

MINUTES
HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 20, 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:** Nash

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. Sauter** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 8, 2023, and February 14, 2023. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Cody Burlile, Idaho State Brand Inspector, explained the Board is responsible for ensuring the welfare of livestock and protection of the public from theft of branded animals. The role of the inspector includes inspecting, identifying, and verifying ownership of livestock as well as enforcing livestock laws and regulations. The inspector works closely with livestock producers, auction markets, and other stakeholders to ensure Idaho's livestock industry operates efficiently and legally. Idaho is home to more than 2.5 million cattle, and is one of nine states having more cattle than people. The dairy industry in Idaho is ranked number three in the nation, and the livestock industry is Idaho's second largest agriculture sector.

In the fiscal year 2022, the Idaho Brand Board had 2,322,179 total brand inspections, including 2,311,631 cattle and 10,548 horses. The stray recovery was 145 head valued at \$127,493. Other statistics for the year included: 17,784 brand recordings; 189 livestock dealers; and 588 livestock dealer representatives.

The target for complete implementation of the electronic Livestock Brand Inspection software platform was 95% in 2022 and the actual was 70%. Providing prompt service livestock to livestock owners was 98% actual with a target of 96%. Increasing public awareness of agency through training was an actual of 75% with a target of 85%. Processing new brand recordings in a timely manner actual was 95% and the target was 92%. Hold proceeds where ownership of livestock is questionable had an actual of 98% with a target of 98%.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Representative Kevin Andrus
Chair

Jayne Feik
Secretary