

**Minutes from the Council for Burley Tobacco meeting
March 21, 2013**

President Todd Clark called the meeting to order.

David Beck, Kentucky Farm Bureau, gave the invocation.

Vice President Danny Collins called roll and quorum was in attendance.

Secretary/Treasurer Rod Kuegel gave the Council's Financial Report (see attached) and an update on the 2012-2013 Check-off Fund (see attached).

The group had extensive discussion on the role of the Council in following up on the check-off payments.

Secretary/Treasurer Rod Kuegel presented the minutes from the July 2012 meeting. Motion was made by Ken Kisler and seconded by Hampton Henton to approve minutes from the July 2012 meeting.

Motion passed.

Orlando Chambers gave an update for the Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center. Orlando noted that researchers had asked if the Council would be funding research proposals in the future.

Clark asked for copies of the Council's proposed funding application be passed to members for review. Discussion was held on the need to provide benefit to the farmers in funded proposals. Donald Mitchell requested a change in the application to require that grant recipients provide final reports both verbally and written when project was completed.

Motion was made by Rod Kuegel and seconded by Danny Collins to approve application with discussed changes.

Motion passed.

Mark Haney, Kentucky Farm Bureau, gave an update on federal issues impacting the burley industry including immigration reform. Scott Travis gave an update on the American Farm Bureau tobacco advisory committee issues. Extensive discussion was had on the issue of insurance fraud in regards to tobacco production. The Group also discussed issues related to immigration reform and H2A.

Motion was made by Rod Kuegel and seconded by Danny Collins to have administrative assistant inquire about membership in the Ag Workforce Coalition and if no membership fee is required have Council join as a member.

Motion passed. Henton abstained.

Eddie Warren, Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association, introduced Pat Raines the new President of the BTGCA. Raines gave an update on the BTGCA burley purchases for the season.

Clark introduced proposed bylaw changes. Extensive discussion was had on the bylaws. Motion was made by Hampton Henton and seconded by Danny Collins to adopt the bylaws as proposed.

Motion was made by Eddie Warren and seconded by Danny Collins to amend motion by changing Article V: Section 7: Board Meetings to read:

In addition to the meetings mentioned above, regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held (monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually) or at such times and at such place as the Board may determine.

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Hampton Henton and seconded by Rod Kuegel to amend amended motion by changing Article V: Section 2: Composition to read:

The Council shall have a board of directors of eleven (11) members. Each director shall be a member of the Council in good standing. The general membership of the Council shall be represented on the Board by the following:

- 1. Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation – two representatives (2)*
- 2. Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association – two representative (2)*
- 3. Burley Stabilization Committee representative*
- 4. Six (6) burley tobacco producers*

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Donald Mitchell and seconded by Danny Collins to amend amended motion to change Article III: Members to read as follows:

All burley tobacco producers are eligible for membership in the Council for Burley Tobacco. In addition, established organizations and associations constituted with a membership with a direct interest and concern in burley tobacco production are eligible for membership, but the representatives for these organizations and associations must be active burley tobacco producers or the President of the organization or association. Membership to the Council is subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Danny Collins and seconded by Scott Travis to amend amended motion to change Article III: Membership to add Section 2:

Non-voting advisory membership may be given to other such individuals and organizations as determined by the Board of Directors.

Motion passed with one dissent.

Question was called on original motion with approved amendments.

Motion passed.

Clark noted that Hampton Henton has been selected to serve as a grower representative, replacing Arnold Hamm, on the Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee.

Clark gave an update on the Tobacco Insurance Fraud meeting and highlighted the poster developed to raise awareness for the program.

Clark presented the Burley Cooperative request to partner of the Tobacco Merchants Association membership. Motion was made by Danny Collins and seconded by Donald Mitchell for the Council to pay half the membership dues if Coop votes to continue the partnership.

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Rod Kuegel and seconded by Hampton Henton to empower the Council President to hire an individual to take Tobacco Insurance Fraud posters to warehouse and other locations across the state at the beginning of the 2013-2014 season.

Motion passed.

Clark announced the following individuals will continue to serve on the Nominating Committee: Rod Kuegel, Hoppy Henton, and William Snell. This committee will bring forth recommendations for the six "At-Large Grower" board positions at the next meeting.

Discussion was held as to the next date of the next meeting.

Motion was made by Mark Haney and seconded by Danny Collins to hold the next meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 10:00am.

Motion was made by Scott Travis and seconded by Ken Kisler that the Council start the application process by promote the approved application for funding and begin receiving applications for funding.

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned.