

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 24, 2023
TIME: 1:30 P.M.
PLACE: Room EW42
MEMBERS: Chairman Andrus, Vice Chairman Raymond, Representatives Boyle, Cannon, McCann, Ehlers, Gallagher, Garner, Nelsen, Pickett, Sauter, Mathias, Nash, Roberts
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

MOTION: **Rep. Mathias** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2023, and January 18, 2023. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chanel Tewalt, Director, Idaho Department of Agriculture (ISDA), presented performance measures, explaining the purposes for establishing the ISDA were to protect Idaho's crops and livestock from the introduction and spread of pests and transmittable diseases, provide a system for the marketing of agricultural commodities, and protect consumers. Plant health is responsible for registration, inspection of commercial feed, fertilizer, soil, plant amendments including pest exclusion, and prevention of noxious weeds and invasive species.

Ms. Tewalt explained Market development promotes Idaho food, beverage, and agriculture companies. Animal health regulates animal disease control and prevention programs through inspection, investigation and regulation of livestock, and movement of animals in intrastate, interstate and international commerce. Inspection functions inspects commodities for quality and condition at the shipping point, inspects and certifies organic operations, and all weighing devices and licensed warehouses. The four commodity commissions are; the Idaho Honey Advertising Commission, Idaho Hop Commission, Idaho Mint Commission, and Idaho Sheep and Goat Health Board.

Dr. Garth Taylor, University of Idaho (U of I), Agricultural Economist, addressed the committee regarding the financial condition of Idaho Agriculture during the 2022 year. Idaho has the fifth largest agricultural GDP as a percentage of overall state GDP in the nation. The 2022 Idaho cash receipts are at an all time high of \$11 billion, up 28% from 2021 at \$8.6 billion. Milk has had a 290% growth since 1997. Food and agriculture now exceed micro chips in Idaho exports. Revenues include cash receipts from crop and livestock sales, inventory changes, the estimated value of home consumption, government payments, machine hire and custom work, forest product sales, and the imputed rental value of farm dwellings. Farm expenses include farm-origin inputs (purchased livestock, feed, and seed), manufactured inputs (fertilizers, fuel, and electricity), and "other inputs," including repairs and maintenance, machine hire and custom work, marketing, storage, transportation, and contract labor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Representative Kevin Andrus
Chair

Jayne Feik
Secretary