

INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the 2025 Interim

August 21, 2025

Call to Order and Roll Call

The third meeting of the Interim Joint Committee on Agriculture was held on August 21, 2025, at 10:00 AM in Freedom Hall, in Louisville, KY. Representative Myron Dossett, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Representative Myron Dossett, Co-Chair; Senator Jason Howell, Co-Chair;

Senators Gary Boswell, Matthew Deneen, Shelley Funke Frommeyer, Matt Nunn, Aaron

Reed, Craig Richardson, Robin L. Webb, Mike Wilson, and David Yates; and Representatives

Chad Aull, Ryan Bivens, Anne Gay Donworth, Daniel Fister, Chris Freeland, David Hale, Mark

Hart, Kim Holloway, Matthew Koch, Candy Massaroni, Shawn McPherson, Adam Moore, J.T.

Payne, Michael Sarge Pollock, Sarah Stalker, Nancy Tate, Walker Thomas, James Tipton, and

Joshua Watkins.

Guests: Craig Greenberg, Mayor, Louisville Metro; and David Beck, President and CEO,

Kentucky Venues.

LRC Staff: Stefan Kasacavage, Hillary Abbott, Kelly Ludwig, and Susan Spoonamore.

Approval of July 10, 2025 Minutes

The July 10, 2025, minutes were approved by voice vote, without objection, upon motion

made by Representative Fister and seconded by Representative Pollock.

Welcome

Craig Greenberg, Mayor, Louisville Metro, welcomed the committee to Louisville. Mayor

Greenberg stated that Louisville showcases Kentucky agriculture products and its people through the Kentucky State Fair and other annual events. It has a successful economic partnership between urban and rural areas.

Representative Watkins said the community gardens throughout Louisville have been a success and hopes it continues in the future.

In response to Senator Funke Frommeyer, Mayor Greenberg stated there are 120 urban parks that either help or could help promote agriculture products. He said Louisville has a great partnership with World Port and United Postal Service (UPS) in providing rapid healthcare deliveries.

Report of the Kentucky State Fair Board

David Beck, President and CEO, Kentucky Venues, stated the Kentucky Exposition Center and the Louisville International Convention Center have a long tradition of hosting approximately 300 events and competitions annually. He said the Kentucky State Fair Board is grateful for the General Assembly's financial support. The Kentucky Exposition Center is working on its infrastructure and is looking forward to the construction of additional exhibit space, including an agriculture building. As part of Phase 3, the board is working on food

service and ways to enhance transportation.

In response to Representative Donworth, Mr. Beck stated exhibitors in the Pride of Counties at the state fair are good resources for start-up businesses.

In response to Representative Tipton, Mr. Beck said the square footage of the new construction is approximately 1.2 million feet.

In response to Senator Funke Frommeyer, Mr. Beck said some schools start early in August, which presents a challenge in having an educational day at the state fair for elementary school children.

Representative Pollock announced that the Gatton Foundation made a \$10 million donation to the Future Farmers of America (FFA). It is the largest donation in FFA's history.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.