TOBACCO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FUND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes

October 8, 2026

Call to Order and Roll Call
The fifth meeting of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee was held on October 8, 2026, at 10:30 AM ET/9:30 AM CT in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Jason Howell, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:
Members: Senator Jason Howell, Co-Chair; Senator Aaron Reed; and Representatives Myron Dossett, Daniel Fister, Erika Hancock, Kim King, Shawn McPherson, and Rachel Roarx.

Guests: Van Ingram, Executive Director, Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy (KODCP); Tara Hyde, incoming Executive Director for KODCP; and Brandon Reed, Executive Director, Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy (KOAP).

LRC Staff: Stefan Kasacavage, Hillary Abbott, Kelly Ludwig, and Rachel Hartley.

Approval of minutes for the meeting of September 10, 2026
A motion was made by Representative Fister and seconded by Representative McPherson to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2026, meeting. Minutes were approved by voice vote without objection.

Update from the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy

Van Ingram, Executive Director, KODCP, provided an overview of the Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy (KY-ASAP) that uses tobacco settlement funds to support 81 local KY-ASAP boards covering all 120 counties. In fiscal year 2026, KODCP received $3,250,000 in tobacco settlement funds with most of the funds going to the local KY-ASAP boards.

Mr. Ingram highlighted funding initiatives including the Kentucky Transformational Employment Program (KTEP) and drug lock boxes.

Mr. Ingram introduced Tara Hyde as the new Executive Director of KODCP upon his retirement.

In response to Representative Dossett, Mr. Ingram stated vapes are a significant problem, but enforcement is improving. Medical dispensaries are good places to promote drug lockboxes and provide education materials to prevent accidental exposure of marijuana edibles to children.

In response to Representative McPherson, Mr. Ingram stated KTEP has protections for employers who support employees in treatment. Employees in recovery often become reliable workers, and Mr. Ingram recommended onboarding them like any other employees.

In response to Chair Howell, Mr. Ingram stated co-occurring disorders are now commonly treated together with addiction. Kentucky is improving integration of behavioral health in addiction treatment. Mr. Ingram stated relationships between school resource officers and KY-ASAP boards vary by locality.

In response to Representative Hancock, Mr. Ingram stated he is not aware of specific data regarding the effectiveness of drug lockboxes; however, he supports their distribution as a common-sense prevention.

Report on the projects considered for funding by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board

Brandon Reed, Executive Director, KOAP, discussed the new Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) policy adopted last month, which would cap recurring costs at the previous years' level with a 10% reduction over the next 2 years.

In September 2026, the KADB approved $1.5 million in grant funds, and the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation approved $1.9 million in loan funds.

The following projects were highlighted:

- Seedleaf, Inc. was approved for $22,524 in county funds to relaunch its Compost Carpool program.
- Kanbol, Inc. was approved for $577,250 in state funds as a participation loan and was referred to the Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Board for funding to expand its processing facility.
- Carter County Fair, Inc. was approved for $30,000 in Carter County funds to construct an open area pole barn structure for its fairgrounds.

In response to Chair Howell, Mr. Reed stated Kanbol, Inc. manufactures sustainable food packaging, made using agricultural by-products.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned.