

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 06, 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 1:41 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Sauter** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 2, 2023. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30217: **Rep. Pickett** said **RS 30217** incorporates language defining when the individual notice to a landowner to control and eradicate noxious weeds is deemed satisfied and served. This clarification would prevent absentee landowners from arguing they were not present to receive service and prevent landowners from evading service. In response to committee questions, Rep. Pickett explained the eight day time limit is in Code. Informal notifications are given prior to this formal notification so every opportunity is given to the landowner to take care of the weeds.

MOTION: **Rep. Garner** made a motion to return **RS 30217** to sponsor.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 30217**. **Substitute Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 30206: **Rep. Nelsen** spoke to **RS 030206** regarding commercial animal feed to allow animal remedies intended for pets and equines to contain ingredients from industrial hemp as defined in Idaho law. This legislation does not legalize industrial hemp ingredients being included in production animal feeds.

MOTION: **Rep. Nash** made a motion to introduce **RS 30206**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Jessica Anderson, Public Relations, stated Amalgamated Sugar's mission is to produce real sugar for the informed consumer and improve the economic experience for member-growers and employees. The vision is to enhance the enjoyment and function of food by producing real sugar in the most technologically advanced and socially responsible manner. She said real sugar, in the role and function in food, is not a problem, however, caloric intake and inactivity are often blamed on sugar. An anaerobic digester is being worked on to clean the water from the sugar. In addition to reducing smell, the water will be used to water crops and in the sugarbeet facilities.

Samantha Parrot, Executive Director, Snake River Sugarbeet Growers Association (SRSGA), introduced **Doug Evans**, Board President. Sugarbeets, a root crop, are 18% sucrose and when fully grown, weigh two to five pounds. Planted in late March or the end of April, sugarbeets are harvested in late September and October. The beets must be harvested quickly or they rot on the ground. Sugarbeets are stored in 72 piling grounds across the region until processed. One sugarbeet contains one cup of sugar, four and a half cups of water, four tablespoons of molasses and 2.4 ounces of beet pulp. All of the sugarbeet is used, including the beet pulp for animal feed and more. Sugarbeets represent 55% of domestically produced sugar. Eleven states grow sugarbeets, with Idaho ranking second nationally in production. There are seven hundred family farms in Idaho, Oregon and Washington and they process seven million tons of sugarbeets. The mission and purpose of Snake River Sugarbeet Growers Association is to support state and federal legislation advancing the agricultural industry, promoting research to improve sugarbeet growing practices and educate the general public about sugarbeets and benefits of agriculture.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Representative Andrus
Chair

Jayne Feik
Secretary