

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 14, 2020

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW42

MEMBERS: Chairman Boyle, Vice Chairman Troy, Representatives Kerby, Stevenson, Zito, Andrus, Giddings, Goesling, Marshall, Nichols, Raymond, Kiska, Toone, Abernathy, McCrostie

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep.Goesling

GUESTS: T K Kuwahara, Idaho Beef Council; Candi Fitch, Idaho Hop Growers; Laura Wilder, Idaho Barley Commission; Brent Olstead, CALS; Lacey Wilde, Wheat Commission; Benjamin Kelly, Idaho Honey, Idaho Oil seed; Steve Miller; Colby Cameron, DFM; Chanel Tewart, ISDA; Wyatt Prescott, ICIA; Brad Griff, Idaho Sugarbeet Growers; Rich Garber, IGPA; Stacey Satterlee, Idaho Grain Producers; Marv Patten, MPI;

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

MOTION: **Rep. Kiska** made a motion to approve the minutes of Wednesday, January 8, 2020 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0616-1900: **Benjamin Kelly**, Honey Commission Administrator, stated the changes made were to simplify and increase ease of use. He said all process and procedures remain the same.

In response to a committee question, **Mr. Kelly** stated they do not offer a refund of the assessment.

MOTION: **Rep. Troy** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0616-1900. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 02-0701-1900F: **Candi Fitch**, Hops Commission Executive Director, stated the changes made were to clarify and make the language more readable. There were no increases in fees.

In response to a committee question, **Ms. Fitch** said there is not a refund allowed for assessment fees.

MOTION: **Rep. Nichols** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 02-0701-1900F. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 43-0101-1900F: **Benjamin Kelly**, Oil Seed Commission Administrator, stated there were no substitutive changes. He said the processes and procedures did not change.

In response to a committee question, **Mr. Kelly** stated there is a process in place to refund upon request the assessment to growers.

Chairman Boyle explained, years ago the Washington Apple Commission was taken to the Supreme Court. The court decided assessment falls under free speech and money could not be taken from a grower without offering to give it back upon the growers request.

MOTION: **Rep. Toone** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 43-0101-1900F. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 51-0101-1900F: **T K Kuwahara**, Beef Counsel Chief Executive Officer, explained the sections removed were regarding the logo and research and joint marking. She stated these were removed because they are basic business practices of the Idaho Beef Council. She said other minor changes were not substantive. Ms. Kuwahara said the council does offer a refund of assessment to their members.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 51-0101-1900F. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 53-0101-1900F: **Laura Wilder**, Barley Commission Administrator, said the Red Tape Reduction Act was a great opportunity to look at and streamline processes. The changes made were minor. She stated there is not a current provision for a refund of assessment.

MOTION: **Rep. McCrostie** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 53-0101-1900F. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 42-0101-1900F: **Blaine Jacobsen**, Wheat Commission Executive Director, explained in 2017 and 2018 the commission went through and cleaned up rules so the changes made now were mostly minor corrections. There were no changes to the fees or costs. Mr. Jacobsen said there was not a process in place to offer refunds of assessment.

Mr. Jacobsen said he was aware of the Free Speech case in Washington State but stated it dealt with promotion of commodities. He said more than half of the budget from the Wheat Commission goes into research, and 30% of the budget goes into education and communication among other things rather than promotion. He explained a portion of their budget goes into marketing development as more than half of Idaho wheat is exported. He said the wheat growing states combine their money and fund the US Wheat Association. The USDA has a program where they match grower dollars on a two to one or three to one bases.

Former Representative, Steve Miller, Rancher, stated four years ago during the Rule process, it was questioned how the commission collected names and personal information from their growers as required by the elevator operators. He asked how the commission had changed to satisfy the concerns of the growers about private information being shared.

Mr. Jacobsen stated it is an important tool used to communicate with the wheat growers on a timely bases. He explained elevator operators have the option to opt out of collecting private information from the growers.

Chairman Boyle stated the rule does not state it is an option and practices are not following the rule as written.

MOTION: **Rep. Troy** made a motion to **Hold Out Section 301.03.a,b.** of the Rule for further review.

Chairman Boyle put the committee at ease.

Chairman Boyle resumed the meeting.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: **Rep. Troy** withdrew her motion to **Hold Out Section 301.03.a,b.** of the Rule for further review.

Chairman Boyle said **Docket No. 42-0101-1900F** will be brought before the committee again at a later date..

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

Representative Boyle
Chair

Joan Majors
Secretary