

MINUTES  
**SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

- DATE:** Tuesday, January 21, 2020
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room WW53
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Guthrie, Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog, Senators Patrick, Harris, Mortimer, Lent, Bayer, and Nelson
- ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Jordan
- 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 Agricultural Affairs Committee (Committee) to order at 8:00 am.
- PRESENTATION:** **Dean Michael Parrella**, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs), University of Idaho (UI), presented the CALs Initiative Updates. He spoke about the three ongoing initiatives in CALs: 1.) Nancy M. Cummings Research, Extension and Education Center; 2.) Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment; and 3.) Idaho Center for Plant and Soil Health. He explained the funding partnerships, the areas of study in each initiative, the consumers, and the impact to the state. He concluded his presentation with a video highlighting UI research and how the research expansion is benefiting the state.
- Dr. Juliet Marshall**, Research Professor, Extension Specialist — Plant Pathologist, CALs, UI, presented Advancing Scientific Methods to Improve Agricultural Sustainability and Aberdeen Research and Extension Center (AREC) project updates. She detailed the demographics of AREC and the locations it serves. She reviewed the plants that are studied and the diseases AREC works to identify and eradicate. She said through the work on predictive and reactive diagnostics, the staff at AREC can provide solutions to growers to help them minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides. **Dr. Marshall** said with the advancements in technology, growers can now access the real time disease data.
- Dr. Garth Taylor**, Agricultural Economist, UI, presented the Financial Condition of Idaho Agriculture. He reported Idaho's national top rankings in the agricultural economy; crop and cash. He detailed the cash receipts growth in the past year and how dairy (milk) is a third of those receipts. He said there are over 600,000 cows in the state. He detailed how the dairy industry also impacts farming. **Dr. Taylor** spoke about the importance of agriculture to the state's economy and detailed the upward trend in agriculture income in Idaho. In this state, he said agriculture is outperforming industry. He concluded the presentation by addressing the 2020 economic outlook which indicates the continuation of strong agricultural growth (see attachment 1).
- PASSED THE GAVEL:** Vice Chairman Guthrie passed the gavel to Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog.
- DOCKET NO. 02-0000-1900FA** **Brian Oakey**, Deputy Director, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), presented **Docket No. 02-0000-1900FA**. He explained to the Committee that this docket was originally presented on January 16, 2020 and was held until Committee members could review the weighmaster section that had inadvertently been omitted.

**Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog** said the questions and concerns regarding cervidae issues in this docket had also been addressed. She said the Committee has had time to review the omitted section.

**MOTION:** **Senator Harris** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0000-1900FA**. **Senator Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO. 02-0104-1901** **Mr. Oakey** introduced Laura Johnson, Bureau Chief, Market Development Division, ISDA, to present **Docket No 02-0104-1901**; Rules Governing the Idaho Preferred Promotion Program (Program). **Ms. Johnson** said the Program engaged in negotiated rulemaking to make changes to product qualifications. She stated changes to this rule allow more industry sectors to participate in the Program. Changes were also made to reflect consistency. She detailed the negotiated rulemaking process and reported the number of people who attended the meetings. She said all members, stakeholders, and retailers received a copy of the rules for their review.

**Ms. Johnson** walked the Committee through the changes. She spoke about the definition additions to production qualifications for beer, beef, and game meat. She said to be classified in the Program, products must be manufactured in Idaho.

**MOTION:** **Senator Mortimer** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0104-1901**. **Senator Patrick** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO. 46-0101-1900F** **Jeremy Brown**, Executive Director, Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board), presented **Docket No. 46-0101-1900F**, Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine: Omnibus Rule. He said the changes to the docket were in line with the Red Tape Reduction Act (RTRA) and include the removal of out-dated, redundant, and repetitive language, making the rules more efficient. He detailed the specific changes and reported the fees in this docket remain unchanged.

**Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog** explained the reason to first approve the omnibus docket with the prior fee scale before the Committee could address the fee increases that will be presented in the traditional docket.

**MOTION:** **Senator Patrick** moved to approve **Docket No. 46-0101-1900F**. **Senator Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO. 46-0101-1902** **Mr. Brown** presented **Docket No. 46-0101-1902**, Rules of the State of Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board); Pending Fee rule. He said the Board is seeking to increase the fees. He walked the Committee through the fee increases of licensure and certification. He said diminished revenue has impacted the ability of the Board to accomplish its scope of responsibility. He detailed the negotiated rulemaking efforts and stated the Board approves the fee increase.

In response to Committee concerns, **Mr. Brown** replied that over the last three years, the Board has experienced a steady decline in the account balance. The increase in the fee structure should accommodate the Board's work for the next six to eight years. He reported there were fee increases in 1999 and in 2015.

Committee members requested the Board provide more account information before a vote would be taken.

**MOTION:** **Senator Mortimer** moved to hold **Docket No. 46-0101-1902** in Committee until the financial information requested is provided to the Committee. **Chairman Guthrie** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.  
60-0000-1900F**

**Corrine Dalzell**, Rules Review Officer, Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission (Commission), presented **Docket No. 60-0000-1900F**; Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission. She explained the process the Commission undertook to comply with the RTRA. She said rules that were obsolete, outdated, or unnecessary were removed. She explained how the Commission consolidated four rules into one rule with two subchapters. She reported negotiated rulemaking occurred and explained the changes made to the rule. She stated there were no changes to the fees.

**MOTION:**

**Senator Patrick** moved to approve **Docket No. 60-0000-1900F**. **Senator Lent** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**PASSED THE  
GAVEL:**

Vice Chairwoman Den Hartog passed the gavel to Chairman Guthrie.

**ADJOURNED:**

There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Guthrie** adjourned the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

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Senator Jim Guthrie  
Chair

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LeAnn Mohr  
Secretary