



Kentucky Environmental Education Council
Spring Council Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2025

Meeting Location: Fayette County Public Schools, Ambrose Building, 128 Walton Ave, Lexington, Kentucky 40508, and virtual

Meeting Time: 4:00 p.m. Eastern

Council Members in Attendance: Chair Ryan Green, Tresine Logsdon, Ben Allen, Ashley Wilmes

Absent Members: Vice Chair Sarah Cummins, Katie Dailinger, Brad Mitzelfelt, Dr. Hugh Henry

Staff in Attendance: Wesley Bullock, Risa Yost, Ashley Mike, Willa Dawn Bayne, Abigail Way

Others in Attendance: Secretary Jamie Link

A. Introduction

1. The meeting was called to order by R. Green at 4:02 PM.
2. Quorum. With less than five council members in attendance, quorum is not met.
3. W. Bullock will send council members their travel forms.

B. Agency Initiatives

1. Update: Environmental Education Leadership Corps. W. Bullock and A. Mike updated council members on their understanding of the impact of recent AmeriCorps grant cuts following the Executive Order and multi-state lawsuit challenging the cuts. W. Bullock will offer a statement as a witness as a part of the lawsuit, headed up by Maryland's Attorney General. The EELCorps program staff and members will continue with programming, awaiting further instructions from Serve Kentucky.
2. Update: US Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools. W. Bullock explained that the operations of this federal program have been halted, putting an indefinite end to the Kentucky Green Ribbon School Awards.
3. Update: Grants and Potential Programs. R. Yost received a confirmation letter from the Division of Water's Nonpoint Source Team Supervisor that the Freshwater Snorkeling project has been approved for full funding under the 2025 Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grant. Efforts toward EPA review and contract development will follow.
4. Update: KEEC EELCorps Member. KEEC EELCorps member, A. Way updated the council on both the 2025 Project Curriculum Training and the projects she is working on in cooperation with other agencies and organizations.
5. Update: Professional Environmental Educator Certification. R. Yost announced the details for the 2024-25 graduation ceremony honoring 20 graduates, pending final assessments and 5 Masters. Applications for the 2025-26 course year are currently being accepted. T. Logsdon requested to know how many Masters are current, R. Yost answered 63.

6. Update: Professional Environmental Educator Certification. R. Yost gave an update on the halfway mark of the 2024-25 PEEC course, the reunion held at the KAEE conference, and 2024 renewals.
7. Update: Communications. R. Yost introduced a new social media plan and reported approval processes are running smoothly.

C. Agency Leadership

1. Update: Hiring of Environmental Education Specialist. W. Bullock announced the hiring of R. Yost.

D. Budget

1. Update: Quarterly budget report. W. Bullock gave a thorough update on the budget including long-term management of Pride funds. R. Green asked Secretary J. Link about fiscal management within the cabinet to which Secretary J. Link replied that the upcoming budget session takes priority, but the cabinet will meet with agencies to prepare for contingencies. W. Bullock emphasized monthly cabinet meetings have been helpful and the agency is well supported by cabinet members.

- E. Council Meeting Adjournment. R. Green asked if there were any other questions and announced the next meeting. W. Bullock confirmed. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.