

Kentucky Environmental Education Council (KEEC) Council Meeting Minutes February 7, 2024

Meeting Location: Mayo-Underwood Building, Room 412, 500 Mero St., Frankfort, KY, and virtual

Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m. Eastern

Council Members in Attendance: Chair Ryan Green, Vice Chair Sarah Cummins, Ben Allen, Tresine Logsdon, Brad Mitzelfelt, Ashley Wilmes

Absent Members: Katie Dailinger, Dr. Hugh Henry

Staff in Attendance: Wesley Bullock, Ashley Mike, Willa Dawn Bayne, Kasey Cheung

Others in Attendance:

- A. Introduction
 - 1. The meeting was called to order by R. Green at 1:02 PM. W. Bullock confirmed that public notice of the council meeting was given, as required by open meetings law.
 - 2. Quorum. Of the eight council members, five were present. Council operating policies require greater than 50%, so the number of quorum was met.
 - Action. Motion to approve 2023 Fall Council Meeting Minutes: At 1:04 PM, B. Allen moved to approve the minutes of the Fall 2023 Council Meeting. B. Mitzelfelt seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion passed.
 - 4. Travel forms. W. Bullock provided the process for council members to be reimbursed for travel.
- B. Council Leadership
 - 1. Update: Open Records Requests. W. Bullock updated the council on the cabinet's response to agency open records requests.
 - 2. Update: Individual council member meetings. W. Bullock reported on the meetings held with individual council members since the last council meeting.
 - 3. Update: Interagency Subcommittee on Environmental Education. W. Bullock reviewed the January 2024 meeting of the Interagency Subcommittee on Environmental Education and the efforts to coordinate environmental education in state agencies.
 - 4. Update: Interim Strategic Plan. W. Bullock and A. Mike reported on agency progress on the interim strategic plan and updates made to the plan. A. Mike reported on the progress of the EELCorps program, including developing site and member systems. W. Bullock invited council members to attend the February 23-24 workshop of the Professional Environmental Educator Certification course at Nazareth Retreat Center. He reported that two schools—Johnson Elementary in Ft. Thomas and Arlington Elementary in Fayette County—will be the

Kentucky nominees for the US Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools award in 2024. W. Bullock also reported on agency outreach efforts, including a new email system that will be used through the cabinet. He also provided initial information about plans for the 2025 Master Plan and Survey, including the benefits to completing the survey before June 30, 2024.

C. Budget

- 1. Update: 2024-26 biennial budget. W. Bullock reported on the potential agency impact of the proposed House budget.
- 2. Update: Quarterly budget report and projections. W. Bullock reported on the budget for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.
- 3. Update: AmeriCorps grant budget. W. Bullock reported on the need to expend agency restricted funds to meet the match requirement of the AmeriCorps grant.
- D. Council meeting adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: At 2:00 PM, B. Allen moved to adjourn. T. Logsdon. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.