

MINUTES  
**SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020

**TIME:** 8:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW53

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Guthrie, Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog, Senators Patrick, Harris, Mortimer, Lent, Bayer, Jordan, and Nelson

**ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None

**NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies, and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the Committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**CONVENED:** **Chairman Guthrie** called the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:00 a.m.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** **Senator Lent** moved to approve the Minutes of January 23, 2020. **Senator Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**Senator Mortimer** moved to approve the Minutes of January 30, 2020. **Senator Lent** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**S 1294** **Jeff Siddoway**, Idaho Elk Breeders Association, presented **S 1294**, Relating to Domestic Cervidae; Amend and Revise. He outlined the history of revenue and expenses of the Animal Industries Domestic Cervidae Fund which led to the promulgation of this bill (see attachment 1). **Mr. Siddoway** explained how there have been years when expenses were higher than revenue, causing a negative fund balance. He noted that fees were doubled in 2014, and the amount of inspection and testing required were lessened, resulting in the debt being paid and the fund currently having a surplus. **S 1294** would reduce the fees to not more than \$10 as determined by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's (ISDA) director.

**MOTION:** **Senator Mortimer** moved to send **S 1294** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Harris** seconded the motion.

**DISCUSSION:** **Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog** asked if there needs to be in law what is already in rule which allows the ISDA's director to reduce the fee if the account balance reaches \$100,000. **Mr. Siddoway** replied ISDA believes that it would be best to have this language in code rather than rule.

**Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog** asked what provisions ISDA has to move the fees that operators have paid between the different livestock funds. She expressed her concern about the possibility of future accruing debt. **Mr. Siddoway** replied that the General Livestock Fund is available for emergencies.

**Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog** reiterated her concern regarding the director's discretion to change the amount of the fees. She stated that the language in rule might be better than the language set forth in this bill.

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion to send **S 1294** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation carried by **voice vote**. **Senator Den Hartog** requested she be recorded as voting nay.

**S 1286**            **Colby Cameron**, Regulatory Analysis, Division of Financial Management, presented **S 1286**. Relating to Animals; Repeal Sections Relating to Hogs at Large. **Mr. Cameron** said the passage of the proposed legislation would repeal Idaho Code §§ 25-2102 through 25-06. He stated that these sections of the pre-1889 law relate to taking hogs at large and giving notification of their capture and location. **Mr. Cameron** noted that while other parts of the law are still relevant and should be kept, these sections are obsolete.

**MOTION:**            **Senator Nelson** moved to send **S 1286** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Patrick** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**ADJOURNED:**        There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Guthrie** adjourned the meeting at 8:23 a.m.

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Senator Jim Guthrie  
Chair

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LeAnn Mohr  
Secretary

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Carol Cornwall  
Assistant Secretary