

# MEETING MINUTES

Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission  
Crowne Plaza, Louisville KY and via Zoom  
Monday, July 27, 2026 | 1:30 PM

## SWCC Members

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Danny Shipley (Chair) | Area 3 |
| Don Overbey           | Area 1 |
| Jeff Rice             | Area 2 |
| Bill Harned           | Area 4 |
| Eddie Monroe          | Area 5 |
| Keith Tingle          | Area 6 |
| Anne Bays             | Area 7 |
| Lenville Martin       | Area 8 |
| Denise Hoffman        | Area 9 |

## Other Attendees

Jay Nelson, Division of Conservation  
Johnna McHugh, Division of Conservation  
James Taylor, Floyd County Conservation District  
Blake Bratcher, Division of Conservation (intern)  
Randy McCallon, Calloway County Conservation District  
Steve Coleman, Franklin County Conservation District (KACD)  
Ted Jessup, Muhlenberg County Conservation District (KACD)  
Bailey Siry-Crowder, Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy  
Sarah Charles, Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy  
Tammy McCallon, Calloway County Conservation District  
Scotty Parsons, Christian County Conservation District  
David Wayne, Farm Service Agency

## Call to Order

Chairman Danny Shipley called the meeting to order. Attendees introduced themselves and their organizational affiliations. The meeting was conducted in a hybrid format, with some members attending in person and others joining via Zoom.

## Oath of Office

Johnna McHugh administered the oath of office to Don Overbey, Danny Shipley, and Keith Tingle, who were reappointed to represent Areas 1, 3, and 6, respectively. The oath was read aloud, and members present agreed to and signed it; a copy will be emailed after the meeting for signature by any member who could not sign in person.

## Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the May 18, 2026, SWCC meeting were presented for approval. A motion to approve was made by Bill Harned and seconded by Jeff Rice. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

## Agency Reports

### Division of Conservation: Jay Nelson and Johnna McHugh

- The Division will have a booth at the Kentucky State Fair on Saturday, August 29. The Cabinet is assigning each division its own date this year rather than a single shared booth; the Division will show outreach videos (including a dam inspection video and a KACD video) throughout the day.
- The Kentucky Nutrient Management Planning Tool (housed with UK Extension) needs significant updating. Staff have concluded the fix is beyond current capacity and would require a dedicated full-time position for roughly a year; the Division will continue discussions with Cooperative Extension and the Division of Water on next steps.
- All previously approved state assistance contracts for Emergency Watershed Project (EWP) dam repairs have been fully executed; districts may now proceed with funded projects.
- Outreach continues to conservation districts, including the Salt Lick Creek Watershed Conservation District (Bath and Menifee counties), which has been under a long-running enforcement action after most of its board members left or passed away. Remaining local leadership and district boards have made good progress recruiting new directors, and a functioning board is expected soon.
- Staffing: the Division has been operating with roughly 23–25% of field/office positions vacant, including one employee on FMLA leave for 4–5 months. A candidate has been selected for the Northern Kentucky field representative position; the application period for the Northeast Kentucky position has closed and interviews will follow.
- Budget: the Division faces a 4% cut in the current fiscal year and an additional 7% cut in the next fiscal year.
- The statewide Ag Water Quality Plan is being updated (link/hyperlink corrections and updates to livestock BMPs and stream/water practices). Districts will be notified once the update is finalized so they can plan for fall state cost-share.
- Drought Mitigation Team update: Casey County/Lake Liberty had risen about half a foot as of the prior Friday and the county has begun pumping from the Green River; Campton/Wolfe County had roughly 180 days of water supply remaining if no rain fell; Lincoln County (Harris Lake and Rice Lake) had roughly 120 days remaining. Muhlenberg, Webster, and Harlan counties are being monitored but are less critical.
- Division leadership noted a productive recent meeting between KACD, the Cabinet Secretary, and the Commissioner. A well-attended town hall meeting was held in far west Kentucky by DOC management; additional regional town halls are planned.
- The Division's partnership with the Ohio Division of Soil and Water Conservation continues; a planned return meeting/farm tour had to be rescheduled due to weather and will likely be held in about a month.
- The Jim Claypool Art and Conservation Writing contest is themed “Ground Rules: The Story Beneath Your Feet” (soil) this year and will be released September 1 on the Division and Farm Bureau websites.
- Preliminary Districts in Good Standing (DIGS) results were sent to the Commission earlier in the month. A motion was made by Denise Hoffman and seconded by Anne Bays to move the annual Districts in Good Standing due date from July 5 to July 15, giving districts more time after end-of-June reporting while still allowing time for review and appeals before September. Motion carried unanimously.
- Kentucky (Gatton Academy) placed 10th at the international Envirothon competition last week, the highest finish by a Kentucky team on record.

### Farm Service Agency (FSA): David Wayne

- FSA is implementing provisions of the recently passed federal tax and spending legislation (referred to in the meeting by its working title, the “One Big Beautiful Bill”), including national training in the coming weeks.
- Changes affecting Kentucky include reducing the drought-severity trigger period for the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) from 8 weeks to 4 weeks of D2 (severe) drought, intended to get payments to livestock producers more quickly.
- Minor adjustments were made to the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) relating to predation of federally protected species (noted locally as affecting whooping crane-related situations) and to payment calculations.
- Reference prices for grain-based programs were updated and payment-trigger calculations increased, intended to help producers affected by both drought and price volatility.
- FSA is hiring for several key positions statewide, including a loan manager in west Kentucky and loan support staff in east and central Kentucky; county office program analyst/CED hiring is expected to open in late August/early September.
- FSA is consolidating multiple internal farm-record databases into a single system (“one farmer, one file”) to streamline producer interactions across programs.
- Jeff Rice thanked FSA staff in Daviess and Union counties for their help explaining the new programs to producers; Mr. Wayne acknowledged that the volume of new programs and acronyms has been confusing for producers.

### Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy: Sarah Charles

- The office completed its 25th-anniversary observance in June with a joint board meeting and panel featuring original board members, including former State Senator/Representative Robin Webb, who helped draft the enabling legislation (House Bill 611).
- Three summer interns worked on success-story interviews with county conservation districts for the upcoming annual report; at least two or three district interviews were completed and will appear in this year's report.
- Johnna McHugh asked for clarification that, unlike state cost-share, CAIP applications do not require an updated Ag Water Quality Plan to qualify, though a more current plan earns additional application points. Ms. Charles confirmed this is correct.

### Correspondence

- Carter County — request to transfer \$1,000 in unspent local environmental/cost-share grant funds from the soil/manure-testing portion to the chemical storage and disposal portion. DOC staff confirmed this transfer is allowable within local cost-share rules. A motion was made by Lenville Martin and seconded by Jeff Rice to approve the transfer. Motion carried unanimously.
- Menifee County – request to make recent KACo training about procurement for counties and special purpose governmental entities a qualifying event for incentive per diem. Discussion included encouraging district boards to seek additional training opportunities rather than relying on DOC and KACD for training. A motion was made by Keith Tingle and seconded by Lenville Martin to approve it as a qualifying event. Motion carried unanimously.

## Equipment Loan Program

- The program began the year with \$1,681,963.13. Payments of \$5,064.11 have been received. No loans have been made yet this year, leaving a current balance of \$1,687,027.24. Program appropriations and historical transfers have not changed since 2020. Eddie Monroe moved to approve the report as presented, and Lenville Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Nicholas County Conservation District — regarding a \$175,000 infrastructure loan approved April 18, 2022, for a new district office building, on which the Commission has seen no evidence of progress: the Commission previously asked staff to consult legal counsel on options. A draft letter (to be signed by the Commission Chair) was presented asking the district to confirm its intentions and timeline, or to notify the Commission so the approval can be cancelled, with a response requested before the September meeting. A motion was made by Jeff Rice and seconded by Bill Harned to send the letter. Motion carried unanimously.
- Barren County Conservation District — new loan application received July 13. The district is requesting to finance a Hay Buster no-till drill costing \$36,900, replacing one of its existing drills. Under a Division of Water partnership, the Division of Water will cover the required one-third down payment (\$12,300). After a \$18,900 trade-in credit, the requested loan amount is \$5,700 over 3 years (\$158.33/month). A motion was made by Denise Hoffman and seconded by Eddie Monroe to approve the Barren County loan. Motion carried unanimously.

## Vacancy Petitions

The following vacancy petitions were presented for approval:

- Adair County — Timothy Blake Cowan, to fill the unexpired term of Larry Burton
- Allen County — David Toe, to fill the unexpired term of Tommy Long
- Calloway County — Robert Urin, to fill the unexpired term of Mark Wilson (multiple petitions were received for this seat)
- Fayette County — David Tucker III, to fill the unexpired term of Jeremy Falk
- Perry County — Christopher Osborne, to fill the unexpired term of Chuck Mullins
- Wayne County — Randy Cowan, to fill the unexpired term of Edward Cushman

A motion was made by Keith Tingle and seconded by Anne Bays to approve all vacancy petitions. Motion carried unanimously.

## Incentive Per Diem Requests

The following incentive per diem were presented for approval:

### Allen County

1. Randy Harston – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Joe Young – KACD convention, area 3 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Danny Shipley – KACD convention, area 3 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Michael Vick – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Danny Stinson – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Marcus Landers – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Boone County

1. Debra Waller – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Casey Moll – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Breckinridge County

1. Pat Henderson – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Steven Hinton – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. James Lee Burks – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Eddie Dyer – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Kenny Hinton – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Marion French – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
7. AJ Critchelow – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Bullitt County

1. Bill Harned – KACD convention, area 4 meeting, DOC virtual training
2. Leon Dawson – Area 4 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Norman Philpot – Area 4 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Hyte Rouse IV – Area 4 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Don Samuels – Area 4 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Lewis Skidmore – Area 4 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Calloway County

1. Randy McCallon – KACD convention, area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Bobby Hill – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Marty Carraway – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Eddie Workman – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Don Overbey – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Steve Carraway – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Carlisle County

1. Bobby Toon – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Brent Martin – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Ross Martin – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Ben Beasley – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Carroll County

1. David Rowlett – KACD convention, area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD annual meeting, NACD SE regional meeting, DOC virtual training
2. Joe Raisor – KACD convention, area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD SE regional meeting, DOC virtual training
3. Billie Hotfil – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Bobby Gibson – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Kim New – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Gail Becraft – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
7. Mike Kelley – KACD convention, area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD SE regional meeting, DOC virtual training

#### Carter County

1. Barry Shaffer – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Will Davis – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Tracy Prichard – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Mike Sexton – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. John Buck – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Herbie Suttles – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

7. Brandon LaVoie – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Clay County

1. Ronald Bowling – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Jeanette Gregory – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Darrell McKeehan – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Jocelyn Wolfe – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Billy Robinson – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. James Combs – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
7. Tim Lunsford – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Clinton County

1. James Gregory Abston – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Kathy Conner – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Michial Conner – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Roger Beard – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Steve Young – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Fleming County

1. Steve Brown – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Trippy Clark – Area 8 meeting, 7 ten-minute trainings, local working group meeting

#### Floyd County

1. Lenville Martin – KACD convention, area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD annual meeting
2. Daniel Branson – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Ernie Tackett – KACD convention, area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Bert Layne – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Clyde Doug DeRossett – KACD convention, area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD annual meeting
6. James Taylor – KACD convention, area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
7. Jeff Hall – KACD convention, area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Franklin County

1. Michael Todd Akers – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Steve Coleman – KACD convention, area 6 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD annual meeting, NACD SE regional meeting, DOC virtual training
3. Susan Wise – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Eddie Harrod – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Mike Johnson – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. John Mucci – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings
7. Charlotte Quarles – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Grant County

1. Joseph Clemons – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Tim Epperson – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Travis Woodyard – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Tisha Woodyard – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Tim Henry – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
6. Ronnie Gabbert – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
7. Jerry Martin – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Graves County

1. Adam Bell – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Phil Holloway – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Susie Fenwick – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

4. Nathaniel Rose – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Greg Smith – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Jackson County

1. Howard Williams – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Tim Wilson – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Tony Boggs – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Jimmy Wells – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Eddie Madden – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Brenda Truett – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
7. Chris Boggs – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Jessamine County

1. Kay DeMoss – Area 6 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Doug Marshall – Area 6 meeting, 7 ten-minute trainings, local working group meeting
3. Ronald Ray – Area 6 meeting, 7 ten-minute trainings, local working group meeting

#### Johnson County

1. Robert Blanton – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Tyler Ferguson – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Kevin Pelphrey – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Jack Holbrook – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Keith Patrick – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Kirby Castle – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
7. Vessie Workman – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Knox County

1. Jim Stewart III – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Cloyce Hinkle – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Tommy Bargo – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Dexter Smith – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Jonathan Wells – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. John Bays – KACD convention, Area 7 meeting, DOC virtual training
7. Shirley Merida – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Lawrence County

1. Stuart Blevins – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Bruce Short – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Mikel Compton – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. David McGuire – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Norma Caudill – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Lee County

1. George Marshall – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Charles Lynn Cooper – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. David Jennings – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Orville Bennett – KACD convention, area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Eddie Cundiff – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Jonathan Shuler – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
7. Sandra Gay – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Leslie County

1. Frank Baker – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Mary Kilburn – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Laura Sizemore – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Ronnie Gay – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

5. Logan Sizemore – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Tommy Roberts – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Marion County

1. Joe Bernard Luckett – KACD convention, area 4 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD SE regional meeting, DOC virtual training
2. Donnie Veatch – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Steve Downs – KACD convention, area 4 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Joe Paul Mattingly – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Roger Hardin – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Larry Jones – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
7. Tommy Glasscock – KACD convention, DOC virtual training

#### Marshall County

1. Kyle O'Dell – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Jeff Futrell – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Eugina Seibert – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Taylor Hendley – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Lauren Gibson – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Mason County

1. Anthony Wenz, Jr. – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Brandon Moran – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Curtis Rosser – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Janice Barnett-Gifford – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Kathryn Felice - Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### McCracken County

1. Wayne Elliott – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Erick Harris – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Dewain Gipson – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC training
4. Stephen Wurth – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Josh Goodwin – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC training
6. Michael Seaton – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
7. Robie Scheer – Area 1 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### McCreary County

1. Earl Kidd – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. David Jones – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Vernon Gilreath – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Menifee County

1. Jacob Lawson – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Penni Combs – 8 ten-minute trainings, KACo training
3. Mary Frances Smallwood – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Charlene Smallwood – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Barbara Mullins – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Ralph Collinsworth – Area 8 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
7. Kevan Lane – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Muhlenberg County

1. Wallace Slinker – KACD convention, area 2 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Ted Jessup – KACD convention, area 2 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD annual meeting, NACD SE regional meeting
3. Denise Brown – Area 2 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

4. Terry Benton – KACD convention, area 2 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Mary Jane Amos – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Nelson County

1. Greg Catlett – KACD convention, area 4 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Jay Filiatreau – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Danny Caldwell – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Katie Houghlin – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Craig Ice – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Kathy Settles – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
7. William Lutz – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Ohio County

1. Darren Luttrell – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Cletus Greer – Area 2 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Jason Anderson – Area 2 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Michael Newman – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Garry Igleheart – KACD convention, 7 ten-minute trainings, work group meeting

#### Owen County

1. John Russell New – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Randy Bishop – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Kyle Jacobs – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Cody Anderson – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Danny Humphries – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
6. Richard Duvall – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Owsley County

1. Holly Wilder – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Gary McIntosh – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Dustin Gumm – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC training
4. Jason Minter – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC training
5. James Cornett – Area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
6. Denise Hoffman – KACD convention, area 9 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
7. Eugene Reed, Jr. – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC training

#### Pendleton County

1. Mark Gosney – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Martha Gosney – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Maxie Kordes – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Larry Miller – Area 5 meeting, 7 ten-minute trainings, work group meeting, DOC virtual training
5. Edwin Monroe – Area 5 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Pulaski County

1. Rodney Dick – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
2. Timothy Tarter – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Marty Wilson – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Lyndon Woods – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Will Bingham – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
6. Wes Hargis – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
7. Paul Merrick – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Rockcastle County

1. Mark Dyehouse – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings

2. James Ballinger – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Jerry Hasty – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Barry Hurst – KACD convention, area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Alvin Pigg – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
6. Tim Mink – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings
7. Brenda Parsons – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Russell County

1. Mark Antle – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Darrell Selby – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Shane Roy – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Sandra Voils – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Scott County

1. Keith Tingle – KACD convention, area 6 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

#### Taylor County

1. Doug Underwood – KACD convention, area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. David Cowherd – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. William Wallace Evans – KACD convention, area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Sheila Thomas – Area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Nevin Price – KACD convention, area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
6. Sandra Hinton – Area 7 meeting, DOC virtual training

#### Wayne County

1. Jason Gregory – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Jerry Sloan – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Karen Floyd – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
4. Wesley Elam – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
5. Ann Margaret Hughes – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
6. Travis Lewis – 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training

#### Whitley County

1. Anne Bays – KACD convention, area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
2. Brian Prewitt – KACD convention, 8 ten-minute trainings, DOC virtual training
3. Harold Prewitt – KACD convention, area 7 meeting, DOC virtual training
4. Owen Glen Croley – KACD convention, area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Jack Smith – KACD convention, area 7 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings, NACD annual meeting

#### Woodford County

1. Michael Duckworth – Area 6 meeting, 7 ten-minute trainings, work group meeting
2. Peggy Carter Seal – Area 6 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
3. Donald Mitchell – Area 6 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
4. Robert Richardson – Area 6 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
5. Curtis Congleton – Area 6 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings
6. Brad Carmickle – Area 6 meeting, 8 ten-minute trainings

A motion was made by Denise Hoffman and seconded by Lenville Martin to approve all vacancy petitions. Motion carried unanimously.

## Agricultural Districts

### Program Summary (Cumulative)

- Total petitions/amendments received: 1,229 petitions or amendments received from 83 counties, totaling 648,727.08 acres
- Total acres withdrawn from ag districts overall: 200,996.77
- Total ag districts certified: 606 ag districts certified in 80 counties, totaling 442,117.40 acres,
- Petitions/portions denied: 47 for 6,812.02 acres

### New Petitions and Amendments: 5

- Bullitt County — 015-15  
A motion was made by Keith Tingle and seconded by Jeff Rice to approve the petition. Motion carried unanimously.
- Caldwell County — 017-02  
A motion was made by Jeff Rice and seconded by Lenville Martin to approve. Motion carried unanimously.
- Fleming County — 035-34  
A motion was made by Bill Harned and seconded by Denise Hoffman to approve. Motion carried unanimously.
- Fleming County — 035-35  
A motion was made by Keith Tingle and seconded by Bill Harned to approve. Motion carried unanimously.
- Gallatin County — 039-09  
A motion was made by Anne Bays and seconded by Jeff Rice to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

### Five-Year Recertifications

Twenty-three recertifications totaling 11,225.32 acres were presented.

- Anderson (003-05)
- Barren (005-04)
- Barren (005-07)
- Campbell (019-05)
- Campbell (019-14)
- Fleming (035-10)
- Fleming (035-16)
- Fleming (035-18)
- Fleming (035-19)
- Fleming (035-23)
- Fleming (035-25)
- Fleming (035-27)
- Jackson (055-03)
- Jackson (055-04)
- Jackson (055-07)

- Kenton (059-07)
- Knox (061-02)
- Marshall (079-01)
- Meade (082-07)
- Scott (105-02)
- Scott (105-04)
- Scott (105-05)
- Scott (105-08)

A motion was made by Bill Harned and seconded by Jeff Rice to approve all recertifications. Motion carried unanimously.

## Old Business

No old business was presented.

## New Business

### State Cost-Share Priority Points for Water-Conservation Practices

Jay Nelson described ongoing coordination with the Division of Water to encourage water-conservation practices (e.g., guttering and storage tanks) that could provide a local water supply during future droughts. Five priority watersheds have been identified and will be added to the list of watersheds that receive extra points in the state cost share system. The Commission was asked to authorize an increase in state cost-share application points for the related conservation practices. A motion was made by Keith Tingle and seconded Lenville Martin to increase the points for these practices. Motion carried unanimously.

Extended discussion followed regarding flooding and drought resilience more broadly. Members discussed the limits of stream/creek-clearing as a flood strategy, the importance of upstream water retention (wetlands, farm ponds, irrigation infrastructure), and the role conservation districts and watershed conservancy districts are intended to play under existing statute — noting that some communities are misinterpreting the watershed conservancy district statute as granting authority it does not provide. Members agreed that conservation practices at the farm level, applied broadly, are a more sustainable long-term approach than large-scale remediation after flood events.

### Salt Lick Creek Watershed Conservation District — EWP Eligibility

Jay Nelson reported that the Salt Lick Creek Watershed Conservation District has been added by NRCS to the list of April 2025 flood-damaged sites eligible for Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) assistance. Because the Commission's assistance program had an application cutoff date before this addition occurred, Mr. Nelson asked the Commission to authorize adding this district's applications despite the missed deadline; the Cabinet has confirmed it is agreeable, and the amount involved is relatively small. A motion was made by Lenville Martin and seconded by Denise Hoffman to add the district's applications. Motion carried unanimously.

## Agricultural Water Quality Authority Nominations

Terms for four Agricultural Water Quality Authority seats expire October 1: three Agriculture-At-Large seats and one Environmental Group seat.

For the three Ag-At-Large seats, nominees discussed included Joseph Sisk (incumbent Vice Chair, Kentucky Corn Growers Association, Christian County), Wes Poole (nominated by both the Kentucky Poultry Producers and the Kentucky Corn Growers Association, Daviess County), Matt Gajdzik (nominated by the Kentucky Soybean Association, Henry County), and Stacey Burkhardt (Kentucky Beef Network, Trimble County). A motion was made by Keith Tingle and seconded by Bill Harned to forward all four names to the Governor's office for selection. Motion carried unanimously.

For the single Environmental Group seat, at least three names must be submitted by the Commission. Nominees were Nick Hart (Kentucky Waterways Alliance), Lee Anne Bledsoe (Crawford Hydrology Lab), and Amy Sohner (Bluegrass Greensource). A motion was made by Bill Harned and seconded by Keith Tingle to submit these nominees to the Governor's office. Motion carried unanimously.

## Resolutions Committee Report

Steve Coleman, representing KACD's Resolutions Committee, updated the Commission on a resolution originating from Franklin County concerning direct-aid funding. The resolution asks the Commission to set up a system in which district with sufficient funding can voluntarily return a portion of their direct aid funds to be distributed to lower funded districts.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Lenville Martin and seconded by Jeff Rice to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2026.