

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 08, 2017

TIME: 1:30 PM OR UPON ADJOURNMENT

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Boyle, Vice Chairman Dayley, Representatives Bell, Miller, VanOrden, Burtenshaw, Kerby, Troy, Stevenson, Amador, Armstrong, Hanks, Zito, Erpelding, Toone

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Jesse Taylor, Bear Lake Watch; Jonathan Oppenheimer, ICL; Bryce Fowler, Fremont County; Brain Brooks, IWF; Dirk Mace, St. Anthony Hydro; Benjamin Kelley, Food Producers; Dennis Tanikuni, Idaho Farm Bureau; Mitch Whitmill, Jefferson County

Chairman Boyle called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to approve the minutes of Thursday, February 16, and Tuesday, February 28, 2017. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 256: **Rep. Gestrin**, said we have an invader at our door step. This bill amends the Idaho Invasive Species Act by establishing in the Office of the Governor, an administrator of invasive species policy and codify the Idaho Invasive Species Council. He said this legislation sets up the duties of the administrator and the Department of Agriculture and lays out the coordination effort between state agencies.

In response to a committee question, **Rep. Gestrin** said the administrator will be appointed by the Governor. This appointment will not take anything away from the Department of Agriculture but strengthens the office to work beyond Idaho's borders with surrounding states so they do not duplicate efforts.

In response to a committee question, **Rep. Gestrin** said the additional funding will allow them to build three new check stations along the borders of Idaho.

MOTION: **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to send **H 256** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

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

In response to a committee question, **Rep. Gestrin** said there is research being done at several different universities to find a way to eliminate the threat.

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

Those speaking in support were **Jesse Taylor**, Bear Lake Watch; **Jonathan Oppenheimer**, ICL; **Bryce Fowler**, Fremont County; **Mitch Whitmill**, Jefferson County.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Boyle** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 256** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Gestrin** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Karianne Fallows, United Dairymen CEO, explained they are governed by nine dairy farmers from three different districts throughout the state. She said their mission is to inspire trust in dairy farming and dairy products and to build demand for high quality, nutrient-rich dairy products around the world. She explained dairy farmers have long funded and invested in research about the effects of dairy in the human diet. One area of research is around the consumption of chocolate milk following an intense period of physical activity. She said chocolate milk contains the right amount of protein and carbohydrates to refresh and refuel the body in ways other sport recovery drinks can't. Ms. Fallows explained the Sports Nutrition Symposium they hosted this year. They brought together people interested in physical activity to speak on specific points of interest. They did not charge for the event but instead asked the participants to donate physical activity equipment that was then donated to the YMCA's after school program. She explained the Fuel Up to Play program focuses on good nutrition, physical activity and academic achievement. The Idaho Dairymen of Idaho were able to fund the program in 146 Idaho schools and in those schools they saw a significant increase in consumption of milk, cheese and yogurt.

Ms. Fallows explained they joined with the U.S. Dairy Export Council to participate in a Chinese Media tour. They also worked with partners in the Atlanta area where there are 250 fast growing restaurant chains, to host events talking about the goodness of cheese and other milk products on their menu. Both these endeavors have proven to be very successful.

Ms. Fallows said **Eric Bastian PhD**. has been hired to reinvigorate the Western Dairy Research Center. She explain in the next few years there will be a need to fill 72 jobs with Master and PhD technical people in the processing community.

In response to a committee question, **Ms. Fallows** said they are in the early stages of aggressively planning new work force training. She explained the need for students to do research and professors to guide the research. She said there are a few colleges in the west doing some of that now but there is need for more who are willing to be involved in a collective effort.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Representative Boyle
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary