

## Kentucky Agricultural Council

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### *Minutes of the June 13, 2012 Quarterly Meeting*

The Kentucky Agricultural Council meeting was held on June 13, 2012 at 10:00 AM EDT at the Hyatt Regency in conjunction with the FFA Convention in Lexington, KY. Dan Flanagan, chairman, called the meeting to order.

#### **Members Present**

Tod Griffin, Agribusiness Association of Kentucky; David Chinn, Agribusiness Industry Network; Aaron Miller, Farm Credit Services; Joel Neaveill, Governor's Office of Ag Policy; Keith Rogers, KY 4-H Foundation, Inc.; Becky Thompson, Kentucky Cattlemen's Association; Bruce Metzger, KCTCS; Dan Flanagan, Kentucky Council on Post Secondary Education; Kristen Branscum and Warren Beeler, Kentucky Department of Agriculture; Tim Hughes, Kentucky Department of Energy Development and Independence; Steve Coleman, Kentucky Division of Conservation; Dwight Greenwell, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Bob Finch, Kentucky Farm Services Agency; Bob Bauer, Kentucky Forest Industries Association; Ginny Grulke and Liz Barcomb, Kentucky Horse Council; Bonnie Jolly, Kentucky Pork Producers Association; Melissa Miller, Kentucky Poultry Federation; Kathy Meyer and Kelly Yates, Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office and Kentucky Sheep and Wool Producers Association; Sharon Furches, Kentucky Women In Agriculture; Tyler Mark, Morehead State University; Debbie Reed, Murray State University Breathitt Veterinary Center; Nancy Cox and Jimmy Henning, University Of Kentucky College of Agriculture; Leland Brown, USDA NASS Kentucky Field Office; Karen Woodrich, USDA – NRCS; and Tim McNeilly, USDA – Rural Development.

#### **Others Present**

Ray Langen, Dawn Riley, Will Snell and Steven Spalding.

#### **Welcome**

Chairman Dan Flanagan welcomed the group to the quarterly meeting. The meeting proceeded with self introductions of those in attendance. Mr. Flanagan provided an overview of the agenda.

#### **Approve Minutes of the February 17, 2012 Meeting**

Dan Flanagan presented the minutes of the February 17, 2012 meeting. Tod Griffin (Agribusiness Association of Kentucky) moved to accept them; Steve Coleman (Kentucky Division of Conservation) seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Steve Coleman. Keith Rogers (Kentucky 4H Foundation) made a motion to accept the report. Tod Griffin (Agribusiness Association of Kentucky) seconded the motion and the report was approved.

### **Chairman's Report**

Chairman Flanagan made remarks regarding the current Strategic Planning Process and the upcoming Ag Summit. He believes people are noticing what the KAC is doing and he thanked everyone for their continued participation in KAC activities.

### **Update on the Strategic Plan Initiative**

Keith Rogers reported on the May 30 meeting held in Hopkinsville at the Breathitt Veterinary Center. He described the audience response system which was used to ultimately identify the 6 areas of subcommittee work to be performed. The next meeting will be in Lexington on July 11<sup>th</sup>. There has been great turnout at every meeting. He welcomes all expertise and input through the committee process. Please feel free to include anyone from your organization.

### **Ag Summit 2012 Plans**

Dawn Riley briefed the Members regarding the 2012 Ag Summit. This year's event will be held on November 8 and 9 in Louisville at the Kentucky Exposition Center during the North American International Livestock Exposition and in conjunction with the Kentucky Women In Ag conference and the annual Farm City Luncheon presented by the Agribusiness Industry Network. More details will be forthcoming. Save the Date Cards will be sent out via email in the near future and a preliminary event marketing brochure should be available on August 16, the opening day of the Kentucky State Fair.

### **Guest Speaker**

Chairman Flanagan introduced Ray Langen, Executive Vice President for Journal Communications. Newly elected Commissioner of Agriculture, James Comer and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture are working with Journal Communications to develop a "Kentucky Proud" magazine. This will be an annual publication used to promote Kentucky agriculture and rural communities. Mr. Langen presented many details of how this project is coming together and encouraged anyone interested in participating by way of advertising to contact him as soon as possible.

### **KAC Member Updates**

Joel Neaveill from the Governor's Office of Ag Policy (GOAP) provided an update on a new organizational structure was put in place at GOAP to help address staff turnover and that also provided an opportunity to be more efficient.

Dan Flanagan and Melissa Miller from the Kentucky Poultry Federation briefed KAC members on the appointment of KPF's new executive director, Jamie Guffey. Mr. Guffey looks forward to working with the KAC, and already has attended on meeting of the Strategic Planning Task Force.

Kathy Meyer introduced Kelley Yates, the new executive director of the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office. She is from Winchester and her prior career experience

includes the Farm Credit System as well as the Extension Service. Kelley reported on the recent Sheep and Fiber Festival, as well as the Hoof Print Magazine. She looks forward to working with the KAC in the future.

Ginny Grulke, Executive Director of the Kentucky Horse Council, reported on the upcoming Southeastern Trails Conference July 12-14. First Lady Jane Beshear will kick off the event; the conference has a strong focus on conservation issues such as water quality, erosion, sustainable trails and invasive species.

Leland Brown from USDA NASS updated the KAC membership on the restructuring of his agency. This move will create 10 regional offices from the current 46 field offices. Louisville, Kentucky will house one of those regional offices. Due to restructuring and further budget issues, there could be implications for the upcoming Census of Agriculture. Currently, NASS is working with Kentucky Horse Council on the first equine survey since 1977.

#### **Open Comment Period**

Dr. Tyler Mark from Morehead State University discussed the transition currently taking place at Morehead's Department of Agriculture. A new candidate for the head of the Ag school should be named soon. Morehead is also adding 2 animal scientists to their staff.

Dawn Riley made announcements concerning the August 16 quarterly meeting and Task Force meeting to be held on the opening day of the Kentucky State Fair.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20am EDT.