

**Minutes**  
**Kentucky Agricultural Council**  
**Third Quarterly Meeting**  
**August 14, 2014**

**Kentucky Exposition Center**  
**937 Phillips Lane**  
**Louisville, Kentucky 40209**

The Kentucky Agricultural Council met during the Kentucky State Fair on Thursday August 14, 2014, in South Wing C - Conference Center Room 105.

**Members Present**

David Beck (Kentucky Farm Bureau), Tony Brannon (Murray State University, Dean of Agriculture), Frances Ann Brown (PACE Board), Gary Burdine (Jessamine Career and Technology Center), David Chinn (Agribusiness Industry Network, Inc.), Sean Clark (Berea College, Department of Agriculture), Steve Coleman, Maury Cox (Kentucky Dairy Development Council), Nancy Cox (University of Kentucky, Dean of Agriculture), Brandon Davis (Kentucky FFA Association), Dan Flanagan (Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education), Sharon Furches (Kentucky Women in Agriculture), Aaron Goodpastor (Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association), Drew Graham, Cary Green (Morehead State University), Jeff Hall (Kentucky Horticulture Council), Caroline Heine (Seed Capital Kentucky), Tim Hughes (Kentucky Department for Energy Development and Independence), Kevin Jefferies (Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts), John Johnson (USDA Rural Development), Sam Lawson (Kentucky Chamber of Commerce), Jean-Marie Lawson, Beverly Lawson (Lawson Marketing, Inc.), John W. McCauley (Kentucky Farm Services Agency), Sheldon McKinney, Ed McQueen (Kentucky Farm Bureau), Aaron M. Miller (Farm Credit Services), Joel Neaveill (Governor's Office of Ag Policy), Wade Northington (Murray State University, Breathitt Veterinary Center), Steve Pratt (Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association), Moseley Putney (Kentucky Hemp Industries), Debbie Reed (Murray State University, Breathitt Veterinary Center), Kim Richardson (Kentucky Division of Conservation), Dawn Riley, Keith L. Rogers (Kentucky 4H Foundation), Tamara Sandberg (Kentucky Association of Food Banks), John Settimi (Eastern Kentucky University, Department of Agriculture), Will Snell, (University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture), Karen Woodrich (USDA NRCS), Brian Lacefield (Christian County Agribusiness), Shane Wiseman (Burley Council), Tabitha Graham (Genscape), and Joanna Hay (Kentucky Hemp Industries)

**Others Present**

Ginger Wills (Kentucky Department of Agriculture), Warren Beeler (Kentucky Department of Agriculture), Steve Kelly (Kentucky Department of Agriculture), and Luke King (Kentucky Department of Agriculture)

### Proceedings

#### **Chair's Welcome**

Dr. Nancy Cox called the meeting to order at 10:00am Eastern Standard Time. Dr. Cox welcomed the council to the third quarterly meeting for 2014. Dr. Cox requested that all members introduce themselves to the council and state which organization or group they were representing. After introductions had been made, Dr. Cox proceeded with the next agenda item.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Cox entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the June 11 meeting, a motion made by Kevin Jefferies and seconded by David Beck. The motion was passed and the minutes were approved.

#### **Approval of Treasurer's Report**

Jeff Hall presented the treasurer's report to the council. Mr. Hall, updated the council on current membership and expressed his confidence that the council was in a financially stable position for the upcoming year. Dr. Cox entertained a motion to approve the treasurer's report, a motion made by Tony Brannon and seconded by Debbie Reed. The motion was passed and the treasurer's report was approved.

#### **Chair's Report**

Dr. Cox suggested that the council is in a transition year, financially. She informed the council that the executive committee has been looking at the function of the Kentucky Agricultural Council, in an attempt to ensure the council is accomplishing the goals that it was designed to accomplish. Dr. Cox introduced Will Snell to discuss his handout "KAC Strategic Planning – Summary of Meeting Notes from April 10, 2014". The handout was distributed to the council and Dr. Snell informed the group that he would be sending this document out via email to the council members so that they can review it again at a later time.

Dr. Cox entertained discussion in regards to the Kentucky Agricultural Council and its value to the agriculture sector. Members voiced their opinions and perspectives concerning the benefits that the council provides to not only the members, but the entire state's agriculture industry.

Dr. Cox invited Steve Coleman to update the group on the Leopold Conservation Award. Mr. Coleman reminded the council that the award is in its second year. There were 11 applicants for this year's award. Six of those were returning candidates from the previous year and five were new.

#### **KAC Member Update**

Dr. Cox invited Tim Hughes to address the council and discuss his handout titled “Kentucky Statewide Wood Energy Team Project – 2014”. Mr. Hughes has put together a statewide wood energy team to help accomplish the goals of this project. Mr. Hughes mentioned the opportunities with the livestock industry and the forestry industry to accomplish great feats in wood energy. This particular project is a four year endeavor. Mr. Hughes closed his report by inviting the council to attend a field day at Murray State University on October 22, an event that will include an opportunity to tour the bio burner at Murray State University.

Dr. Cox invited Shelley Douthut (representative of the Kentucky Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs) to speak on the Louisville Garden Project. Ms. Douthut referenced the handout that she had distributed to the council at the beginning of the meeting. Her presentation handout, titled “Seed to Sale Project”, addressed the history, mission, current status, and predictions of project success in the future. Ms. Douthut entertained questions from the council and welcomed comments from other council members who were familiar with the project. Steve Kelly, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture, commented on both the Franklin-Simpson project and the Louisville Garden Project.

### **Open Comment Period**

Dr. Cox opened the floor for member comments or items of business. Dr. Tony Brannon received recognition from the chair and he proceeded to discuss the groundbreaking of the new Breathitt Veterinary Center. Dr. Brannon introduced Dr. Debbie Reed as the interim director of the Breathitt Veterinary Center (BVC). Dr. Brannon then asked Dr. Wade Northington to speak on the BVC groundbreaking. Dr. Northington invited all council members to attend the groundbreaking on September 18, 2014 at the Hopkinsville Regional Campus. Before being seated, Dr. Brannon gave a brief update on the hemp crop at Murray State University.

Dr. Cox permitted other members to make comments and give updates that they felt were pertinent to the council. John McCauley from FSA gave a brief update on the Farm Bill and a few related details that he felt would directly affect the state’s agriculture industry. Karen Woodrich addressed the council and gave an update on behalf of the USDA NRCS. David Beck reminded the council that the National FFA Convention would be held in Louisville, Kentucky during the latter part of October of this year. Jean-Marie Lawson addressed the council in regards to her bid for Commissioner of Agriculture in the next election.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53am Eastern Standard Time.

Submitted by : Luke King