation District	Clark	\$15,000.00
			\$44,500.00

Shared-Use Equipment Program

<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2020-0025	Taylor County Conservation District	Taylor	\$3,600.00
			\$3,600.00

Youth Ag Incentives Program (Youth)

<u>Application</u>	<u>Program Administrator</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
A2020-0027	Spencer County Conservation District	Spencer	\$5,050.00
			\$5,050.00

Total County and State* Funds Recommended for Approval in Programs: **\$737,725.00**

Approved Project

University of Kentucky Research Foundation**A2019-0274***Application County: _ALL**Date Submitted: 12/23/2019**Total Funds Awarded: \$228,800***FUNDING REQUEST**

The University of Kentucky Research Foundation is requesting \$228,800 in State funds to support expansion of water quality monitoring stations in Western Kentucky.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

Blue Water Farms, established in 2016, is an ongoing water quality monitoring program involving six western Kentucky farms (located in Daviess, McLean, Henderson, Graves and McCracken Counties) where 16 existing edge-of-field monitoring stations are located. The applicant plans to expand this existing program to Trigg and Caldwell counties with 16 additional monitoring stations. The study will collect data for 8-10 years with collaborative efforts between the University of Kentucky, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS) and Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board (KSPB). Runoff water quality parameters measured include total nitrogen, total phosphorus, ortho-phosphorus, nitrate and sediment. KADF funding will be used to purchase the flumes, the rough-in construction of wing-walls that tie into these flumes and construction of equipment platforms for each of the 16 monitoring stations.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$457,635 with funding from the following sources:

\$228,800 KADF State funds

\$166,779 USDA NRCS EQIP funds (secured)

\$ 62,056 Faculty effort (secured)

PROJECTED PRODUCER IMPACT

The applicant states that any county with substantial row crop acres will benefit from this work, with proposed demonstration sites in Trigg and Caldwell Counties.

Board Decision:

The University of Kentucky Research Foundation was approved for up to \$228, 800 in State funds for the expansion of water quality monitoring stations in western Kentucky, as part of the Blue Water Farms Edge-of-Field monitoring project.

Approved Project

Caldwell County Board of Education**A2020-0015***Application County: Caldwell**Date Submitted: 01/27/2020**Total Funds Awarded: \$5,500***FUNDING REQUEST**

Caldwell County Board of Education is requesting \$5,500 in Caldwell County funds to purchase a CNC plasma cutting machine.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

In an effort to keep up with the advancements in agricultural construction, the Caldwell County High School Agriculture Department plans to add a Computer Numerical Controlled (CNC) plasma cutting machine. This would replace the old machine and now allow students to utilize interactive computer software to design their desired project. This machine will be used primarily as a learning tool, but also as a method for students to fund raise and sustain department funding for additional programs. The applicant states this technology is not available anywhere else in the local community.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$10,986 with funding from the following sources:

\$5,500 Caldwell County funds

\$2,000 SBDM funds (secured)

\$2,000 Agriculture Department Land Lab funds (secured)

\$1,486 Caldwell County FFA Chapter (secured)

PROJECTED PRODUCER IMPACT

The applicant states that the agriculture department has approximately 36 students from local farm families. In addition to those families, other students in the agriculture construction classes as well as members of the community will be impacted.

Board Decision:

The Caldwell County Board of Education was approved for up to \$5,500 in Caldwell County funds to purchase a Computer Numerical Controlled (CNC) plasma cutting machine for the Caldwell County High School agriculture department.

Approved Project

Pennyrile Area Development District, Inc.**A2020-0021***Application County: Crittenden**Date Submitted: 01/30/2020**Total Funds Awarded: \$6,018***FUNDING REQUEST**

Pennyrile Area Development District, Inc. is requesting \$12,036 in State funds to conduct a broadband feasibility study.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

The Pennyrile Area Development District, Inc. in conjunction with the Lake Barkley Partnership intends to conduct a feasibility study to develop a plan and cost for implementing a fiber, wireless, or hybrid internet system throughout Caldwell, Crittenden, Livingston and Lyon Counties. The study is also intended to evaluate if it is more cost efficient to work on four separate projects in each county, or if a larger, regional project is more feasible. The study will be conducted by Neo Partners, LLC.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$24,072 with funding from the following sources:

\$12,036 KADF State funds

\$ 3,009 Princeton-Caldwell County Industrial Development Authority (secured)

\$ 3,009 Crittenden County Fiscal Court (secured)

\$ 3,009 Livingston County Industrial Development Authority (secured)

\$ 3,009 Lyon County Industrial Development Authority (secured)

PROJECTED PRODUCER IMPACT

The applicant states that there is a total of 1,752 farm operations throughout the four counties and from these operations a total of 3,517 individuals receive farm based income. At the conclusion of the study, true impact will be determined.

Board Decision:

The Pennyrile Area Development District, on behalf of the Lake Barkley Partnership, was approved for up to \$6,018 in State and \$6,018 in multiple county funds, totaling \$12,036, to conduct a broadband feasibility study for the area.