

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FUND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the 2021 Interim

January 27, 2021

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 1st meeting of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee was held on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 10:30 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 Julie Raque Adams, Dennis Parrett, Robin L. Webb, and Whitney Westerfield; Representatives George Brown Jr., Kim King, Phillip Pratt, and Rachel Roberts.

Guests: Dorsey Ridley, 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 (KY-ODCP); Heather Wainscott, Branch Manager, KY-ODCP; and Amy Andrews, Program Manager, Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy, KY-ODCP.

LRC Staff: Stefan Kasacavage, Nathan Smith, Kelly Ludwig, and Rachel Hartley.

Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy Report

Dorsey Ridley provided a brief overview of the history of the tobacco master settlement agreement.

Bill McCloskey described the Agricultural Development Board's projects for December and January under the program. Mr. McCloskey highlighted programs including the County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP), Deceased Farm Animal Removal, Next Generation Farmer, Shared-Use Equipment Program, and Youth Agriculture Incentives Program.

The requested program amendments discussed included:

- Carter County Conservation District requested an additional \$50,564 in Carter County funds for CAIP. The board recommended approval, which would bring the program total to \$180,036.
- Green River Area Beef Improvement Group requested an additional \$15,033 in McLean County funds for CAIP. The board recommended approval, which would bring the program total to \$51,513.
- Green River Area Beef Improvement Group requested an additional \$25,000 in Daviess County funds for CAIP. The board recommended no funding, due to the designation of low priority by the Daviess County Council.
- Jessamine County Future Farmers of America Alumni Association requested an additional \$80,000 for CAIP. The board recommended approval, which would bring the program total to \$180,000.

The projects discussed included:

- The City of Fulton was approved for \$88,150 in state funds to construct a farmers market pavilion for the Fulton County farmers market.
- The Kentucky Horticulture Council was approved for \$500,000 in state funds over two years to expand the Kentucky Small Fruit Crops Program.
- Edwards Woolworks was approved for up to \$49,676 in multiple county and state funds to establish a wool mill for Kentucky sheep producers.
- Nochelinda Farms was approved for \$4,722 in Bourbon County funds to build a walk-in freezer to support marketing farm raised beef.
- Metcalfe County 4-H Council was approved for \$1,521 in Metcalfe County funds to purchase hams for Metcalfe County 4-H members. The country ham project teaches members about the history and science of curing hams.
- River Farm Nursery was approved for \$45,443 in state funds to implement pot-in-pot tree production and a micro-irrigation system.
- Barr Farms Organic Produce was denied \$2,814 in state funds for a pond renovation and pump house construction for its beef cattle operation. The board denied the request due to the lack of an established water source.
- The Hardin County Regional Farmers Market Foundation was approved for \$32,400 in state funds and \$1,000 in Hardin County funds for the construction of restrooms at the farmers market facility.
- Taylor County Fiscal Court was denied \$10,000 in Taylor County funds to make recycling facility improvements due to the lack of producer impact.

Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy

Van Ingram stated the Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy (KY-ASAP) has continued to evolve since its placement in the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy. KY-ASAP local boards exist in 119 of Kentucky's 120 counties. Elliot County is in the process of receiving its designation.

From January to October 2020, there were 1,775 lives lost due to drug overdoses. Mr. Ingram stated 2020 has seen an increase in drug overdose deaths.

KY-ASAP had a budget of \$11.5 million in fiscal year 2020. All of the local boards received funds and also supplemental grants. The supplemental grants are focused on harm reduction efforts.

The KY HELP Statewide Call Center began connecting individuals to helpful resources in December 2017. A Kentucky social worker will screen and refer the individual to the appropriate treatment.

KY-ASAP has partnered with the Kentucky Pharmacy Education and Research Foundation to purchase, provide, and train law enforcement agencies for Naloxone treatment. KY-ASAP has also partnered with the Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program to increase access to and retention of employment for individuals in recovery seeking employment and job training.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.