

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Minutes

May 12, 2026

Call to Order and Roll Call

The Government Contract Review Committee met on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 9:02 AM, in Room 131 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Donald Douglas, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Donald Douglas, Co-Chair; Representative Mark Hart, Co-Chair; Senators Stephen Meredith, Craig Richardson, and Reginald L. Thomas; and Representatives Jared Bauman and Rachel Roarx.

Guests:

Dr. Mary Beth Morris, President, Kentucky Board of Optometric Examiners (KBOE); Christopher Thacker, General Counsel, Kentucky Office of Attorney General (KYOAG); Ladonna Scott, Deputy Executive Director, Office of Kentucky Veterans Center, Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA); Juan Renaud, Deputy Commissioner, KDVA; Dana Fohl, General Counsel, Eastern Kentucky University (EKU); Jordan Smith, Associate Vice President for Public Affairs, EKU; Eileen Butts, Interim Purchasing Director, Kentucky State University (KSU); Dr. Heather Bigard, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Finance and Administration, KSU; Wendy Smith, Deputy Executive Director, Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC); Lauren Vansickle, Deputy General Counsel, KHC; Brian Carter, Coordinator of the Phlebotomy in Law Enforcement Program, Assistant Coordinator for the Drug Recognition Expert Program, Office of Highway Safety (OHS), Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC); Matt McCoy, Program Manager of the Impaired Driving Program, OHS, KYTC; Allan Coldiron, Purchase Branch Manager, KYTC; Dr. Steven Stack, Secretary, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS); Andrew Bledsoe, Deputy Director, CHFS; Astrud Masterson, Executive Director, CHFS; Ann Hall, Executive Advisor, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID), CHFS; Karen Wirth, Director of Budgets and Financial Management, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE); Sarah Medley, Policy Advisor, KDE; and Danna Steele, Project Director for Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy, KDE.

LRC Staff: Jarrod Schmidt, Kim Smith, and Elizabeth Raymond.

A motion was made by Senator Meredith to approve minutes of the April 2026, meeting of the committee. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

MARCH DEFERRED ITEM:

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

Youngblood & Associates; 26-22. A motion was made by Senator Meredith to defer the contract to the June 2026 meeting. Representative Bauman seconded the motion, which passed.

MAY DEFERRED ITEMS:

MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

20/20 Captioning and Interpreting, Inc.; 27-003. A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to defer the contract to the June 2026 meeting. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, which passed.

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

Coalfield Development; 26-37. A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to defer the contract to the June 2026 meeting. Representative Roarx seconded the motion, which passed.

MAY DEFERRED LIST:

BOARD OF OPTOMETRIC EXAMINERS

KWH Law, PLLC; 2600002268. Dr. Mary Beth Morris, President, KBOE, and Christopher Thacker, General Counsel, KYOAG, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Senator Meredith, Mr. Thacker stated the board had not recently requested assistance from the Attorney General's office, noting the last direct contact was during a prior administration when the decision was made to continue using outside counsel. The current attorney had already been advising the board and coordinating effectively with the Attorney General's office. While the Attorney General is the chief legal officer for state agencies under Kentucky law, agencies are also authorized to retain independent counsel. The board's governing statute allows it to spend funds on "professional services", which reasonably includes legal services. Counsel is appropriate for the board's day-to-day legal needs because relying solely on the Attorney General's office could create practical and ethical conflicts. Examples include open records

requests, where the Attorney General's office could end up both advising the board and later reviewing appeals of those same decisions; advisory opinions on board actions, where prior involvement could compromise perceived neutrality; and disciplinary proceedings, where the Attorney General's office could potentially serve both prosecutorial and adjudicative roles. The Attorney General's office would still remain available for consultation and legal guidance when appropriate, but the role differs from serving as the board's regular general counsel.

In response to Senator Meredith, Mr. Thacker stated the role of the Attorney General's office in providing legal services to state agencies has changed significantly over time.

In response to Senator Meredith, Mr. Thacker stated the statute should not be interpreted to exclude legal services, explaining the relevant provisions are separate and should be read according to their plain meaning. They argued the phrase "professional services" plainly and clearly includes legal services.

In response to Senator Meredith, Mr. Thacker stated the Attorney General's primary responsibility is to serve the Commonwealth and the people of Kentucky as a whole, rather than any single board or agency. The Attorney General's office provides guidance to state and local officials when legal questions arise, issues opinions on unclear areas of law, and intervenes when a board may be acting improperly. This broader oversight and enforcement role is fundamentally different from the role of dedicated board counsel, whose responsibility is to advise and represent a specific entity.

In response to Senator Meredith, Mr. Thacker stated the issue with the licensing changes was not necessarily the substance of the changes themselves, but the board failed to follow the required administrative procedures under KRS Chapter 13A.

In response to Senator Meredith, Mr. Thacker stated the matter involves not only legal considerations but also broader policy questions, which ultimately fall under the General Assembly's oversight authority. Legislation would be an appropriate way to address the issue.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to consider the contract as reviewed. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, which passed.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Multi; 2400000078. Ladonna Scott, Deputy Executive Director, Office of Kentucky Veterans Center, KDVA, and Juan Renaud, Deputy Commissioner, KDVA, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Representative Bauman, Ms. Scott stated the \$1.6 million contract modification was requested because Thompson-Hood Veterans Center needs temporary agency nursing staff to meet resident care needs. Agency nurses are paid differently than regular state-employed nurses under the 18A personnel system, and the modification is specifically for temporary nursing agency services only.

In response to Chair Douglas, Ms. Scott stated Thompson-Hood Veterans Center has faced significant challenges from COVID-19 outbreaks, experiencing approximately 11 weeks or more of confirmed COVID cases among residents and staff. These outbreaks contributed to the need for additional temporary agency nursing support.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to consider the contract as reviewed. Representative Roarx seconded the motion, which passed.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to consider as reviewed the Personal Service Contract List, with exception of those items selected for further review by members of the committee. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to consider as reviewed the Personal Service Contract Amendment List, with exception of those items selected for further review by members of the committee. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to consider as reviewed the Memoranda of Agreement List, with exception of those items selected for further review by members of the committee. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to consider as reviewed the Memoranda of Agreement Amendment List, with exception of those items selected for further review by members of the committee. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to consider as reviewed the Kentucky Entertainment Incentive Program Agreements List, with exception of those items selected for further review by members of the committee. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hart to consider as reviewed the Correction List. Senator Meredith seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

**THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL SERVICE CONTRACTS WERE REVIEWED
WITHOUT OBJECTION:**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, 2600003553.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Morgan & Morgan Kentucky, PLLC, 2600001672; Morgan & Morgan Kentucky, PLLC, 2600001673; Nachawati Law Group, PLLC, 2600001974; Dicello Levitt, LLP, 2600001976; Dicello Levitt, LLP, 2600001977; Morgan & Morgan Kentucky, PLLC, 2600001978; Motley Rice, LLC, 2600001979; Nachawati Law Group, PLLC, 2600001980; Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann, LLP, 2600001983; Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll, PLLC, 2600001985; Dicello Levitt, LLP, 2600001987; Grant & Eisenhofer P.A., 2600001989; Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, LLC, 2600001991; Motley Rice, LLC, 2600001992; Susan Gormley Tipton, 2600002086; Thomas J. Hellmann Attorney-At-Law, PLLC, 2600002087; Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc., 2600002133.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL & INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

D&S Residential Services, LP, 2400001633-1.

DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC ADVOCACY

Sherlock Investigation & Private Process, 2600002357.

DEPARTMENT FOR WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

Tonya D. Westmoreland, 2600002514.

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

Palmer Engineering County, 2600003021.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION

McBrayer, PLLC, 2600002497.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Express Mobile Diagnostic Services, LLC, 2600002489.

DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Michael Jenkins-Guarnieri, 2600002271; Paul Anthony Ebben, 2600002303; Parandhamulu Saranga Md., 2600002372; Vandivier and Associates, PSC, 2600002491.

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Tetra Tech, Inc., 3949-2026; CAP Financial Partners, LLC, d/b/a CAPTRUST Financial Advisors, 3979-2026; Assured Partners NL, LLC, 3987-2026; Wayne Corporation, 3988-2026; Dynamix Productions, Inc, 3996-2026; Multi, 3999-2026; Multi, 4000-2026; Multi, 4001-2026; Multi, 4002-2026; Multi, 4003-2026; Multi, 4004-2026; Multi, 4005-2026; Multi, 4006-2026; Multi, 4007-2026; Multi, 4008-2026; Multi,

4009-2026; Multi, 4010-2026; Multi, 4011-2026; Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, LLC, 4028-2026; PJB Marketing, LLC, 4030-2026; Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, 4032-2026; Fowler Bell, PLLC, 4036-2026; Gess, Mattingly, & Atchison, PSC, 4037-2026; Sturgill, Turner, Barker, & Moloney, PLLC, 4039-2026; BD Biomedical Consulting Services, LLC, 4043-2026; PME Kentucky, LLC, 4048-2026; Central Kentucky Interpreter Referral, Inc., 4058-2026.

FACILITIES & SUPPORT SERVICES

Kersey and Kersey, Inc., 2600002747; Gallagher Office of Architecture, LLC, 2600003255.

KENTUCKY EMPLOYERS MUTUAL INSURANCE

Ametros, 27-AMT-001; Claims Compensation Bureau, LLC, 27-CCB-001; Charles Taylor TPA, 27-CHT-002; Multi, 27-CLD-001; Cicotte Law Firm, PLLC, 27-CLF-001; Conning, Inc., 27-CON-001; Direct Express Delivery, 27-DED-001; DTG Holdings, Inc. d/b/a ACCESS Receivables Management, 27-DTG-001; Gallagher Benefit Services, 27-GBS-001; GENEX Services, LLC, 27-GEN-001; Hassman & Fitzhugh, PLLC, 27-HMF-001; ISO Claims Partners, Inc., 27-ISO-001; Johnson Lambert, LLP, 27-JLL-001; KEBCO, Inc., 27-KCO-001; Lexington Financial Center, 27-LFC-001; MCF Advisors, LLC, 27-MCF-001; Medcor, Inc., 27-MDC-001; Milliman, Inc., 27-MIL-001; MMJ Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Big Moe Specialty Land Services, 27-MMJ-001; McCarthy Strategic Solutions, LLC, 27-MSS-001; Occupational Managed Care Alliance, Inc., 27-OMC-001; Schrader Commercial Properties, LLC, 27-SCP-001; Standard Insurance Company, 27-SIC-001; Stoll Keenon Ogden, PLLC, 27-SKO-001; SpeakWrite, LLC, 27-SPK-001; TEKSystems, Inc., 27-TEK-001; TowerHunter, Inc, 27-THI-001; TransAmerica Retirement Solutions, LLC, 27-TRS-001; Watchpoint, LLC, 27-WCH-001; Ward Financial Group, Inc., 27-WFG-001.

KENTUCKY FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

The Animal Clinic, PSC, 2600002186; Caldwell & Feltner Law Offices, 2600002294; Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., 2600002388; Sustainable Streams, LLC, 2600002389; Sustainable Streams, LLC, 2600002400; Rescom Environmental Corporation, 2600002583.

KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Triangle Talent , LLC, 2600001971.

KENTUCKY HORSE PARK

Lee Carter, 2600002783.

KENTUCKY LOTTERY CORPORATION

Smartplay International, Inc., 27-12-011; Ellipse Solutions, LLC, 27-17-016; Gaming Laboratories International, LLC, 27-21-024; Gaming Laboratories International, LLC, 27-22-20; Midwest Series of Lockton Companies, LLC, 27-23-028.

KENTUCKY STATE FAIR BOARD

Cherry Bekaert, LLP, 2600002864; US Department of Agriculture Animal Plant Health Inspection, 2600002912; Dsbeck, LLC, 2600003284; Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, 2600003475.

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

Canopy Global Resources, LLC, 26-29.

KY HOUSING CORPORATION

Multi, 2027-12-30; Septtimous Tayler, PSC, 2027-6; Stierle and Rettig, PLLC, 2027-7.

KY INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

Taylor Burchett, 2600002885; Paleowest, LLC, 2600003491.

MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

Interpreting Service of the Commonwealth, 27-002; 20/20 Captioning and Interpreting, Inc, 27-003.

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Search, 037-26.

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, LLC, 2027-110; LB Wellbeing, LLC, 2027-112; Beacon Hill Solutions Group, 2027-113.

PERSONNEL - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Blue & Company, LLC, 2600002153; Community Action Lexington Fayette, 2600002173; Community Action Lexington Fayette, 2600003074.

TRANSPORTATION - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Blue & Company, LLC, 2600001671; Calloway & Associates, Inc., 2600001904; Crown Services, Inc., 2600001905; DSS Holdings, LLC, 2600001906; Eight Eleven Group, LLC, 2600001907; Assured NI Insurance Services, Inc., 2600002002; Blue & Company, LLC, 2600002031; Cei of America, LLC, 2600002084; LBMC, 2600002558; John Daniel Lyons, 2600002574; Kentucky Field Service Realty, 2600002665;

Baumgardner and Associates, PSC, 2600002678; Appco Appraisal Service, Inc., 2600002683; Matthew L. Chapman, 2600002712; Dale Crump, 2600002718; The Raleigh Company, 2600002779; Egis BLN USA, Inc., 2600002803.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

JRA Architects, A261090; Lord, Aeck, & Sargent, Inc., A261100; JRA Architects, A261110; Ross Tarrant Architects, A261120; Koehler Consulting, LLC, K26-133; Carahsoft Technology Corp., K26-134; Prominence Advisors, K26-135.

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Jenny Ray & Associates, 262701.

**THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL SERVICE AMENDMENTS WERE REVIEWED
WITHOUT OBJECTION:**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Dentons Bingham Greenebaum, LLP, 2500001728.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Paradocs Motion Support, Inc., 2600001578; Goldberg Simpson, LLC, 2600001815; Berger Montague PC, 2600001982; Brian Levin, P.A., 2600001984.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL & INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES

Res-Care, Inc., 2400001633.

BOARD OF OPTOMETRIC EXAMINERS

KWH Law, PLLC, 2600000899.

DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Enviroforensics, LLC, 2400001362.

DEPARTMENT FOR WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

Cell Staff, LLC, 2400003019.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Central Kentucky Interpreter Referral, Inc., 2400002025.

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

GRW Engineers, Inc., 1100001198; HDR Engineering, Inc., 1100001727; QK4, 1300001567; EA Partners, PLC, 1300002066; Integrated Engineering, PLLC,

1500001416; Gresham, Smith and Partners, 1800001340; Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc., 1900005014-1; Lynn Blue Print and Supply Company, 2100000155; Strand Associates, Inc., 2200001225; Bacon Farmer Workman Engineering & Testing, Inc., 2200001401; Gresham Smith, 2200001922; Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc., 2200004665-1; Marine Solutions, Inc., 2300001566; Palmer Engineering Company, 2300002774; Burgess and Niple, Inc., 2400003079; HDR Engineering, Inc., 2500000001; Strand Associates, Inc., 2500002324.

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Brandstetter Carrol, Inc., 2822-2024; Ross Tarrant, 2901-2024; DW Wilburn, Inc., 2940-2025; K. Norman Berry Associates Architects, PLLC, 2944-2025; K. Norman Berry Associates Architects, PLLC, 2945-2025; K. Norman Berry Associates Architects, PLLC, 2946-2025; Consulting Services Incorporated of Kentucky, 2949-2025; Clotfelter Samokar, PSC, 2952-2025; Facility Commissioning Group, 2954-2025; CMTA Consulting Engineers, 2977-2025; Hafer, PSC, 3124-2025; Clotfelter Samokar, PSC, 3126-2025; Solid Ground Consulting Engineers, PLLC, 3503-2026; DW Wilburn, Inc., 3605-2026.

FACILITIES & SUPPORT SERVICES

Patrick D. Murphy Company, Inc., 2200001132; Vertical Structures, Inc., 2200003355; KFI Engineers PC, 2300001629; EOP Architects, PSC, 2300002433; EOP Architects, PSC, 2300003485; CMTA, Inc., 2300003834; Ross Tarrant Architects Inc., 2400000524; Ross Tarrant Architects, Inc., 2400000902; Clotfelter/Samokar PSC, 2400001018; Schmidt Associates, Inc., 2400001641; Schmidt Associates, Inc., 2400001641; John A. Newman Consulting Engineers, 2400004525; John A. Newman Consulting Engineers, 2400004530; Prime AE Group, Inc., 2400004538; Ross Tarrant Architects, Inc., 2400004676; EOP Architects, PSC, 2500000185; Tetra Tech, Inc., 2500001580; Kersey and Kersey, Inc., 2500002958.

KENTUCKY FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Res Kentucky LLC d/b/a Redwing Ecological Services, 20FW000086; Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., 2500001447; Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., 2500001447.

KENTUCKY HORSE RACING AND GAMING CORPORATION

Frost Brown Todd, LLP, 2025-006.

KY COMMUNITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

Omni Architects, 003.

KY HOUSING CORPORATION

Stierle and Rettig, PLLC, 2026-33; Septtimous Tayler, PSC, 2026-38.

KY INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

Blue & Company, LLC, 2400004146.

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

VetForward, LLC, 035-26; Academic Search, 037-26.

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

Mid America Health, Inc., 2400000180; Sedgwick Claims Management Services, Inc., 2400001844.

TRANSPORTATION - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Logan & Gaines, PLLC, 2400002728.

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

Luckett & Farley Architects, 00001044; QK4, 25-011.

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

RATP Dev USA, Inc., 242632.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENTS WERE REVIEWED
WITHOUT OBJECTION:**

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL & INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES

Multi, 2400000039-1; NAMI Lexington Kentucky, Inc., 2600001580.

COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Hopkinsvillechristian County Ambulance Service, 2600001083.

DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

City of Vine Grove, 2600000978; City of West Point, 2600001275; University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2600001305.

DEPARTMENT FOR LIBRARIES & ARCHIVES

Corbin Public Library, 2600002034; Hart County Public Library, 2600002038; Pres Hopkinsville, 2600002040; Lee County Public Library, 2600002042; William B. Harlan Memorial Library, 2600002050; Nicholas County Public Library, 2600002051.

DEPARTMENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Marshall County Fiscal Court, 2500001250; Dream Coalition, 2600000630; Daviess County Fiscal Court, 2600001242; City of Somerset, 2600001681; Christian County, 2600001891; City of Richmond, 2600002083; Fulton County, 2600002540; City of Salyersville, 2600002571; Bath County Fiscal Court, 2600002713; Union County Fiscal Court, 2600002774; Union County Fiscal Court, 2600002775; Union County Fiscal Court, 2600002780; Union County Fiscal Court, 2600002785; Union County Fiscal Court, 2600002786; Union County Fiscal Court, 2600002787; McLean County Fiscal Court, 2600002834; Glasgow/Barren County Industrial Development Economic Authority, 2600002914; Letcher County Fiscal Court, 2600002933; Letcher County Jail, 2600002935; Harlan County Fiscal Court, 2600003131; McLean County Fiscal Court, 2600003268; Harlan County Fiscal Court, 2600003304.

DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Bike Walk Kentucky, Inc., 2600001329.

DEPARTMENT FOR WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

Kentucky Community and Technical College System, 2600001504.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market, LLC, 2600002080; Four Mile Farms, 2600002162; Need More Acres Farm, 2600002531; Rowlett's Milkhouse Creamery, 2600002585; Chaney's Dairy Barn, 2600002653.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Jefferson County Board of Education, 2600001535; Breathitt County Board of Education, 2600002426; Core Knowledge Foundation, Inc., 2600002505; Lawrence County Board of Education, 2600002548; Indiana University, 2600002646; Kentucky Special Parent Involvement Network, Inc., 2600002750; University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2600002757; Murray State University, 2600002762; Utah State University, 2600003027.

ECON DEV - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Berea Development Corporation, Inc., 2600003294; One East Kentucky, 2600003507.

JUSTICE - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2600002183.

KY HOUSING CORPORATION

University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2027-1.

STATE TREASURER

Kentucky Silc, Inc., 2600002384.

TRANSPORTATION - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Multi, 2600000144; Western Kentucky University, 2600001901; Buffalo Trace Covered Wooden Bridge Authority, 2600001946; Kentucky Transportation Center, 2600002021; Kentucky Transportation Center, 2600002072; Kentucky Community and Technical College System, 2600002081; Preusser Research Group, Inc., 2600002395; Kentucky Division of Forestry, 2600002555.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS WERE
REVIEWED WITHOUT OBJECTION:**

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL & INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES

Multi, 2400000039; Kentucky Council On Problem Gambling, Inc., 2400001406; Pennyryle Area Development, 2400001651; Mountain Comprehensive Care Center, 2400003191; Fletcher Group, Inc., 2400003208; Foundation for A Healthy Kentucky, 2400003380; New Vista of the Bluegrass, Inc., 2400003652; Green River Regional MHMR Board, Inc., 2400003755; Communicare, Inc., 2400003892; Lifeskills, Inc., 2500002780; New Vista of the Bluegrass, Inc., 2500002793.

BOARD OF PHARMACY

Public Protection Cabinet, 2400002528.

COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Bellarmine University, 2500001262; Campbellsville University, 2500001264; Campbellsville University, 2500001265.

DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

Comprehend, Inc., 2400001978; Pathways, Inc., 2400001980; Ramey Estep Homes, Inc., 2400002655; Family Nurturing Center of Kentucky, 2400003900.

DEPARTMENT FOR FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS & VOLUNTEER
SERVICES

American Association of State Service Commissions, 2400001317.

DEPARTMENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

City of Bowling Green, 2400002984; City of Bowling Green, 2600000305.

DEPARTMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2500001698.

DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

University of Louisville Research Foundation, 2400002284; Lewis County Primary Care Center, Inc., 2400002371; St. Claire Medical Center, Inc., 2400002717; University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2400002942.

DEPARTMENT FOR WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

Curators of the University of Missouri, 2400003310.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

University of Pikeville, 2400001330; University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2400001410; University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2400001412.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Carter County Board of Education, 2500002283; University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2500002573; Crittenden County Board of Education, 2500002667; Cumberland County Board of Education, 2500002668; Calloway County Board of Education, 2500002676; Marshall County Board of Education, 2500002679; Graves County Board of Education, 2500002681; Jessamine County Board of Education, 2500002683; Lee County Board of Education, 2500002684; Magoffin County Board of Education, 2500002685; Larue County Board of Education, 2500002686; Livingston County Board of Education, 2500002687; Montgomery County Board of Education, 2500002688; Grayson County Board of Education, 2500002689; Paducah Independent School District, 2500002690; Jackson County Board of Education, 2500002692; Robertson County Board of Education, 2500002719; Nelson County Board of Education, 2500002720; Mason County Board of Education, 2500002721; Woodford County Board of Education, 2500002862; Floyd County Board of Education, 2500002878; Fulton Independent Board of Education, 2500002881; Taylor County Board of Education, 2500002882; Kentucky Community and Technical College System, 2500002911; Pulaski County Board of Education, 2500002949; Whitley County Board of Education, 2500002951; Grant County Board of Education, 2500002952; Jackson Independent School District, 2500002954; Frankfort Independent School District, 2500002955; Webster County Board of Education, 2500002957; Christian County Board of Education, 2500002960; Johnson County Board of Education, 2500002961; Monroe County Board of Education, 2500002964; Breathitt County Board of Education, 2500002966; Harlan County Board of Education, 2500002985; McCreary County Board of Education, 2500002987; University of Louisville Research Foundation, 2500003000; Newport Independent School District, 2500003037; Jefferson County Board of Education, 2500003162; Fayette County Board of Education, 2500003306; Allen County Board of

Education, 2600000316; Breathitt County Board of Education, 2600000318; Calloway County Board of Education, 2600000319; Campbell County Board of Education, 2600000320; Carter County Board of Education, 2600000321; Christian County Board of Education, 2600000322; Crittenden County Board of Education, 2600000323; Cumberland County Board of Education, 2600000324; Floyd County Board of Education, 2600000325; Frankfort Independent School District, 2600000326; Fulton Independent Board of Education, 2600000327; Grant County Board of Education, 2600000328; Graves County Board of Education, 2600000329; Grayson County Board of Education, 2600000330; Harlan County Board of Education, 2600000331; Jackson County Board of Education, 2600000332; Jackson Independent School District, 2600000333; Jessamine County Board of Education, 2600000334; Johnson County Board of Education, 2600000335; Larue County Board of Education, 2600000336; Lee County Board of Education, 2600000337; Livingston County Board of Education, 2600000338; Magoffin County Board of Education, 2600000339; Marshall County Board of Education, 2600000340; Mason County Board of Education, 2600000341; McCreary County Board of Education, 2600000342; Monroe County Board of Education, 2600000343; Montgomery County Board of Education, 2600000344; Nelson County Board of Education, 2600000345; Newport Independent School District, 2600000347; Paducah Independent School District, 2600000348; Paintsville Independent School District, 2600000349; Pulaski County Board of Education, 2600000350; Robertson County Board of Education, 2600000351; Taylor County Board of Education, 2600000352; Webster County Board of Education, 2600000353; Whitley County Board of Education, 2600000354; Woodford County Board of Education, 2600000355; Fayette County Board of Education, 2600001217.

JUSTICE - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Harrison County Fiscal Court, 2600000571.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Lifebio, Inc., 2500003384.

TRANSPORTATION - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Eastern Kentucky University, 2400001583.

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

KHEAA, 2426-01.

**THE FOLLOWING KENTUCKY ENTERTAINMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM
AGREEMENTS WERE REVIEWED WITHOUT OBJECTION:**

ECON DEV - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

All That Glitters Productions, LLC, 2600003327; The Savior Movie, LLC, 2600003528; Lucky Number Three, LLC, 2600003529; ABN Touring, LLC, 2600003559; Waitress B&T Touring, LLC, 2600003560; Rear Ended E1, 2600003578; Talent Kentucky, 2600003579; Surviving Marilyn, 2600003581; Airways Productions, LLC, 2600003582; Quill Productions, LLC, 2600003583; Starline Productions, LLC, 2600003584.

THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL SERVICE CONTRACTS WERE SELECTED FOR FURTHER REVIEW:

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

A Healing Stone Therapeutic Massage Center, 4020-2026; Dana Fohl, General Counsel, EKU; and Jordan Smith, Associate Vice President for Public Affairs, EKU, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Chair Douglas, Mr. Smith stated the contract provides specialized support services for about 50 track and field student athletes. The arrangement allows the university to avoid hiring a full-time specialist or coach dedicated to this area.

In response to Chair Douglas, Ms. Fohl stated athletic trainers have become increasingly difficult to recruit due to changes in licensing and degree requirements for the profession. Although athletic trainers could provide some of these services, the contract allows the university to avoid adding another full-time equivalent position in an already hard-to-fill area.

In response to Representative Bauman, Ms. Fohl stated some athletes on the NCAA award-winning track and field team do receive compensation under NIL.

A motion was made by Representative Bauman to disapprove the contract. Chair Douglas seconded the motion with Senator Richardson, Senator Thomas, Representative Roarx, and Co-Chair Hart voting no. A motion was made by Representative Roarx to consider the contract as reviewed. Senator Thomas seconded the motion, which passed with Senator Meredith, Representative Bauman, and Chair Douglas voting no.

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, 4033-2026; Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, 4034-2026; Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, 4035-2026. Ms. Fohl and Mr. Smith discussed the contracts with the committee.

In response to Chair Douglas, Ms. Fohl stated the university tries to distribute legal work among different firms rather than relying on a single outside office. The contracts serve different specialized purposes. One contract involves patent law work, which requires outside counsel due to the university not having a patent attorney qualified to practice before the patent bar. Another contract covers employment law matters tied to the university's insurance policies, where outside counsel is required in

certain cases until insurance coverage takes over after the deductible is met. The third contract involves trademark issues, which are usually handled in-house, but outside counsel is retained for complex or unusual disputes requiring specialized expertise.

A motion was made by Senator Richardson to consider the contracts as reviewed. Senator Thomas seconded the motion, which passed.

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

Protiviti Government Services, 26-36. Eileen Butts, Interim Purchasing Director, KSU, and Dr. Heather Bigard, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Finance and Administration, KSU, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Chair Douglas, Dr. Bigard stated the contract is related to the FY25 audit the university is trying to complete expeditiously. The university has fallen 3 to 4 years behind on audits, and this audit represents the final phase of that backlog. The goal is to efficiently finish the overdue audit work so the university can stay on track with other compliance obligations, including accreditation requirements. The audit deadline already passed in March 2026, making timely completion especially important.

A motion was made by Senator Thomas to consider the contract as reviewed. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion, which passed with Representative Bauman voting no.

KY HOUSING CORPORATION

Corporation for Supportive Housing, Inc., 2027-11. Wendy Smith, Deputy Executive Director, KHC, and Lauren Vansickle, Deputy General Counsel, KHC, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Co-Chair Hart, Ms. Smith stated the work being discussed was unrelated to critical race theory (CRT) and instead focused on addressing homelessness in Kentucky through housing initiatives funded by the federal American Rescue Plan Act (HOME-ARP). KHC received more than \$50 million in one-time HOME-ARP funding to create housing solutions for people experiencing chronic homelessness. The organization hired consultant Corporation for Supportive Housing through a competitive RFP process in 2021 to help design and implement permanent supportive housing projects across the state. Unlike traditional affordable housing, these projects require integrated support services, property management, security, and long-term operational planning to help vulnerable residents remain stably housed. The consultant has helped KHC and its partners understand how to financially structure these developments, train developers and service providers, and address operational challenges after projects open. Projects have already opened or are underway in communities including Maysville, Covington, Louisville, and Owsley County. The consultant is helping shelter providers understand how Medicaid waivers may support reimbursement for services that keep people housed, with the broader goal of reducing homelessness, emergency room usage, and repeated involvement with the criminal justice system.

In response to Co-Chair Hart, Ms. Smith stated the program is funded entirely with federal money rather than Kentucky state tax dollars, while acknowledging federal funds still come from taxpayers.

In response to Representative Roark, Ms. Smith stated KHC was already familiar with this organization through its national work and conferences, but had not previously hired the organization because Kentucky lacked sufficient funding for permanent supportive housing initiatives. CRT has not been part of their day-to-day relationship with the organization and they were not aware of CRT-related language in its work.

In response to Senator Meredith, Ms. Smith stated they initially completed an RFP in 2021 and this organization was the only respondent. However, the RFP covered two separate areas of work: training and technical assistance for permanent supportive housing, and training and assistance for day-to-day shelter operations. Two organizations responded, with one selected for the supportive housing work and another selected for shelter-related services, resulting in separate contracts for the two parts of the project. Corporation for Supportive Housing was the only respondent for this specific contract.

In response to Senator Meredith, Ms. Vansickle stated the original contract was structured as a one-year agreement with two renewal options. When it was time to seek services again, the organization chose a “not practical to bid” approach rather than issuing a new RFP because the contractor had already helped establish the program and built working relationships with project partners. The decision was presented to the board, which recommended proceeding with the noncompetitive renewal approach.

In response to Senator Meredith, Ms. Smith stated they operate on a multi-month “Supportive Housing Institute” that brings together developers, property management companies, and service providers to learn how to plan and operate permanent supportive housing projects collaboratively. After training, the organization continues working with those teams on funding applications, banking relationships, zoning issues, site selection, and project development. Support continues even after projects open, helping partners address operational challenges related to housing chronically homeless individuals, including tenant screenings, services, and on-site security. Because the organization has spent years working closely with these project teams, the relationship has become long-term and ongoing. Although extended renewals are not typical, it would be difficult to replace the consultant midstream because another organization would lack the established knowledge and relationships needed to help projects succeed.

In response to Senator Meredith, Ms. Smith stated the contract evolved over time as the work expanded from initial training and technical assistance into active project development. Each phase built on the previous one, creating an ongoing relationship tied to earlier work rather than separate unrelated tasks. Not every aspect of the work was anticipated in the original contract because the programs were developed rapidly during COVID. Permanent supportive housing projects are highly complex, involving real estate development, social services, and housing for individuals who are often difficult to place. Due to the complexity, long-term relationships, trust, and a deep understanding of each

partner's role became essential, which is why the organization was kept engaged throughout the process.

In response to Senator Meredith, Ms. Vansickle stated the original RFP focused on launching and establishing the program. As the projects progressed, the organization recognized the need for continued support to ensure the developments would succeed long term and ultimately be completed. Projects beginning years earlier are still under construction, so the need for ongoing assistance became apparent over time. While the initial RFP may not have specifically anticipated long-term support services, the services have become essential to maintaining and completing the program successfully.

In response to Senator Meredith, Ms. Smith stated the organization had never received funding on this scale to create permanent supportive housing or to build the necessary capacity among its partners. Because the initiative was new and highly complex, they did not initially anticipate all of the challenges involved, especially after projects became operational and required ongoing coordination among developers, nonprofits, property managers, and service providers. There is concern that replacing the current technical assistance provider would disrupt projects because a new organization would lack familiarity with the program's design, relationships, and operational structure. The current provider is a nonprofit offering services at a favorable cost, and changing providers would require partners to start over with someone unfamiliar with work already completed.

In response to Senator Thomas, Ms. Smith stated the program's success can be measured in two main ways: training multiple cohorts of development teams to create and operate permanent supportive housing, and advancing numerous housing projects across Kentucky that are built, under construction, or financially assembled for development.

In response to Senator Thomas, Ms. Smith stated there is a project in Owsley County involving Partnership Housing, a longtime housing partner with experience developing affordable homeownership and rental housing. Using the new funding opportunity, the organization partnered with a local doctor who provides healthcare and Medicaid-billed mental health services to develop duplexes for chronically homeless individuals. The project is being built near the organization's existing rental housing and is designed to provide intensive supportive services alongside stable housing for residents in the community.

A motion was made by Representative Bauman to disapprove the contract. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion with Senator Richardson, Senator Thomas, and Representative Roarx voting no. Motion fails. A motion was made by Senator Richardson to consider the contract as reviewed. Senator Thomas seconded the motion with Senator Meredith, Representative Bauman, Co-Chair Hart, and Chair Douglas voting no. Contract moves forward.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENTS WERE SELECTED
FOR FURTHER REVIEW:**

TRANSPORTATION - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police, 2600002554. Brian Carter, Coordinator of the Phlebotomy in Law Enforcement Program, Assistant Coordinator for the Drug Recognition Expert Program, OHS, KYTC; Matt McCoy, Program Manager of the Impaired Driving Program, OHS, KYTC; and Allan Coldiron, Purchase Branch Manager, KYTC, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Chair Douglas, Mr. McCoy stated trained law enforcement officers would not draw blood roadside, but instead would perform blood draws later in a safe setting. The purpose of the program is to help officers meet the two-hour time limit for obtaining blood samples in DUI or substance-related cases, especially in rural areas where hospitals or EMTs may refuse to perform blood draws or impose additional requirements. Officers are trained as nationally licensed phlebotomists and receive the same bloodborne pathogen and safety training as medical professionals. Using trained officers helps speed up the process, particularly with electronic warrants, and maintains chain of custody within law enforcement. This approach reduces the need to involve medical personnel in handling potentially erratic individuals under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

A motion was made by Chair Douglas to consider the contract as reviewed. Representative Roarx seconded the motion, which passed.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS WERE
SELECTED FOR FURTHER REVIEW:**

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL & INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES**

University of Kentucky Research Foundation, 2500002223. Dr. Steven Stack, Secretary, CHFS; Astrud Masterson, Executive Director, CHFS; and Ann Hall, Executive Advisor, DBHDID, CHFS, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Co-Chair Hart, Dr. Stack stated the request is cost-neutral because it simply shifts expenses from one federal Medicaid funding line to another. Due to the complexity of the Medicaid budget and differing federal reimbursement rules, the agency identified certain nursing-related services qualified for an enhanced 75/25 federal match instead of the standard 50/50 federal-state match. By moving the costs to the appropriate funding category, the state can draw down a larger federal share of the expenses. The 1915(i) RISE programs are already established and known components of the current biennial budget. The programs have been openly discussed with the General Assembly and addressed during prior hearings. The request does not expand or alter the program

itself; it simply restructures the funding approach to maximize the federal contribution towards costs already anticipated.

In response to Representative Bauman, Ms. Hall stated nurses involved with the 1915(i) RISE programs perform risk management and utilization management functions. Their responsibilities include investigating incident reports involving medication errors, missed medications, abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The nurses also review individuals' plans of care to ensure they align with assessments, address all identified needs in a person-centered service plan, and authorize appropriate services.

A motion was made by Representative Bauman to consider the contract as reviewed. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion, which passed.

CHFS - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Crisp Shared Services, Inc., 2500001538. Dr. Stack discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Co-Chair Hart, Dr. Stack stated the Kentucky Health Information Exchange is the state's single statewide health information exchange, supporting hospitals, doctors, clinics, laboratories, the prescription drug monitoring program, and public health disease reporting. The system also supports investigations related to injuries and other public health matters conducted in partnership with the University of Kentucky. The technology platform was previously operated by the vendor Deloitte, but the contract transitioned this spring to Crisp with the full cutover completed around April 1. Crisp is a part of a collaborative coalition of multiple states, including West Virginia, who work together to provide health information exchange services at a substantially lower cost than the previous arrangement. Some services could not initially be transferred. Federal funding tied to the project expires June 30, 2026, and the additional funding being discussed would allow the state to retain certain functions otherwise would have been lost while also adding new capabilities and services.

In response to Co-Chair Hart, Dr. Stack stated federal grant funds can generally be used for the purposes authorized by the federal government. No additional funding will be needed in the next biennium because the ongoing maintenance and operational costs are already budgeted and included in the existing contract. The current funding request is specifically for adding new features and capabilities to the system.

In response to Representative Roarx, Dr. Stack stated they do not anticipate additional ongoing maintenance costs related to the new functionality.

A motion was made by Representative Roarx to consider the contract as reviewed. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion, which passed with Representative Bauman voting no.

DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

University of Kentucky, 2400002034. Dr. Stack and Andrew Bledsoe, Deputy Director, CHFS, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Co-Chair Hart, Dr. Stack stated the staffing contract has existed for decades and allows the state to obtain highly specialized professionals who are difficult to recruit directly or are only needed on a part-time basis. For this specific contract, the state is adding two additional experts through the university to support the rural health transformation program. Both individuals hold PhDs and have specialized expertise in areas such as quality and data evaluation, as well as population health design and public health program development. This contract is entirely federally funded.

A motion was made by Senator Richardson to consider the contract as reviewed. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion, which passed with Representative Bauman voting no.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Campbell County Board of Education, 2500002661. Karen Wirth, Director of Budgets and Financial Management, KDE; Sarah Medley, Policy Advisor, KDE; and Danna Steele, Project Director for Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy, KDE, discussed the contract with the committee.

In response to Chair Douglas, Ms. Steele stated the contract was expiring September 30, 2026. The contract amendment added funding to the original grant so all available federal funds could be fully utilized. Unallocated federal money was redistributed among all 38 districts to ensure each had access to the additional resources. The grant supports high-quality instructional materials, particularly reading curriculum from preschool through 12th grade. It also funds professional development to help teachers effectively implement the curriculum, intervention programs for students struggling with reading, and family literacy engagement efforts aimed at improving young children's oral language skills and school readiness. Family engagement is a required component of the federal grant and is especially valuable because it provides parents with training and guidance on how to help children develop reading skills at home.

A motion was made by Senator Richardson to consider the contract as reviewed. Senator Thomas seconded the motion, which passed.

EXEMPTION REQUESTS:

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Office of Homeland Security requested an exemption from Committee Policy Statement #99-4, which prohibits contracts and agreements from extending beyond the biennium for funds under State and Federal Homeland Security Grant Programs and will provide quarterly reports. A motion was made by Senator Meredith to grant the request to June 30, 2028. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Kentucky Department of Agriculture requested an exemption from Committee Policy Statement #99-4, which prohibits contracts and agreements from extending beyond the biennium for the amend the effective term of its foreign animal disease testing agreement to be co-extensive with the federal grant term. A motion was made by Senator Meredith to grant the request to June 30, 2027. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Kentucky Department of Agriculture requested an exemption from Committee Policy Statement #99-4, which prohibits contracts and agreements from extending beyond the biennium for a multi-year project funding agreement for a granary project at the Louisville Riverport. A motion was made by Senator Meredith to grant the request to June 30, 2028. Co-Chair Hart seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.