

Kentucky Agricultural Council

Minutes of the November 14, 2014 Quarterly Meeting

The Kentucky Agricultural Council meeting was held on November 14, 2014 at 10:00 AM at the South Wing Convention Center in Louisville. Chair Dean Nancy Cox called meeting to order at 10:09 AM.

Members Present

Tod Griffin and Ashley Foree, AgriBusiness Association of Kentucky; David Chinn, Agribusiness Industry Network; Keith Rogers, KY 4-H Foundation, Inc.; Sam Lawson, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce; Steve Kelly, Kentucky Department of Agriculture; Kim Richardson, Kentucky Division on Conservation; Jeff Hall, Kentucky Horticulture Council; Jack Rentz, Kentucky Woodland Owners Association; Tony Brannon, Murray State University Hutson School of Agriculture; Nancy Cox, University Of Kentucky College of Agriculture; David Beck, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation; Frances Ann Brown, PACE Board; Steve Coleman, Conservation District; Corinne Fetter, Kentucky State Fair Board; David Rowlett, Conservation Districts; Jennifer Elwell, Kentucky Ag and Environment in the Classroom; Drew Graham, University of Kentucky; Mark Haney, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation; Bonnie Jolly, Kentucky Pork Producers Association; Laura Knoth, Kentucky Corn Growers Association; William Lawrence, Murray State University; Jean Marie Lawson; Scott Lemmons, USDA/NASS; John McCauley, Kentucky Farm Services Agency; Bruce Metzger, Kentucky Community & Technical College System; Aaron Miller, Farm Credit Services; Joel Neaveill, GOAP; Mosely Putney, Kentucky Hemp Industries; Karen Woodrich, USA NRCS; Austin Hazelwood, KY FFA; Kim Fritz, KY Nursery and Landscape Association; Kyle Keeney, Life Sciences Council

Others Present

Warren Beeler, Ginger Wills and Kathy Harp, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Welcome

Chair Nancy Cox welcomed the group to the quarterly meeting and provided an overview of the agenda

Report on NAILE: Corrine Fetter

Corrine Fetter provided overview of the North American International Livestock Exposition. This year 200,000 attendees are expected. Jack Ragsdale and Harold Workman are co-founders. Jack has been the Chair of the Executive Committee since inception. Corrine provided a summary of the events and importance of KY and American Agriculture. The NAILE has grown due to the location and facility.

Approve Minutes of the August 14, 2014 Meeting

Nancy Cox presented the minutes of the August 14, 2014 meeting. Tod Griffin (Agribusiness Association of Kentucky) moved to accept them; Keith Rogers (KY 4-H Foundation) seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Jeff Hall. Treasurer Hall reported on the current dues situation. He stated that the goal regarding membership had been met. Keith Rogers moved to accept the report. Aaron Miller seconded the motion and the report was approved.

Leopold Conservation Award Report

Chairman Nancy Cox introduced Steve Coleman who discussed the current status of the award.

Mr. Coleman wanted to thank sponsors for their support. Sponsors include Kentucky Farm Bureau, Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Monty Plants, Farm Credit Mid America, College of Agriculture at UK and NRCS. He also wanted to thank the judges. Judges were Joel Neaveill, Joe Cane, Laura Knoth, Steve Higgins, Warren Beeler, Karen Woodridge and previous winner Jon Bednarski. Winner in 2014 was Geri and Valerie Perry. Mr. Coleman continued to discuss the future of the award and that \$15,000 would need to be committed before anything can be done. He does believe that the future is bright.

Kentucky Life Sciences Council: Kyle Keeney, Ph. D., Executive Director

Mr. Keeney provided overview of the Life Sciences Council and provided a handout. Two things that the council is doing is policy work and commercialization support. He stated that his tagline was "from dirt to grave". The Council is trying to do a better job at including the Kentucky Ag Council. He stated that they have started an eight state coalition with states that have the same issues as KY: childhood obesity, nutrition, and STEM education.

Discussion on the strategic plan for Kentucky Agriculture: Tony Brannon

Mr. Brannon kicked off his portion of the meeting with a quiz about the seven areas of the strategic plan. The seven areas include Next Generation Farming, New Market Identification, Regional Agricultural and Rural Community Development, Agricultural Education, Consumer Education & Outreach, Government Policies, Initiatives and Programs, Policy-maker Education & Outreach. He asked everyone to fill out a form with which topics they would like to be a part of and contribute to. He reminded the KAC that the strategic plan was a model for other states.

Discussion on moving forward/strategic planning for the KAC: Dean Nancy Cox

Dean Cox stated that Will Snell apologized for being unable to attend. She went on to provide overview of the current status of the KAC. Nancy believes that networking is a key part of the council. She talked about the four areas that the council should look into when considering the future. The four areas are membership issues, general programming, better PR and expand with corporate membership. She mentioned possibly inviting candidates to do a forum later this year to discuss agricultural issues.

Open Comment Period

Karen Woodrich, State Conservationist, informed the council of a non-profit organization called E-Resources.

Jennifer Elwell has accepted a new role as the Executive Director of Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom. She provided an overview of the programs that the organization offers.

Mosely Putney, founder of the Kentucky Hemp Industries, reported on the first harvest of hemp. This was the first harvest in 50 or 60 years in Kentucky.

Adjourn

There were no further reports and meeting was adjourned by Chair Dean Nancy Cox.