

# Shell proclaims May as Beef Month in Kentucky

**BY CADIZ RECORD STAFF**

Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell has proclaimed May as Beef Month in Kentucky, recognizing the state’s cattle producers and their contributions to agriculture.

“With 869,000 head of beef cattle in the Commonwealth, Kentucky remains the state with the largest beef inventory east of the Mississippi River,” Shell said in a news release. “We retain that title with the hard work of our cattle farmers. I ask that Kentuckians join me in recognizing their effort, diligence, and perseverance.”

Kentucky ranks 14th nationally in total cattle inventory and eighth for beef cattle. The state is home to 31,060 beef cattle producers, part of Kentucky’s 69,400 total farms, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Kelly Baird, Kentucky Beef Council director of commu-

nications and events, emphasized the importance of the recognition. “May is Beef Month — a time to honor the hardworking Kentucky beef producers dedicated to bringing high-quality beef to your table,” Baird said in the release. “Through every challenge, our beef producers work tirelessly to support our communities, our economy, and our Commonwealth.”

Despite the recognition, cattle inventory numbers have declined. The January 2025 count shows all cattle inventory down 2% from 2024, with beef cattle numbers seeing a larger drop. Kentucky’s decline reflects a national trend, as the U.S. beef cattle inventory hit a 64-year low this year due to low calf prices, high costs, and widespread drought.

However, the lower inventory has driven up market demand and prices for farmers. In 2024,



Provided

**Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell, center, stands with beef industry personnel and producers as he celebrates May as Beef Month in Kentucky at The Yards in Lexington on Monday. The Yards, in the Blue Grass Regional Stockyards Marketplace, is an education center focusing on science and practices of the beef industry.**

gross receipts from cattle production exceeded \$1 billion, ranking it among the top five Kentucky commodities. State agricultural receipts for 2025 are expected to remain strong, potentially nearing the record \$8.3 billion set in 2023.

The top five Kentucky counties for number of beef cattle are Barren, Pulaski, Madison, Breckinridge, and Bourbon

## FEE

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charged by the funeral home and appears on the funeral home bill.

“The funeral home, in turn, sends that to the cemetery, will send it to the city of Cadiz,” Stallons explained during the council meeting.

Cadiz City Attorney Allen Wilson said the measure will need an amendment to the code of ordinance section regarding cemeteries, and Wilson said he will prepare that amendment.

Council Member Susie Hendricks made a motion to charge \$300 anytime the soil is disturbed at the East End Cemetery.

Council Member Susan Bryant seconded Hendricks’ motion in favor of the fee.

The measure will require two readings on the amended ordinance, meaning the fee likely will not start until July, Cadiz Mayor Todd King said.

The council also during Tuesday’s meeting approved a measure that will allow the city to move ahead with efforts to get sealed bids for materials that are needed for the rehabilitation of a raw box at the city’s sewer plant.

Public Works Director Craig Oakley noted that the materials for the project will include pumps, check valves and electrical for the raw box.

Oakley said funds for the rehabilitation have been made possible through

a reallocation of a portion of Cleaner Water Grant funds.

The grant funds were awarded to the city to help install a sewer line on the walking trail, and Oakley noted that the funds for the raw box were reallocated more than a year ago.

Funds must be spent by December of 2026.

In other business:

- Assistant Police Chief Jack Lingenfelter said the Cadiz Police Department investigated 29 cases in April, had eight arrests, answered 354 calls for service, conducted 46 traffic stops, issued 34 citations, answered nine alarm calls and handled five collisions. None of the collisions involved injuries, Lingenfelter said.
- Council Member Bob Noel, who serves on Trigg County Hospital’s board of trustees, noted that the Bostick Building is being renovated now across the street from the hospital. The building will be used for medical records and Human Resources, Noel told the council members.
- Oakley noted that crews have put up the community’s Hometown Heroes banners along Main Street and displayed flowerpots in the city in anticipation of Mother’s Day this weekend. Cemeteries have also been cleaned up.
- Council voted to extend the term of Tiffany Quarles on the Housing Authority of Cadiz.

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## TOURISM

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planned for the Trigg County Recreation

Complex hopefully will be installed this summer.

- She said tourism is working with others to pursue a grant in

support of celebrations for the country’s 250th anniversary in 2026.

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## BUDGET

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which allows us to get started earlier and efficiently,” the judge said.

Humphries also pointed to \$235,000 in debt service for the county’s spec building that he said will be paid back to the county when that facility is sold and to \$5,000 each for dispatcher training and for contract litter abatement.

The county’s animal control cost to the Christian County Animal Shelter is increasing from \$15,000 to \$17,500, the judge said.

Additionally, he noted that the amount for the University of Kentucky extension service is increasing from \$150,000 to \$175,000.

The judge-executive also noted that the costs associated with caring for roads is increasing.

“It is one of the things that we can’t ever get away from because of just the deterioration of the roads themselves (and) the bridges,” he said, observing there are lots of things that can impact the 450 miles of roads in the

county.

Humphries said the county did include \$7,000 for public safety to benefit locations that serve as warming shelters or for shelter during extreme weather events impacting the county.

The judge-executive also noted that the county manages funds for the Trigg County Senior Citizens Center that is not county money.

He said much of the \$211,000 is accruing interest in a certificate of deposit at a bank.

Of funds set aside from the American Rescue Plan Act, Humphries noted that \$487,000 is left from that money that will be dispersed either this year or next year to Pennyrite Electric for fiber that is being installed in the community.

“This fund will probably be non-existent,” he noted of making the final payment for fiber.

He said the opioid settlement funds have increased to \$228,748, with officials discussing different options for the use of those funds.

The fiscal court also on Monday approved

the following bids: Max Arnold and Sons, for conventional gasoline; Key Oil, for the ethanol blend; Key Oil, for on-road and off-road diesel; Rogers Group, rock; Marathon Oil, RS-2 oil; Rogers Group, for bituminous asphalt; and PRI Pavement for chip and seal.

In other business:

- The court approved a resolution that rescinds occupational licenses and fees that last year only produced \$1,302 from 66 different vendors.
- Magistrates also approved a resolution that adopts the Miranda Access Road located in Roaring Springs Estates as a county road.
- The fiscal court approved annual standing orders for certain recurring expenses such as payroll, utilities, loan payments and contracts.
- Magistrates approved a list of recent expenditures that totaled \$61,614.76. Among those expenses was a \$5,302.12 official training incentive for Magistrate Mike Lane.

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## RV

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Commission that has announced the hearing for the RV park.

The public hearing was on the agenda for the planning commission’s April 22 meeting and was announced in a public notice that appeared in a recent issue of The Cadiz Record.

That notice identified the purpose of the upcoming hearing as receiving information on a proposed annexation of land into the city of Cadiz to authorize an extension of the adjoining motor home park, that is, the Cadiz RV Park.

The commission initially announced a public hearing in February but canceled that hearing after the commission members were advised to do so by Attorney Stephen Underwood.

Underwood said at the time that his concern with that hearing was that there was no enactment from the Cadiz City Council that expressed the council members’ intent to annex.

The annexation matter concerns a proposal to bring 10 acres of land into the city that the owners of the community’s Cadiz RV Park want to utilize in an expansion of the local park.

The annexed property

would be zoned as B2, a commercial zoning district and the same zoning as the RV park, according to Mullen.

Mullen said individuals interested in the annexation may attend the upcoming hearing.

The secretary also noted that the planning commission’s regularly-scheduled meeting has been moved to May 13 and will follow the public hearing in the commission office adjacent to the Cadiz Renaissance Center on Jefferson Street.

The group will not meet on May 27.

In other business, the commission at its recent meeting discussed issues with signs in the city and county that Mullen said are improper and make the community look unkempt.

“We haven’t really made an attempt to regulate signs,” he said, noting it’s difficult to take them down once they are in place.

The secretary noted that the commission hopes to look at the issue moving forward.

“We need to gather a lot more information in order to proceed in a confident way,” he said.

Commissioners further discussed plans to hire an intern to work part-time for the planning commission; they hope to find a student at Murray State University with an interest in the

position, according to Mullen.

Additionally, commission member Ken Culwell was recognized by the planning commission.

Culwell recently was inducted into the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame 2025 at ceremonies at Fort Benning, Georgia.

He served in the Army for more than 30 years, including stints in Vietnam and Fort Campbell as well as other locations in the U.S. and abroad.

Mullen said Barkley Shores subdivision south of Lake Barkley Bridge has been divided into two lots instead of six, making them easier to sell.

“That’s been done and filed with the county clerk,” the secretary said.

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### SPRING BOOK SALE

John L. Street Library  
244 Main Street

May 12-17, 2025  
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