

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Thursday, January 14, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	Organizational Meeting	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Joan Majors
Room: EW11
Phone: 332-1137
email: hagri@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 14, 2016
TIME: 1:30 P.M.
PLACE: Room EW42
MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Batt
GUESTS: Laura Johnson, ISDA, Brent Olmstead, Milk Producers of Idaho

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Chairman Andrus welcomed the committee members back to the 2016 Legislative Session. He acknowledged the Secretary **Joan Majors** and Page **Austen Thomason**. He reminded the committee their meetings would be held on even days and the meetings will always be live streamed.

Chairman Andrus announced because there are relatively few rules, they will be heard by the full committee rather than sub committees. The committee as a whole will hear the Agricultural Department Rules on Wednesday, January 20, 2016. The two remaining rules will be heard on Tuesday, January 26, 2016.

Rep. Dayley requested a follow up on the results of **S 1073** legislation from the Department of Agriculture. **Chairman Andrus** agreed and asked that it be scheduled.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Wednesday, January 20, 2016

DOCKET NO.	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
02-0214-1501	Rules for Weights and Measures - Incorporation By Reference	Stacie Ybarra, Ag Program Specialist
02-0421-1501	Rules Governing Importation of Animals	Dr. Scott Leibsle, Deputy State Veterinarian
02-0429-1501	Rules Governing Trichomoniasis	Dr. Scott Leibsle, Deputy State Veterinarian
02-0602-1501	Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Commercial Feed Law	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager
02-0612-1501	Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Fertilizer Law	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager
02-0622-1501	Noxious Weed Rule	Matt Voile, Ag Section Manager
02-0625-1501	Rules Governing the Planting of Beans, Other Than <i>Phaseolus</i> Species, in Idaho	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager
02-0641-1501	Rules Pertaining to Soil and Plant Amendments	Jared Stuart, Ag Section Manager

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
 Vice Chairman Boyle
 Rep McMillan
 Rep Batt
 Rep Bell
 Rep Dayley
 Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
 Rep VanOrden
 Rep Burtenshaw
 Rep Kerby
 Rep Troy
 Rep Pence
 Rep Erpelding

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 20, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy (Agidius), Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Reps. VanOrden, and Romrell

GUESTS: Jared Stuart, ISDA; Matt Voile, ISDA; Laura Johnson, ISDA; Sean Ellis, Capitol Press; Dennis Tanikuni, Idaho Farm Bureau

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Chairman Andrus recognized **Rep. Agidius** who will be substituting for **Rep. Troy** and thanked her for accepting this responsibility.

Chairman Andrus assigned proofreaders to review the Committee minutes for this session. **Rep. Kerby** for the Majority and **Rep. Pence** for the Minority.

Chairman Andrus turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Boyle**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0214-1501: **Stacie Ybarra**, Program Specialist for the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's Weight and Measures Program presented **Docket No. 02-0214-1501**. The changes to the rule are an annual housekeeping item done to promote uniformity by keeping the codes current with new technology and uniform with surrounding states.

MOTION: **Rep. Burtenshaw** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0214-1501**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0421-1501: **Dr. Scott Leibsle**, Deputy State Veterinarian presented **Docket No. 02-0421-1501**. The proposed rule change has been recommended by the Western States Livestock Health Association to harmonize Trichomoniasis import regulations for all western states. The changes to the rule involve allowing imported bulls to be considered virgins up to eighteen (18) months of age and a Trichomoniasis test, either by culture or PCR now being valid for sixty (60) days.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0421-1501**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0429-1501: **Dr. Scott Leibsle**, Deputy State Veterinarian presented **Docket No. 02-0429-1501**. The change in the rule is to achieve consistency and harmony of regulations among all the western states. The rule change involves the validity of bulls having been tested either by culture or PCR for Trichomoniasis and changing the required test from thirty (30) days to sixty (60) days of shipment.

MOTION: **Rep. Burtenshaw** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0429-1501**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0602-1501: **Jared Stuart**, Agriculture Section Manager, presented **Docket No. 02-0602-1501**. This rule change updates the rule to reference the most recent available copy of the Association of American Feed Control Officials manual so that terms, definitions and standards are up to date for producers and regulators in the state. It also ensures that producers and distributors do not have to worry about changing standards from state to state while producing and distributing product in Idaho.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0602-1501. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0612-1501: **Jared Stuart**, Agriculture Section Manager, presented **Docket No. 02-0612-1501.** This rule change updates the rule to reference the most recently available copy of the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials manual so that terms, definitions and standards are up to date for producers and regulators in the state. This also ensures that producers and distributors do not have to worry about changing standards from state to state while producing and distributing products in Idaho.

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0612-1501. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0622-1501: **Matt Voile**, Agriculture Section Manager, presented **Docket No. 02-0622-1501.** The Purple Starthistle and Iberian Starthistle have been added to the Early Detection Rapid Response section of the noxious weed list. Both species were added due to the fact that in the nearest infestations in California and coastal Oregon, both species occur in mixed stands.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0622-1501. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0625-1501: **Jared Stuart**, Agriculture Section Manager, presented **Docket No. 02-0625-1501.** This rule does regulate an activity not regulated by the federal government. The federal government does not regulate the planting of beans other than phaseolus species. The changes were made as proposed during negotiated rule making and will make it possible for companies to import small seed lots into Idaho while avoiding seed destruction, while at the same time not compromising the safety of the Idaho agriculture from threats of plant pests and disease.

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0625-1501. Rep. Batt** invoked Rule 38 stating possible conflict of interest but that she will be voting on the motion. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0641-1501: **Jared Stuart**, Agriculture Section Manager, presented **Docket No. 02-0641-1501.** This rule regulates an activity not regulated by the federal government. The federal government does not regulate soil and plant amendments. The rule is however consistent with the national standards of the Association of Plant Food Control Officials.

MOTION: **Rep. Batt** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0641-1501. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chairman Boyle turned the gavel over to **Chairman Andrus.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Tuesday, January 26, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
DOCKET NO 46-0101-1501	Rules of the State of Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director, Veterinary Medicine
DOCKET NO 08-0501-1501	Rules Governing Seed and Plant Certification	Kent Nelson, General Council for the University of Idaho
RS23999	Veterinarians/Humane Euthanasia	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director, Veterinary Medicine
RS24000	Veterinarians Formal Discipline	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director, Veterinary Medicine
RS24170	The Aquaculture Commission Repeal	Rep. Pence

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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 Vice Chairman Boyle
 Rep McMillan
 Rep Batt
 Rep Bell
 Rep Dayley
 Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
 Rep VanOrden
 Rep Burtenshaw
 Rep Kerby
 Rep Troy
 Rep Pence
 Rep Erpelding

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 26, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Linda Lemon, Idaho Aquaculture Commission; Doug Boze, Idaho Crop Improvement Association; Jodie Ellis, Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine; Dennis Tanikuni, Idaho Farm Bureau; Dennis Stevenson, Rules Coordinator; Sean Ellis, Capitol Press; Kent E. Nelson, University of Idaho.

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to approve the minutes of Thursday, January 14, 2016 and Wednesday, January 20, 2016. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO.
46-0101-1501:** **Jodie Ellis**, Executive Director, Veterinary Medicine, stated the current system for reporting and processing continuing education credits for veterinarians and veterinary technicians is time consuming and requires unnecessary handling by both the Board and Licensees. The proposed rulemaking will simplify the reporting and processing of continued education credits. Licensees and certificate holders will retain documentation for a specified period and a random auditing system will be implemented to monitor compliance with continuing education obligations.

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 46-0101-1501**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO.
08-0501-1501:** **Ken Nelson**, General Council for the University of Idaho, explained during the 2014 calendar year the University of Idaho and the Board took action to address compliance within statutory requirements related to certification of seeds, tubers, plants and plant parts in the State of Idaho. The existing published standards were created through the Idaho Crop Improvement Association's (ICIA) established process involving the ICIA Board working in conjunction with committees for the various seed crops composed of individuals representing the seed growers and processors, to create and then continuously update the standards. In 2014, the ICIA standards were incorporated into Board rule as they were published by the ICIA in 2014. This action brought the standards into compliance with Idaho Code. Following the incorporation of the standards into Administrative Rule in 2014, the ICIA reviewed its published standards and determined that a significant portion of the materials incorporated by reference into the rule fall outside of the standards and are more accurately defined as processes. These revisions make the standards more concise and easier to read. Additional changes incorporate testing requirements necessary to re-open a 5,000 metric ton market in South Korea.

In response to committee question **Ken Nelson** explained newly emerging crops can be proposed for certification but not all seeds are certified.

Douglas Boze, Idaho Crop Improvement Association, in response to committee question explained the process in which interested parties involved in the changes were notified.

Dennis Stevenson, Rules Coordinator, answered in response to a committee question, if there were changes made to **Docket No. 08-0501-1501**, in the future, it would come back before the Agriculture Committee.

Rep. Batt declared Rule 38 stating a possible conflict of interest but that she would be voting on the motion.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 08-0501-1501**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 23999: **Jodie Ellis**, Executive Director, Veterinary Medicine, stated the Board of Veterinary Medicine statutes authorize the creation of a certified euthanasia task force (abbreviated as CETF) to conduct training, examine certifying and inspection of animal euthanasia agencies and euthanasia technicians. The CETF has been operating for many years. However, both the CETF members and the Board believe the continued use of the term "Task Force" is no longer appropriate for this ongoing entity and wish to change the name to "Committee on Humane Euthanasia" to more accurately describe its functions and purpose. The name change will necessitate two minor amendments to statutes, followed by corresponding amendments to Board rule.

The committee had a question regarding a possible misprint of the code in **RS 23999**.

Chairman Andrus put the Committee at ease at 2:10 p.m.

Chairman Andrus called the meeting back to order at 2:13 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Batt** made a motion to return **RS 23999** to the sponsor. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 24000: **Jodie Ellis**, Executive Director, Veterinary Medicine, explained the Board of Veterinary Medicine currently has statutory authority to revoke, suspend, fine or otherwise impose formal discipline against a license or certificate and authority to, in lieu of formal discipline, offer a non-disciplinary option for certain record-keeping or continuing education violations. The proposed legislation seeks to broaden the circumstances in which the non-disciplinary alternative is available to include all situations where Board statutes or rules have been violated, but where the Board's Liaison Officer has determined that public safety will not be compromised and a better or more appropriate resolution can be achieved through use of a non-disciplinary option. The proposed legislation will clarify when an alternative to discipline is not available, as well as authorize the Board to recover its costs and expenses incurred in investigating the violations.

In response to committee question, **Jodie Ellis**, gave an example of when this type discipline would not be appropriate.

MOTION: **Rep. Romrell** made a motion to introduce **RS 24000**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: After clarification **Rep. Batt** made a motion to reconsider **RS 23999**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Rep. Batt** made a motion to introduce **RS 23999**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 24170: **Rep. Pence** stated the purpose of this proposed legislation is to repeal the Aquaculture Commission, and amend sections of Idaho Code referencing the commission. It also provided for the transfer of any remaining funds after July 1, 2016 to the Department of Agriculture.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to introduce **RS 24170**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Andrus recognized **Doug Jones**, former Agriculture Committee Chairman and welcomed him to the Committee meeting.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Thursday, January 28, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
DOCKET NO. 42-0101-1501	Rules of the Idaho Wheat Commission	Blaine Jacobson, Executive Director
RS23992	Wheat Commission, Executive Director Duties	Blaine Jacobson, Executive Director
RS24213	Rural Development Partnership Act Wheat Commission Presentation	Rep. Dayley Blaine Jacobson, Executive Director

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 28, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Boyle

GUESTS: John Revier, Idaho National Lab; Sean Ellis, Capitol Press.

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

DOCKET NO. 42-0101-1501: **Blaine Jacobson**, Executive Director of Idaho Wheat Commission, stated the changes are necessary to update the rules to proper-format and to clarify terminology. The assessment rate was increased in 2013 after surveying wheat growers and finding support was 3-1 in favor of a higher tax for the purpose of investing in more research and industry infrastructure. The quarterly return forms create an administrative burden for the Commission and will no longer be provided. The rule change increases the amount per bushel from \$.02 to \$.03 1/2 cents to the Commission under commodity credit loans; brings rules in line with the required rules format; and corrects terminology. Other changes are in the elevator operator report. He stated other commissions have a similar reporting mechanism in place that assists in making the commission more efficient in communicating and representing the growers. The Attorney General's office stated this report would be considered a trade secret and should be kept confidential.

The committee expressed a concern the operator report would become public per the Public Records Act.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 42-0101-1501** with the exception of Section 400.03.

Chairman Andrus put the committee at ease at 1:52 p.m.

Chairman Andrus resumed the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST: **Rep. Kerby** asked for unanimous consent to withdraw the motion. **There being no objection, the request was granted.**

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to hold **Docket No. 42-0101-1501** in committee at the call of the chair. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 23992: **Blaine Jacobson**, Executive Director of Idaho Wheat Commission, stated the proposed legislation's purpose is to allow them to be more efficient, correct terminology inconsistencies, clarify the role of the executive director, and provide that invoice forms will be supplied by the commission.

MOTION: **Rep. Troy** made a motion to introduce **RS 23992**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 24213: **Rep. Dayley** explained this proposed legislation re-authorizes Title 67, Chapter 90, Idaho Code, short-titled the "Idaho Rural Development Partnership Act," with technical and conforming amendments. These amendments (1) clarify the appointing authority for certain positions on the Idaho Rural Partnership Board, (2) remove the requirement that the Executive Director of the Partnership be a full-time state employee, and (3) make minor changes to the definitions and mission of the Partnership to conform with the current practices and funding of the National Rural Development Partnership, 7 U.S. Code Section 2008m. He further explained the Idaho Rural Development Partnership Act will have no impact to the General Fund. The Idaho Rural Partnership frequently operates solely on donated federal and private sector grants and this re-authorization makes no changes to funding mechanisms or requirements.

MOTION: **Rep. VanOrden** made a motion to introduce **RS 24213. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Blain Jacobson, Executive Director of Idaho Wheat Commission, presented the annual report to the committee. Cash receipts for Idaho wheat were down 17% in 2015 from 2014, due to rain damage crop. Acreage for 2016 is up. Wheat ranks as Idaho's second largest crop and is grown in 42 of Idaho's 44 counties. Idaho is known to have some of the highest yields per acre of any state. Idaho is the largest grower of organic wheat in the United States. The top customers for U.S. wheat are Japan, Nigeria and Mexico. A challenge for the wheat markets is the rise in non- wheat diets. Although he did recognize there are those who do have legitimate reasons to avoid wheat products, several of the claims are non scientific and proven to be false.

Mr. Jacobson explained the importance of the Snake and Columbia Rivers in getting wheat to market. Over 17% of all U.S. wheat travels by barge on these two rivers. He also addressed the need to be responsible for protecting the fish, including the salmon along these river routes. The survival rates through hydro systems are now approaching levels seen in rivers without dams.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #2
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Tuesday, February 02, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
DOCKET NO. <u>42-0101-1501</u>	Rules of the Idaho Wheat Commission	Rich Garber, Director of Industry and Government Relations
Presentation	Economics of Idaho Agriculture	Dr. Garth Taylor, University of Idaho

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 02, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

ABSENT/
EXCUSED: None

GUESTS: Joni Burtenshaw; Tyson Burtenshaw; Kate Burtenshaw; Rick Waitley, Food Producers; Rich Garber, Idaho Grain Producers Association; Blaine Jacobson, Idaho Wheat Commission; Nic Gibson, Food Producers of Idaho, Brad Hunt, Administrative Rules Specialist.

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Chairman Andrus welcomed members of the University of Idaho Ag Economic Public Policy/Legislative Tour to the Committee meeting.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to approve the minutes of Tuesday, January 26, 2016 and Thursday, January 28, 2016. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 42-0101-1501: **Rich Garber**, Idaho Grain Producers, explained **Blaine Jacobson** would address the committee's concerns of the proposed rule changes.

Blaine Jacobson, Idaho Wheat Commission, reviewed the duties of the Wheat Commission and stated the proposed changes to the rules were to help the commission better fulfill those responsibilities. He clarified the tax increase from 2 to 3 1/2 cents paid to the commission, explaining it falls within the capped limit approved by the legislature.

Mr. Jacobson said a primary purpose of the Wheat Commission is to educate the growers thereby improving production of healthier wheat. In order to do this, the commission needs to know who their growers are and how to contact them. He noted several other agencies who have put into place a similar practice without encountering any problems that he is aware of. He further explained all of the information is already available publicly but it would require commission dollars to obtain.

The committee expressed concern the negotiated rule making process was not made available to those who would be most affected by the new policy.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 42-0101-1501** with the exception of proposed **Section 400, including sub-section 01. 02. and 03.**

Rep. Batt spoke in support of the motion stating, of the five local elevator operators she spoke to, four of them clearly opposed the changes. The committee also sited the differences between the Wheat Commission and the Barley Commission.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Andrus** called for a vote on the motion to approve **Docket No. 42-0101-1501** with the exception of proposed **Section 400, including sub-section 01. 02. and 03.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Dr. Garth Taylor, University of Idaho presented the Financial Conditions of Idaho Agriculture to the committee. He stated 2015 cash receipts dropped 9% back to 2012 levels breaking a 5 year streak of record increases. The largest drop was in milk which was down 27%. Three areas that showed increase were, barley, cattle and calves and sugar beets. Livestock is Idaho agriculture. When you take into account hay, corn silage, field barley and all products related to livestock production, it accounts for 70-75% of all Idaho cash receipts.

Dr. Taylor explained agriculture growth comes from innovation, and dairy is a good example of that. Since 1980, growth in dairy value production in Idaho has risen 148%.

In the United States, **Dr. Taylor** stated, food is cheaper now than it has ever been. It accounts for about 7-8 % of the average family's budget.

Dr. Taylor stated direct government payments from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) last year was \$415 million. Most of that is for marketing assistance for beginning farmers loans which are paid back within 3-4 months.

In response to committee question, **Dr. Taylor** said the volatility in the market comes from supply and demand and the rippling effect it causes. In the past 2 years, Idaho has fallen by 31% in net farm income but in comparison, Idaho agriculture fared better than the 55% drop in the United States as a whole during the same time period.

Dr. Taylor said the forecast for 2016 will be affected by several factors including the weak export markets, weakened foreign economies and the Russian embargo. It appears the ethanol boom is over and along with the record grain production the prices are down 10-15%. Beef prices are sliding after the highs and milk prices are back to 2010 revenues. Idaho farm real estate value increased by 4.7% in 2015 and agricultural continues to be Idaho's fastest growing industry.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Thursday, February 04, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<u>H 381</u>	Veterinarians/ Humane Euthanasia	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director, Veterinary Medicine
<u>H 382</u>	Veterinarian/ Formal Discipline	Jodie Ellis, Executive Director, Veterinary Medicine
<u>H 417</u>	Rural Development Partnership Act	Rep. Dayley
<u>RS24361C1</u>	Pulse Crops Recognition	Rep. Troy
	Idaho Rangeland Commission Report	Gretchen Hyde, Executive Director

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Rep Romrell
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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 04, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Stephanie Cook, INL; Arthur Beal, IRP; Gretchen Hyde, IRRRC; Jodie Ellis, BOVM; Jared Buff, IVMA; Trent Clark, Monsanto; Vicki Smith, Idaho Veterinary Medicine Association; Dennis Tanikuni, Idaho Farm Bureau; John Revier, INL; Roger Batt, Batt Associates; Ann Joslin, Commission for Libraries.

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

H 381: **Jodie Ellis**, Board of Veterinary Medicine, explained the members of the Certified Euthanasia Task Force (CETF) and the Board members believe the continued use of the term "Task Force" is no longer appropriate for this ongoing entity and wish to change the name to "Committee on Humane Euthanasia" to more accurately describe its functions and purpose.

MOTION: **Rep. McMillan** made a motion to send **H 381** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. McMillan** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 382: **Jodie Ellis**, Board of Veterinary Medicine, stated the Board of Veterinary Medicine currently has statutory authority to impose formal discipline against a license or certificate. It also has authority to offer a non-disciplinary option (NDO) for certain record-keeping or continuing education violations. The legislation seeks to broaden the circumstances in which the NDO is available to include all situations where board statutes or rules have been violated, but only when the Board's Liaison Officer has determined public safety has not been compromised and a better or more appropriate resolution can be achieved through use of a NDO. The legislation will clarify when an alternative to discipline is not available, as well as authorize the Board to recover its costs and expenses incurred in investigating the violations.

In response to committee questions, **Ms. Ellis** clarified the \$1,000.00 penalty is the upper cap of the fine imposed. The intention of the Board is only to recover costs from expenses incurred investigating violations.

Vicky Smith, Executive Director of Idaho Veterinary Medical Association, spoke **in support** of the legislation. She stated the legislation will create a more appropriate way for minor infractions to be addressed.

MOTION: **Rep. VanOrden** made a motion to send **H 382** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. VanOrden** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 417: **Rep. Dayley**, explained the Idaho Rural Partnership (IRP) is a genuine partnership between the private sector and government. Participation is on a volunteer bases and changes depending on the project they are working on. Since 2009 it has functioned without using State of Idaho Funds. This year, Governor Otter has allotted \$50,000 for some specific projects he would like the Partnership to work on. IRP is by law non partisan. It is resource based addressing issues important to Idaho rural communities.

Rep. Pence explained to the committee the process of setting up a community review. Usually these reviews are in small rural towns with limited access to information concerning grants and other resources.

Stephanie Cook, program manager of Economic Development for Idaho National Laboratory (INL) stated she represents INL on the Idaho Rural Partnership Board of Directors. She spoke in support of **H 417**. She said she has seen the benefits of this program first hand. She stated IRP strengthens rural communities, therefore strengthens rural economics while in turn strengthens rural schools. She stated INL is in support of the proposed amendment to the enabling legislation as these changes strengthen efforts to draw a straight line to local, state, federal and other key resources to create stronger more resilient local economics and build Idaho's talent pipeline.

Trent Clark, Monsanto's Public and Government Affairs Director, said Monsanto has been a member of IRP for 20 years. He gave an example of the Partnership working on solving a problem to supply EPA approved drinking water to Bancroft, Idaho. He stated it is in Monsanto's interest to improve living conditions in the communities of their employees. He explained it is most effective when collaboration takes place between the private sector, community leaders and government.

In response to a committee question **Rep. Dayley** explained how this legislation does not impact specific government funds.

In response to a committee request, **Rep. Dayley** assured the committee an annual report to this Committee would be possible.

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to send **H 417** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Dayley and Rep. Pence** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 24361C1: **Rep. Troy** explained this is the International Year of the Pulse. Pulse crops include peas, lentils, chickpeas and beans. These crops are represented by two commissions, the Bean Commission and the Pea and Lentil Commission, the later being headquartered in Idaho. She noted nearly all of Sabra's garbanzo beans are purchased from Idaho crops.

In response to a committee question, **Rep. Troy** explained a pulse crop is defined as anything that has a pod excluding soy beans.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to introduce **RS 24361C1**.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 24361C1** and recommend it be sent to the Second Reading Calendar. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Troy** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Gretchen Hyde, Executive Director, stated the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission's (IRRC) assessment rate is the same as it was in 1997, when the rate was originally set. Request for refunds were less than 2%. The license plate revenue continues to increase amounting for nearly \$35,000 this year. Care/Share grants from the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service provided much needed funds for working with agency officials, ranchers and recreationists.

Ms. Hyde explained there is increased support for grazing on rangelands, validated by the University of Idaho public opinion poll earlier this year. Not surprising, hiking and camping received the highest acceptability. What might be surprising to some is that 90% of the respondents support livestock grazing on public lands. That's a 10% increase from a poll taken in 2001.

Ms. Hyde indicated the newest education program is the 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-Thon. She said the key is to teach kids about how working ranches also provide wildlife habitat. Students learned about rangeland management and were given a wildlife challenge on the greater sage-grouse to present to a panel of judges. Their goal is to develop a full curriculum and expand the contest to more students in the future.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Monday, February 08, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<u>RS24092</u>	Apple Commission	Candi Fitch, Apple Commission
<u>RS24372</u>	Grapes/Wine, Tax Provision Revised	Roger Batt, Batt Associates
<u>H 383</u>	Aquaculture Commission Repealed	Rep. Pence
<u>S 1215</u>	Pesticide management commission, repealed	Darrell Bolz
	Apple Commission Presentation	Candi Fitch, Apple Commission

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 08, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Linda Lemon, IAC; Candi Fitch, Idaho Apple Commission; Roger Batt, Idaho Grape and Wine Commission; Douglas Jones; Bryan Searle, Idaho Farm Bureau; Sean Ellis, Capitol Press; Rick Waitley, Food Producers.

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

RS 24092: **Candi Fitch**, Idaho Apple Commission, stated the proposed legislation is to restructure the districts to ensure commission members are chosen to give the best representation to their districts. There are also some technical changes to this section allowing for clarification of present and future implementations.

MOTION: **Rep. Batt** made a motion to introduce **RS 24092. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 24372: **Roger Batt**, Idaho Grape and Wine Commission, stated the proposed legislation removes tax language that is inconsistent and duplicative to the Idaho Grape Growers and Wine Producers Commission Administrative Rules with respect to grapes and grape juice purchased from out-of-state producers for the production of wine in the State of Idaho. Statutory changes should have been made following the 2010 Legislative Session to provide consistency with adoption of the Rules but have been unintentionally overlooked by industry until now. This proposed legislation would also allow grape juice purchased in the state of Idaho for the production of wine in Idaho to be taxed just like out of state grape juice purchased for the production of wine in Idaho is already allowed to be taxed. There are also some small language changes made to allow for easier readability and clarity of the statute.

Rep. Batt invoked rule 38 stating a possible conflict of interest, but she would be voting on the proposed legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. VanOrden** made a motion to introduce **RS 24372. Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 383: **Rep. Pence** introduced **Linda Lemon**, Secretary/Treasurer for the Aquaculture Commission Board, and turned the podium over to her.

Linda Lemon explained the Commission was created in 2004. During its creation, it was envisioned the Commission would be producer-based, check off style promotional programs, deriving all of its operation funds by assessments on fishery products produced by private (not public) producers. If the maximum rate allowed in the state was levied on all private producers, it was anticipated upwards of \$45,000 could have been generated annually for generic promotional activities, but that was not to be. The Commission only collected about half that amount over its entire 12 year existence. Thus, the participating producers could not support funding both the program and someone with marketing expertise to run the program.

Ms. Lemon said the opt-out clause diminished the producer base from which to assess. Another reason for lack of success is the way fish are marketed in Idaho. Most of the fish produced for consumption are sold to processors, not directly to the general public. A general marketing program must include processor participation. If the processors are not involved, a coordinated program can not be successful.

Ms. Lemon stated the remaining balance of funds will continue to be used to participate in it's usual promotional activities during FY2016. The commission members voted unanimously the remaining funds be spent on aquaculture industry promotional activities rather than returned to the individual members.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to send **H 383** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Pence** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1215: **Darrell Bolz**, self, stated this legislation will repeal Chapter 18, Title 22, Idaho Code relating to the Commission on Pesticide Management. This Commission was formed in 2002 to model a similar commission established in the State of Washington. Private funding has solely supported this Commission. The private funding has proved to be inadequate for the Commission to perform its envisioned duties. The remaining funds of the Commission will be transferred to the University of Idaho's Unrestricted Revenue Fund for use in pesticide management related activities.

MOTION: **Rep. Batt** made a motion to send **S 1215** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Erpelding** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Candi Fitch, Idaho Apple Commission, explained during the 2014-2015 growing season there was quite a bit of hail that decreased apple production. The warmer fall also was a challenge for the fruit season. She said labor continues to be an issue; there are blocks of apples being removed because growers don't have the labor to get them picked.

Ms. Fitch said the market was better this year, but there was not an overabundance of apples. Prices were better but not as strong as in 2012 and 2013. Growing costs continue to outpace increases in revenue.

Ms. Fitch said research is vital to stay relevant in this global economy. At this time there are two grants the Idaho Apple Commission has received at the Parma Research Station.

Candi Fitch also representing the Idaho Cherry Commission, reported because of unseasonably warm weather in the spring of 2015, the cherry trees bloomed about two weeks earlier than usual which led to an early harvest. Cherry harvest in southern Idaho started the first week of June. In a normal year it starts around the 18th or 20th of June. In a normal growing season, Idaho's mild climate is perfect for growing cherries. She said the high 90's and 100 plus degree temperatures were experienced during a large part of the harvest season. This softens cherries making them less marketable.

Ms. Fitch said in spite of the issues, southern Idaho still managed a respectable harvest with approximately 1,500-1,800 tons fresh packed. They were marketed in Idaho, as well as many of the other 49 states and a dozen or so other countries. The price started strong but declined as they progressed through the season due to heat damage. **Ms. Fitch** said the outlook for the cherry industry in Idaho remains bright. Buyers have come to know Idaho cherries are some of the very best for flavor, marketability and their bottom line.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Wednesday, February 10, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<u>RS24397</u>	Noxious Weeds Research Facility	Rep. Thomas Dayley
<u>RS24396C1</u>	Dangerous Dog	Rep. Mike Moyle
	Idaho Potato Commission	Frank Muir, President/CEO Idaho Potato Commission

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 10, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS:

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 2, 2016, February 4, 2016, and February 8, 2016. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 24397: **Rep. Dayley** stated this is a simple proposed change to **S 1073** from last year to include privately funded research facilities in the definition of "research facility".

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to introduce **RS 24397**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Reps. Romrell** and **Burtenshaw** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

RS 24396C1: **Rep. Moyle** explained this proposed legislation is to update Title 25, Chapter 28, Idaho Code, relating to dogs which injure humans. The legislation provides statewide minimum standards and definitions while allowing for the counties to be restrictive. A new category of "at risk" dogs is added, and the existing term "vicious" is replaced by dangerous dog.

Rep. Moyle said the changes to the statute give the courts more discretion in the management of dangerous dogs and the ability to differentiate less severe behavior from more dangerous behavior. Local Cities have the discretion to go further with the law as long as it is not specific to breed. He explained under certain circumstances, aggressive acts are justifiable, and the dog and its owner are exempt from prosecution.

MOTION: **Rep. Romrell** made a motion to introduce **RS 24396C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Frank Muir, President CEO, Idaho Potato Commission, reported to the committee the annual financial report of the Idaho Potato Commission. This year after all expenses the budget had \$265,000 to go back into reserve revenue for next year. He said they do not like to have a large build up in the reserve as these are considered "working" dollars and need to be used promoting Idaho potatoes.

In response to committee questions, **Mr. Muir** explained the potato truck started out as a one year marketing experiment. It has now been in existence for 5 years. Each year it is brought back by popular demand. He stated people respond positively to the commercials and connect the truck with Idaho potatoes.

In response to a committee question concerning the return on investment of grower dollars on assessment, **Mr. Muir** said this is a frustration of the Commission. One thing he can do is to make sure prices reported to the USDA market news are accurate prices. He said there has been some indication these are not reported correctly. He explained studies have shown consumers are willing to pay higher prices for Idaho potatoes and there is no reason Idaho potatoes should be sold at less than cost of production.

Mr. Muir responding to committee questions concerning Pale Cyst Nematode (PCN), stated originally the growers affected by PCN were given two choices; pull acres out of production for 30 years or try and eradicate the PCN. The decision was made to eradicate. He stated of the 26 fields infested, 16 of them are now free of PCN. This year the first field of potatoes was grown in a previously infested field. The eradication program by all indications is working, making the US the first country in the world to have eradicated PCN.

Mr. Muir also addressed the impact of Methyl Bromide which has come to light. This is a new issue that the Commission is very much engaged in, to fix and address.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Tuesday, February 16, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 455	Apple Commission	Candi Fitch, Executive Director
H 456	Grape/Wine, Tax Provision Revised	Roger Batt, Grape and Wine Commission
	Conservation Commission Annual Report	Teri Murrison, Administrator

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 16, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Roger Batt, Grape and Wine Commission; Carolyn Watts, Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission; Teri Murrison, Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission; Shelley Bennett, Idaho Wine Commission

Vice Chairman Boyle called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, February 10, 2016 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 455: **Candi Fitch**, Apple Commission, stated the changes in the bill are to restructure the districts to assure the members can be chosen to give the best representation to the Apple Industry. She said there are also some technical changes which allow for clarification for present and future implementation. **Ms. Fitch** said these changes have met with the approval of the districts.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to send **H 455** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Boyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 456: **Roger Batt**, Idaho Grape and Wine Commission, explained the Legislation removes tax language that is inconsistent with and duplicative to the Idaho Grape Growers and Wine Producers Commission's Administrative Rules that were adopted in 2010 by the Idaho Legislature. Changes should have been made following the 2010 Legislative Session to provide consistency with adoption to the Rules but have been unintentionally overlooked by industry until now. The legislation would allow grape juice purchased in the state of Idaho for the production of wine in Idaho to be taxed just like out of state grape juice purchased for the production of wine in Idaho is already taxed. Language changes have been made to allow for easier readability and clarity of the statute.

Rep. Batt invoked rule 38 stating a possible conflict of interest, but she would be voting on the legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to send **H 456** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Troy** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Vice Chairman Boyle turned the gavel over to **Chairman Andrus**.

Teri Murrison, Executive Director, stated this was her fifth year presenting to the Ag Affairs Committee on behalf of the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission. She explained the three core functions of the Commission are to provide technical and other supportive services, manage conservation programs and administration. **Ms. Murrison** said there are 50 conservation districts in the state of Idaho. She reported the Resource Conservation and Rangeland Development Program (RCRDP) provides low interest loans for projects that provide conservation benefits. In 2015 there were 85 outstanding loans, 48 inquiries, 20 applications received and 7 applications approved for a total of \$392,517. The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Programs (CREP) signed 155 contracts enrolling 16,533 acres, saving 66,132 acre feet of water which is the equivalent average use of water for 317,000 people. Through this program there was also 132,260 tons of soil erosion savings and 3 to 4 million pounds of fertilizer savings.

Ms. Murrison concluded by reviewing the *Whiskey Creek Project* which the commission took part in. They were able to restore a creek on the state's 303 (d) list of degraded waters to something that is beautiful and useful and no longer an eyesore.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Thursday, February 18, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
S 1259	Dairy Product Commission, Ex. Office	Bob Naerebout, Executive Director
RS24555	Dangerous at Risk Dogs	Rep. Mike Moyle
RS24560	Companion Animal Act University of Idaho College of Ag. United Dairymen	Rep. Ken Andrus Dean Michael Parrella, University of Idaho Karianne Fallow, CEO

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Brent Olmstead, MP Idaho; Bob Naerebout, Idaho Dairyman's Assoc: Roger Howard, LINC; Sean Ellis, Capitol Press; Rick Waitly, Food Producers; Rich Garber, U of I; Dean Michael P. Parrella; Kim O'Neil; Wyatt Prescott, Idaho Cattlemens.

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Chairman Andrus and the Committee thanked page, **Austen Thomason**, for his help to the committee during the first half of session.

Chairman Andrus welcomed **Rick Waitley** and the 36th Leadership Idaho Agriculture Foundation class to the committee meeting.

Rick Waitley, Leadership Idaho Agriculture, acknowledged **Chairman Andrus** for receiving the Governor's Life Time Achievement Award for Excellence in Agriculture earlier this week. The award recognizes individuals who have shown outstanding leadership in Idaho agriculture.

Mr. Waitley explained three of the committee members are graduates of the Leadership of Agriculture program. He stated there have been 901 graduates from this program who are now scattered over 27 states and 5 countries. **Mr. Waitley** said Idaho is one of 38 states that offers such a leadership program as this. He then invited the members of the Leadership program to introduce themselves, tell where they are from and their current employment.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, February 16, 2016, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1259: **Bob Naerebout**, Executive Director of Idaho Dairyman, stated the purpose of this legislation is in response to the shrinking number of qualified candidates able to serve on the commission. This legislation will update the election process.

In response to a committee question, **Mr. Naerebout** explained, although the Dean of Agriculture from the University of Idaho is no longer an appointed member, he will still be involved in the commission to the extent he has availability and desire.

Brent Olstead, Milk Producers of Idaho, stated the board had met and they are in full support of the changes in this legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to send **S 1259** to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Kerby** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 24555: **Rep. Mike Moyle**, explained changes reworked into the legislation to include dogs where aggressive behavior may be justified, such as service animals or herding dogs. He also stated local entities have allowance to enforce stricter regulations if that is their desire.

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to introduce **RS 24555**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Andrus turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Boyle**.

RS 24560: **Rep. Ken Andrus**, stated this is a bill that in some form or another has been around for the last three years. He said in re-writing this legislation, several groups who previously opposed it were contacted and their input has resulted in the current bill. The legislation defines companion animals and torture to an animal. It provides a new section stating any person convicted of torture to a companion animal is guilty of a felony on the first offense if that person has been convicted of voluntary infliction of bodily injury upon any human within the previous ten years. Any person convicted of torture to a companion animal is guilty of a felony on the second or subsequent convictions.

Rep. Andrus said the legislation provides that a court shall order a pre-sentence investigation that shall include a psychological evaluation.

In response to a committee question **Rep. Andrus** explained an act of omission is something that you didn't do to the animal that may have caused harm.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to introduce **RS 24560**. **Motion carried by voice vote.****Rep. Batt** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

Vice Chairman Boyle turned the gavel over to **Chairman Andrus**.

Rich Garber, U of I, introduced **Michael P. Parrella**, newly appointed Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Idaho.

Dean Michael P. Parrella stated he is the 15th Dean of the College of Life Science and Agriculture at the University of Idaho. He stated he received his BS in Animal Science from Rutgers State University. After completing his Masters and PhD from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, he moved to the West Coast where he spent the last 25 years at UC Davis. **Dean Parrella** said he plans to be very engaged in all parts of agriculture as he serves in this new position at the University of Idaho.

Karianne Fallow, CEO United Dairymen, explained the vision of United Dairymen is to protect the long-term economic interest of the Idaho dairy industry. The United Dairymen of Idaho is the dairy checkoff organization for Idaho farmers. They are the marketing and promotion arm for the farmer investors.

Ms. Fallow explained they are focused on leveraging the nutritional benefits of dairy to enhance consumer trust. She said dairy nutrition is a source of pride for farmers and for dairy food manufactures. For the United Dairymen, nutrition is at the core of both building trust in our products and increasing the sales of products that are some of the most affordable, accessible, and naturally nutrient rich.

One of the core initiatives is youth wellness which **Ms. Fallow** explained is at the heart of a lot of the work they do. They know healthy students are better students. Students who have a healthy diet and get good adequate physical activity tend to be better focused; they then tend to achieve more academically; and there are fewer absences. She stated healthy habits begin at a young age. By inspiring trust in dairy as a foundation for wellness, they can encourage lifelong consumers of healthy, nutritious foods.

Ms. Fallow explained their Monthly Grant Calendar provided to deserving schools around the state access to things like smoothie blenders, milk coolers, cheese graters and healthy food display carts. In addition, the United Dairymen offer free string cheese to any requesting school for students during the standardized testing season. **Ms. Farrow** also explained the Fuel up to Play 60 programs which is the premier national in-school wellness program. Through this program they are able to make grants to schools for food service and PE equipment and other wellness support.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Monday, February 22, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 469	Noxious Weeds	Rep. Thomas Dayley
H 499	Food Regulation	Elizabeth Criner, Northwest Food Processors Association
	Idaho Barley Association	Kelly Olson, Administrator

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 22, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding (Lachiondo)

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Kelly Olsen, Idaho Barley Commission; Pamm Juker, Idaho Dept. of Ag; Patrick Guzzle, IDHW Food Protection; Benjamin Kelly, Idaho Weed Control Association, Food Producers of Idaho; Elizabeth Criner, NWFPA; Dennis Tanikuni, Idaho Farm Bureau; Brent Olmstead, Milk Producers of Idaho; Stacy Satterlee, IGPA;

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Chairman Andrus welcomed **Rep. Lachiondo** to the committee and thanked her for substituting for **Rep. Erpelding** during his absence.

Chairman Andrus welcomed **Sabrina Castellanos** as the new page for the Agricultural Affairs Committee.

H 469: **Rep. Thomas Dayley**, stated the change to this legislation is in relationship to the collection, removal and movement of noxious weeds and defines privately funded research facilities. Rep. Dayley referred to the statutes which define the collection and removal of noxious weeds to facilities within Idaho. He also clarified the treatment of viable noxious weeds as determined by the department so as not to reintroduce them into the environment.

Benjamin Kelly, Idaho Weed Control Association, spoke **in support** of the legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Romrell** made a motion to send **H 469** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Dayley** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 499: **Rep. Kauffman** explained the back ground of how and why this legislation came to the Dept. of Agriculture. He explained the state has two agencies with authority over food safety inspections; the Dept. of Health and Welfare and the Dept. of Agriculture.

Elizabeth Criner, Northwest Food Processors Association, stated currently in the absence of other government oversight, food safety falls primarily under the jurisdiction of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. However, for food processors the primary oversight for food safety and inspection falls within the jurisdiction of the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA), under the authority of the Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA). Ms. Criner said as FSMA implementation proceeds, there is an expectation that the FDA will rely more heavily on the states with respect to food safety inspections. This legislation establishes the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) as the delegated state authority for food regulation of any non-retail activities subject to FSMA. Ms. Criner said the bill also allows for the process to take place at a later date that would transition the food safety oversight and inspections for food processors from IDHW over to ISDA.

In answer to a committee question **Ms. Criner** said the FDA had no objection to the changes included in this legislation.

Benjamin Kelly, Food Producers of Idaho, spoke **in support** of the legislation.

MOTION:

Rep. Miller made a motion to send **H 499** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Kauffman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Kelly Olsen, Idaho Barley Association, stated this year was a big recovery from the previous year where the barley growers suffered huge losses due to the unusual weather. She said because of more favorable conditions, this years harvest yield was much improved. Idaho remains the leading barley producer in the US with 550,000 harvested acres. The average yield was up 3% which is a new record. Farm-gate receipts were up 7% making barley the 5th largest cash crop in Idaho. Ms. Olsen said about 85% of the barley grown in Idaho is used for malt beer.

Ms. Olsen explained the UI endowed Barley Agronomist, **Dr. Christopher Rogers** has successfully applied for and received several grants including from UI, IBC, Anheuser Busch, MillerCoors and Brewers Association.

Ms. Olsen said recent education programs stressed the heart-healthy benefits of eating barley as a regular part any diet. Barley has 18% fiber content, lowers bad cholesterol, and is a low glycemic carbohydrate. She said the two most popular uses for barley in Japan are for a seeping tea and as a rice extender.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Wednesday, February 24, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 525	Relating to Dogs	Rep. Mike Moyle
H 524	Companion Animals	Rep. Ken Andrus
	Idaho Beef Council	Traci Bracco, Executive Director

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus	Rep Romrell
Vice Chairman Boyle	Rep VanOrden
Rep McMillan	Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Batt	Rep Kerby
Rep Bell	Rep Troy
Rep Dayley	Rep Pence
Rep Miller	Rep Erpelding(Lachiondo)

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Joan Majors
Room: EW11
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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained with the minutes in the committee secretary's office until the end of the session. Following the end of the session, the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2016, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 525: **Rep. Moyle** stated the legislation before the committee has been a collective effort with various agencies coming together to create a resolution. Rep. Moyle said it addresses dogs that injure humans and allows local governments to go further with the penalties if they see fit. It defines justification for dogs in acts of aggression such as herding animals or police dogs. Rep. Moyle said this legislation gives the courts opportunity and more discretion with a mechanism in place to track aggressive dogs.

Chelesa Merrill, spoke in support of **H 525**. As a mother of a child who was a victim, of an unprovoked attacked, she spoke of their frustration when the dog was not put down when they assumed it would have been. As a result of the dog not being put down, a man was later attacked by the same dog.

Luke Merrill, spoke in support of **H 525**. He voiced his frustration in trying to work within the system that is in place after experiencing a dog attack on his child. He stated the decision to put a dangerous dog down should not be the decision of the dog owner. Mr. Merrill explained he liked that the bill established minimum standards and allows cities and counties to adopt stricter laws should they choose to do so.

Nancy Merrill, spoke in support of **H 525**. She said after looking at the law and seeing there was no continuity in the law from county to county or city to city they decided to get involved in helping to create a more uniform bill. Ms. Merrill said this legislation defines justified provocation when a dog is protecting its owner or property. She stated this legislation is fair and gives certainty as to what happens when a dog attacks.

Jeff Rosenthal, DVM, CEO Idaho Humane Society, stated the two tiered classification of grouping dogs that have engaged in more severe incidents, with different levels of control on the future keeping of such dogs, is consistent with how many other states handle this issue today. Similar laws have been successfully utilized for decades elsewhere. Mr. Rosenthal said this bill is consistent with recommendations made by the American Veterinary Medical Association in regards to dog bite laws.

Bruce S. Bistline, Idaho Trial Lawyers Association, spoke in opposition to H 525. He said it is his concern this bill will not protect the victims of dog bites. Mr. Bistline stated he wants language clear in order to avoid litigation in the future, so lawyers will not be arguing about things that could have been avoided with better drafting.

Galan Merrill spoke in support of H 525 and asked that this bill be passed as quickly as possible.

Wyoma Clouss, member of the Idaho Dog Coalition spoke in support of H 525. She stated the organization believes the responsibility for a dog, its training and behavior should be put on the dog owners. Ms. Clouss said dogs should be judged by their identifiable behaviors rather than trying to somehow define dogs by their appearance.

Margaret Wilson, as a victim of three different dog bites, spoke in support of H 525 to protect children.

Ralph Jordan, spoke in support of H 525. He stated, of the nine most common activities that lead to emergency room visits, dog bite was second behind baseball incidents. Mr. Jordan said the occurrence of dog bites across the country shows that Idaho has about 3,480 emergency room visits caused by dog bites a year which resulted in 86 hospital stays at an average cost of \$18,200 each. He explained dog bites are a real public health issue and there is room to reduce the incidence and cost of dog bites. Mr. Jordan stated this legislation will help move in that direction.

Kathy Wilkins, spoke in support of H 525 stating we can do better than the law on the books today. She said in passing this legislation, dog owners will immediately take better control of their dogs.

Rep. Janet Trujillo, spoke in support of H 525. She stated she is a survivor of a vicious attack by a dog that required 14 surgeries over several years and explained how it has affected her life.

Rep. Moyle stated he would like to send the bill to the amending order if the trial lawyers would have their language ready so that this bill could be heard on Friday.

MOTION:

Rep. Kerby made a motion to send H 425 to General Orders. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Moyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Chairman Andrus turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Boyle**.

Vice Chairman Boyle put the committee at ease at 2:11 p.m.

Vice Chairman Boyle called the meeting back to order at 2:16 p.m.

H 524:

Rep. Andrus explained this legislation defines companion animals and defines torture. It provides that any person convicted of torture to a companion animal is guilty of a felony on the first offense if that person has been convicted of voluntary infliction of bodily injury upon any human within the previous ten years. **Rep. Andrus** stated a person convicted of torture to a companion animal is guilty of a felony on the second or subsequent convictions. He explained the legislation shall provide a court ordered pre-sentence psychological evaluation which addresses the link between animal torture and torture of humans.

In response to a committee question **Rep. Andrus** stated the legislation does have the support of the Idaho Cattlemen Association, Milk Producers of Idaho, Idaho Dairymen Association, Idaho Wool Growers and Food Producers of Idaho.

In response to another committee question, **Rep. Andrus** said he had not sought nor received a written promise that the U.S. Humane Society would not create a ballot initiative if this legislation is passed. He also stated he had not talked to, nor heard from the "One of Three" organization.

Richard Shackelford, DVM, spoke in support of **H 524**. He stated he was pleased to see the link addressed between animal abuse and violence against humans. He also said he was pleased to see the courts have the option to request a psychological evaluation on the first offense, which might prevent abuse in the future.

Jeff Rosenthal, DVM, CEO of Idaho Humane Society, spoke in support of **H 524**. He stated the current Title 25, Chapter 35 provides a very effective tool for law enforcement and the Department of Agriculture in mitigating animal neglect and cruelty situation around Idaho. Mr. Rosenthal stated he appreciated the opportunity to review and comment upon earlier drafts and is satisfied that his earlier concerns have been addressed allowing him to lend support to this bill.

Russ Henricks, Idaho Farm Bureau spoke in opposition to **H 524**. He explained because this bill seeks to impose stricter penalties than those of the current law, his members can not support it.

In response to a committee question, **Mr. Hendricks** stated his members do support the provision for a psychological evaluation but do not support the stiffer penalties in this legislation.

Wyatt Prescott, President Food Producers of Idaho, **Bob Naerebout**, Idaho Dairyman Association and **Brent Olstead**, Milk Producers of Idaho, all spoke in support of **H 524**.

Rep. Andrus stated he believes this is reasonable legislation, it protects animals and protects the livestock industry.

MOTION:

Rep. Burtenshaw made a motion to send **H 425** to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep Batt** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Andrus** will sponsor it on the floor.

Vice Chairman Boyle turned the gavel over to **Chairman Andrus**.

Traci Bracco, Executive Director of Idaho Beef Council, explained the mission of the council is to built global consumer demand for beef thereby enhancing profitability for Idaho producers. She explained the various ways they are reaching out to consumers and raising consumer awareness. Ms. Bracco said the Front Line program is the grocery stores. There were 17 retail programs conducted last year in grocery stores. After these programs, sales increases were noted. Ms. Bracco stated the council was present at all state medical conferences this year reaching over 23,000 health professionals. She said this is important work being able to show beef as being heart healthy. Ms. Bracco explained the challenge remains to educate the public regarding beef's nutritional value as well as associating it with a healthy lifestyle. She said that even with the higher prices, domestic demand for beef has increased as well as demand for beef across the world.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW42
Wednesday, March 02, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
S 1258	Relating to Fish and Game	Sen. Siddoway
S 1214	Relating to Livestock	Sen Brackett
H 531	Agricultural Facilities and Operations	Rep. Gayle Batt
HCR 49	Wheat Commission, Rules Rejection Idaho Dairymen Association Association of Soil Conservation	Rep. Gayle Batt Bob Naerebout, Executive Director Idaho Dairymen Assoc. Steve Becker, Treasurer Idaho Association of Soil Conservation

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus	Rep Romrell
Vice Chairman Boyle	Rep VanOrden
Rep McMillan	Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Batt	Rep Kerby
Rep Bell	Rep Troy
Rep Dayley	Rep Pence
Rep Miller	Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 02, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Kerby

GUESTS: Bob Naerebout, Idaho Dairymen; Rick Naerebout, Idaho Dairymen; Joel Van Lith, Wendell Buying Station; John Jameson, Idaho Wool Growers; Rich Garber, Idaho Grain Producers; Elizabeth Criner, NWFPA; Benjamin Kelly, Food Producers of Idaho; Dennis Tanikuni, Idaho Farm Bureau; Teri Murrison, ISWCC

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

S 1258: **Sen. Siddoway** explained this legislation deals with money used at the University of Idaho Caine Veterinary Teaching and Research Center, located near Caldwell, Idaho. The center will close at the end of 2016. He stated Idaho Code requires that one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) be transferred annually from the Fish and Game account to the University of Idaho Caine Veterinary Teaching and Research Center for disease research regarding the interaction of disease between wildlife and domestic livestock. He said this legislation will redirect these moneys to the University of Idaho College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Department of Animal and Veterinary Science where this work will now be accomplished.

MOTION: **Rep. Romrell** made a motion to send **S 1258** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Troy** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1214: **Sen. Brackett** stated this legislation closes a loophole in current code and rule that allows trichomoniasis test-eligible bulls to be removed from a trader lot and returned to the country for breeding purposes without the appropriate trichomoniasis testing. He said it also adds a new section of code definitions and livestock removal requirements for approved feedlots, approved trader lots, buying stations, livestock dealers and livestock markets. **Sen. Brackett** stated these definitions and removal requirements were found in various places in code and rule and now this legislation consolidates them in one code section.

Joel Van Lith, owner, Wendell Buying Station, spoke **in support** of the bill. He stated he was appreciative of the effort made to include those most affected by the legislation to be involved in drafting a solution. **Mr. Van Lith** said the bill protects against disease without putting undue burden on businessmen like himself. He stated the bill was clear and easily understood.

Dennis Tanikuni, Idaho Farm Bureau, spoke **in support** of **S 1214**.

MOTION: **Rep. Troy** made a motion to send **S 1214** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Burtenshaw** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 531: **Rep. Batt** explained this bill addresses breaches of biosecurity on agricultural facilities or operations in Idaho and sets fines and penalties.

Dennis Tanikuni, Idaho Farm Bureau, stated the legislation establishes fines for spreading or attempting to spread contagious or infectious diseases. He said the purpose of the bill is to provide the same level of protection to agriculture as aquaculture has in place.

Elizabeth Criner, North West Food Producers, and **Benjamin Kelly**, Food Producers of Idaho, both spoke **in support** of the bill.

MOTION: **Rep. VanOrden** made a motion to send **H 531** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Batt** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

HCR 49 **Rep. Batt** stated this concurrent resolution rejects proposed amendments to codified Section 301, including subsections 01, 02, and 03 of the Idaho State Wheat Commission Rules. She stated the elevator operators are opposed to having to list their growers names and addresses on the requested report.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to send **HCR 49** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Batt** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Bob Naerebout, Executive Director of the Idaho Dairymen Association, stated since 1924, Idaho Dairymen Association has protected Idaho's dairy industry through environmental, legal and legislative leadership. In 2015, there were a total of 500 dairy operations in Idaho containing 563,292 milk cows. He said of the 500 dairy operations in Idaho, 18.1% are herds with 2,001 or more milk cows. Mr. Naerebout explained the highest concentration of dairies are contained in the 6 counties in the Magic Valley area. The 13 counties in Eastern Idaho and the 8 counties in the Treasure Valley make up the rest of the dairies. He spoke of how the dairies have changed beginning in 1970 when there were 8,500 dairies with 144,000 milk cows in Idaho. Today in 2016, there are fewer dairies (502) with a combine total of 566,611 milk cows. The trend is larger herds with less dairies. He spoke of how Idaho is a good fit for the dairy industry because of the abundant supply of feed available here. Milk production was up slightly in 2015.

Rick Naerebout, Idaho Dairymen Association, said the association is engaged in the immigration reform and refugee resettlement debate by putting financial and staff resources toward research and joining organizations which move the conversation forward. He said for milk to be profitable, it is necessary for it to be processed here. At this time we are about at capacity for processing and will need to increase the capacity in order to grow. Mr. Naerebout stated milk prices are expected to drop as the world market grows. He said recovery is not expected until sometime in 2017.

In response to a committee question, **Mr. Naerebout** said growth will come from increased production per cow rather than increasing the number of cows in a herd.

Kit Tillotson, President of Soil Conservation Association, said he was appreciative of the time allotted to present before the Agricultural Affairs Committee, to show the work they are doing around the state.

Steve Becker, Treasurer Idaho Association of Soil Conservation, stated in 2015 wild fires raged in over 200,000 acres in central Idaho. This began a collaborative effort among the five affected conservation districts to coordinate restoration efforts and pooling of resources. He said members were a combination of locally elected officials, state agencies and federal agencies. This, he said, began the process of developing a North Central Idaho wild fire restoration plan focusing on four main goals; public health/ safety, transportation and infrastructure, natural resources and hazard fuels reduction. Mr. Becker explained, over the past decade multiple entities have made significant contributions to the Clearwater region to protect water quality and fish habitat but because of the wildfires in 2015, many of these areas are subject to erosion rates and invasion of noxious weeds.

In response to committee questions as to why the Soda Fire is not listed, **Mr. Becker** said after a slow start they have now been able to put together a collaborative effort.

In response to another committee question, concerning how they would use requested grant money, **Mr. Becker** said they would work down through their priority list along with leverage grants from conservation districts which are already in place,

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 PM OR UPON ADJOURNMENT
Room EW42
Tuesday, March 08, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
S 1260aa	Beef Cattle / Dairy Farm / Environment	Barry Burnell, Dept. of Environmental Quality

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy of it along with the name of the person or organization responsible to the committee secretary to ensure accuracy of records.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Joan Majors
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Phone: 332-1137
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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 08, 2016

TIME: 1:30 PM OR UPON ADJOURNMENT

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Erpelding, Romrell, and Burtenshaw

GUESTS: Bob Naerebout, Idaho Dairymen Association; Britany Hurst, Idaho Cattlemen Association; Andy Briner, (Idaho Water Users Association) IWUA; Jonathan Oppenheimer (Idaho Conservation League) ICL; Norm Semanko, IWUA; Barry Burnell, (Idaho Department of Environmental Quality) IDEQ; Brent Olmstead, Milk Producers of Idaho; Marcia Jedry, (Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry) IACI; Elizabeth Criner, Simplot

Chairman Andrus called the meeting to order at 2:42 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2016, February 24, 2016 and March 2, 2016 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1260aa: **Barry Burnell**, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, explained this legislation is necessary for Idaho to submit an application to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requesting authorization to implement a state National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. He said Idaho Code directs the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to submit a complete application, consistent with the requirements of the Clean Water Act. Mr. Burnell stated the application will request authorization for what will be known as the Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) program and will clarify the split of authority between the ISDA program and the DEQ authority to issue IPDES permits to those dairy and beef cattle operations that opt for coverage under the IPDES program. He said to the extent dairy farms or beef cattle animal feeding operations are regulated by EPA under the Clean Water Act's discharge program, those facilities would instead be regulated by DEQ under an approved IPDES program.

Mr. Burnell noted while the IPDES program will be partially supported by permit fees, no fees will be imposed for dairy farms or beef cattle animal feeding operations. He said the cost to such facilities should not increase under the legislation however there will be a cost to the State of Idaho to implement this aspect of the IPDES program.

Bob Naerebout, Idaho Dairymen's Association, spoke in support of **S 1260aa** stating the original statute requiring dairies to have Nutrient Management plans was first passed in 2000. He said since that time there has been an increase in research and knowledge on the beneficial use and value of the by-products associated with milk production which required bringing the law up to current knowledge. Mr. Naerebout said it was also necessary to bring clarity to the statute making sure the roles of both the DEQ and ISDA were clearly defined.

Mr. Naerebout said the terminology changes requested, reflect the paradigm shift the industry is going through in how we view all of the products we generate on our operations. He stated the current law is peppered with the word *waste* in referencing manure and lagoon water which falsely classifies a product that has value as a product with no value and requires disposal.

Brittany Hurst, Idaho Cattlemen's Association and **Brent Olmstead**, Milk Producers of Idaho both spoke **in support** of **S 1260aa**.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to send **S 1260aa** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Miller** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
1:30 pm OR UPON ADJOURNMENT
Room EW42
Wednesday, March 16, 2016

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	Approval of Minutes	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Andrus
Vice Chairman Boyle
Rep McMillan
Rep Batt
Rep Bell
Rep Dayley
Rep Miller

Rep Romrell
Rep VanOrden
Rep Burtenshaw
Rep Kerby
Rep Troy
Rep Pence
Rep Erpelding

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Joan Majors
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MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 16, 2016
TIME: 1:30 pm OR UPON ADJOURNMENT
PLACE: Room EW42
MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Boyle, Representatives McMillan, Batt, Bell, Dayley, Miller, Romrell, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Pence, Erpelding
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Miller and Boyle
GUESTS: None
MOTION: **Chairman Andrus** called the meeting to order at 2:57 p.m.
Rep. Pence made a motion to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, March 8, 2016 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
The committee expressed appreciation to **Rep. Pence, Rep. Batt** and **Chairman Andrus** for their service and commitment to the Agricultural Affairs Committee.
Chairman Andrus thanked Committee Page, **Sabrina Castellanos**, for her work this session, he also thanked the Secretary, **Joan Majors**. **Chairman Andrus** expressed his appreciation to the Committee members for their support of him as Chairman.
ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary