

**Council for Burley Tobacco Minutes**  
**October 24, 2017**

Board Members Present: Barry Bush, David Chappell, Greg Harris, Hampton Henton, Bob James, Rod Kuegel, Al Pedigo, Scott Travis, Eddie Warren, Darrell Varner, and Shane Wiseman.

President Greg Harris called the meeting to order and welcomed the group.

Harris introduced Keith Rogers from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Rogers gave an update on the status of the Kentucky Agriculture Board appointments. He asked the Council to attend the upcoming KAB meeting and give a Check-off Report to the board.

The board discussed the need for an audit of the collection of the check-off funds and asked Rogers for the process. Rogers recommended the board work to identify potential offenders who are not paying check-off funds, and take the lists along with a request to the Kentucky Agriculture Board.

Harris welcomed the industry representatives from Altria and Hail & Cotton. The board and guests held a discussion on the industry.

Harris called for a closed session with the representatives from Altria. Harris opened the meeting for all guests.

Harris presented the minutes from the July meeting. A motion was made by David Chappell and seconded by Shane Wiseman to approve the minutes as read. Motion passed.

Hampton Henton presented the Council's Financial Update. A motion was made by Scott Travis and seconded by Shane Wiseman to accept the Financial Update as presented. Motion passed. Financial Update is on file.

A motion was made by Scott Travis and seconded by Shane Wiseman to make the annual payment of the 40% of check-off funds to the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association. Motion passed.

Harris introduced Alan Zumstein to give the audit report for the 2014-2016 Fiscal Years. A motion was made by Rod Kuegel and seconded by Al Pedigo to accept the audit as presented. Motion passed.

Al Pedigo gave an update on recent GAP meetings. The board discussed the certification issue and upcoming GAP trainings.

The board discussed the ongoing issues with insurance in the tobacco industry. Harris presented the RMA proposal for the draft burley tobacco quality adjustment Special Provisions of Insurance statement for 2018. A motion was made to support the proposal by RMA and seconded by Darrell Varner. Motion passed with dissent from Hampton Henton and Barry Bush.

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Daniel Green gave an update on the ITGA meeting in Greece.

Barry Bush and Daniel Green gave an update from Burley Stabilization. Stabilization will start receiving tobacco on November 13.

Eddie Warren gave an update from Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association. Warren noted that the Association will be awarding a few contracts this year for young and beginning farmers.

Scott Travis gave an update from Kentucky Farm Bureau. Scott noted that at the agriculture meeting in Hopkinsville there was a good discussion on tobacco issues.

Scott Travis gave an update from the Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center Board.

The Council board discussed that the annual meeting which will take place on January 12, 2018 at the Lexington Convention Center in conjunction with the Tobacco Expo.

Motion was made by Shane Wiseman and seconded by David Chappell to adjourn. Motion passed without dissent.

*Guests: Keith Rogers, KDA; Daniel Green, BSC; Will Snell, UK; Steve Pratt, Burley Coop; Pat Raines, Burley Coop; and Bob Pearce, UK; Alan Zumstein; Brad Price, Hail & Cotton; Bill Anderson, Hail & Cotton; Linwood Sykes, Altria; Mickey Overbey, Altria; and Frank Geovannello, Altria.*