



MEETING NOTES

Agriculture Water Quality Authority

May 8, 2025 | 1:00 pm

Eden Shale Farm

Owenton, KY 40359

Members In Attendance: Mr. Larry Thomas, Chair, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Mr. Randy McCallon, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts; Ms. Megan Bailey-Komar, Member-at-Large; Mr. Fred Sipes, Member-at-Large; Dr. Amanda Gumbert, UK College of Agriculture; Ms. Sarah Gaddis, Division of Water; and Ms. Paulette Akers, Division of Water (representing Division of Conservation).

Others in Attendance: Mr. Jay Nelson, Division of Conservation; Ms. Kathleen Saunier, Energy and Environment Cabinet; Ms. Johnna McHugh, Division of Conservation; Mr. Clark Sturgeon, Farm Service Agency; Mr. Damuel Morales, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Mr. John Reinstette, UK Department of Forestry and Natural Resources; Mr. Jordan Hurt, UK Department of Forestry and Natural Resources; Mr. David Collins, UK Department of Forestry and Natural Resources; Ms. Kristine Whybark, Division of Conservation; and Ms. Kim Barton, Division of Conservation.

Roll Call of Authority Members: Quorum was not met. Members discussed the items on the agenda, but no decisions were made.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from February 6, 2025. No changes were suggested to the presented draft minutes.

Old Business:

- AWQA Business Rules – Mr. Nelson asked for feedback regarding the draft business rules that have been discussed but never approved by the Authority. Several changes were suggested and will be included on the next draft he sends out.

New Business:

- Committee Reports:
 - *KASMC*: Mr. Pete Cinotto was not in attendance.

- *Farmstead*: Ms. Barton reported that no meeting has been held. They will attempt to meet before the next meeting of the Authority.
- *Pesticides & Fertilizers*: Mr. Adam Andrews was not in attendance.
- *Livestock & Poultry*: Mr. Sipes presented the updated BMPs, as approved by the committee. He reviewed each one with their suggested changes. The group recommended the Livestock and Poultry Committee review BMP #12 (Equine or Poultry Waste Feed) again with representatives of poultry and equine groups present.
- *Crops*: Mr. Andrews was not in attendance.
- *Silviculture*: Mr. Reinstetle reported that the Kentucky Division of Forestry has completed 779 inspections of 226 so far this year. Those inspections resulted in 35 warnings, 6 of which were emergency orders. None of those were stop issues for BMP violations. He also reported that Mr. James Wright has been chosen as the new director of the Kentucky Forest Industries Association.
- *Streams & Other Waters*: Ms. Akers reported that the committee met recently to work on 2 new BMPs. The Pond Maintenance BMP is ready, but the committee is holding it due to SB 89 from the recent legislative session. The Karst Protection BMP work is still ongoing.
- *Education & Outreach*: Dr. Gumbert reported that no meeting has been held.
- *Quarterly Update of AWQA Related Violations*: Mr. Nelson reported that there were 9 agriculture violations this quarter, most of which were Ag Water Quality Plan issues.
- *Terms ending for Authority Vice Chair and KASMC Committee Chair*: Mr. Thomas reported that Mr. Pete Cinotto is willing to serve another term. He will contact Mr. Joseph Sisk to determine his willingness to be nominated for Vice Chair again.
- *New Vacancy (FSA)*: Mr. Sturgeon reported that David Wayne has been appointed as the new state director. FSA will have a nominee for the Authority selected prior to the Authority's next meeting.
- *Updates from Members*:
 - Dr. Gumbert announced an upcoming field day. It will take place on May 29 at Robin Ridge Farms in Bourbon County.
 - Mr. McCallon reminded the Authority of the upcoming KACD/SENACD annual meeting.
 - Mr. Nelson reported that DOC has been working with NRCS regarding watershed dams and flooding. Applications for EWP assistance are due to NRCS by June 6, and the Soil and Water Conservation Commission will be able to assist districts with the local sponsor's share of the cost. He also reported that he's working with DOW on a video about dam inspections.

Adjourn: As the meeting was not called to order, it could not be adjourned.