

MINUTES
SENATE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room WW53
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Guthrie, Vice Chairman 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** convened the meeting of the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee at 8:00 a.m.
- INTRODUCTION:** **Rick Waitley**, President, Waitley Associates, introduced some of the students and faculty from the University of Idaho, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Each of the students and faculty stood and introduced themselves, stating where they are from and some of their future goals.
- PRESENTATION:** **Idaho Wine Commission. Moya Dolsby**, Executive Director, Idaho Wine Commission (Commission), explained that their Commission has about a \$700,000 budget. Three hundred thousand dollars of that comes from grant money, which helps provide education to wineries and growers and to encourage them to continue their winery businesses in Idaho. They have a small staff of four and a board of directors made up of five individuals who are each appointed by the Governor. The Commission started in North Idaho, Lewiston area in the 1860s. Business slowed down for the Wine Commission in the 1920s due to Prohibition and didn't start to pick up again until the 1970s. In 2007, the Snake River Valley American Viticulture Area (AVA) was approved, which is a federally designated grape growing area. There are now three such areas in Idaho, which is excellent considering Idaho only has 53 wineries on just 1,300 acres planted. Planting grapes in Idaho is a huge cost. It takes several years before the grape vines mature and grape producers begin to make a good profit. In 2013, the Idaho wine industry had a \$170 million economic impact. Idaho's soil, climate, elevation, and growing season help contribute to making Idaho a desirable location to grow and operate wineries.
- PASSED THE GAVEL:** Chairman Guthrie passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Den Hartog.
- DOCKET NO. 11-0201-1801** **Rules of the Idaho State Brand Board. Vice Chairman Den Hartog** explained that the rule had been presented by Cody Burlile, Inspector of the Idaho State Brand Board, in the previous meeting, but many of the Committee members were absent. Now that all of the Committee members were present, she explained that the rule was before them to consider a motion on it.
- MOTION:** **Senator Harris** moved to approve **Docket No. 11-0201-1801. Senator Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 02-0801-1801 **Sheep and Goat Rules of the Idaho Sheep and Goat Health Board (Board).** **Brandy Kay**, Executive Secretary of the Board, explained that in Section 701.02 of the Goat assessment, they are striking out the words "and shall be deducted by the first purchaser from the price paid to the producer at the time of such sale." They are also adding to Goat Assessments 701.02a, "yards will deduct the assessment from the price paid to the producer at the time of sale. All goat assessments will be sent to the Board from the auction yards after each sale, but no later than 30 days after the sale. Assessments will be accompanied by a board approved form that includes a list of the producer's name, address, and number of head sold." Other changes include striking out Section 701.03 of the Goat Assessments portion of the rule and changing Section 701.04 to Section 701.03.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Harris** asked Ms. Kay if the goat industry in Idaho is growing. **Ms. Kay** confirmed that the goat industry in Idaho is growing, especially with goats that are produced for meat.

MOTION: **Senator Lent** moved to approve **Docket No. 02-0801-1801**. **Senator Bayer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 29-0103-1802 **Rules Governing Nominations for Appointment as a Commissioner to the Idaho Potato Commission (IPC).** **Patrick Kole**, Vice President, IPC, explained that their March commissioner nomination meetings resulted in discrepancies they need to solve by clarifying their nominating process in administrative rules. He explained that in order to prevent future discrepancies, the IPC proposes to add a chapter clarifying their nominating procedures. They intend to submit this as a proposed rule after the next legislative session. The Governor has found that temporary adoption of Docket No. 29-0103-1802 is appropriate because the current nominating process for selecting commissioners has never been outlined by administrative rules. The nomination meetings in March 2018 revealed deep flaws in the process. Mr. Kole also explained that the IPC needs to clarify their nominating process through administrative rulemaking to better serve the Idaho potato industry. Another reason, he explained, for temporarily adopting the rule is that it will confer a benefit on the industry by providing a sound method for electing the best qualified commissioners to serve the Idaho potato industry.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Mortimer** asked Mr. Kole if one person can only be represented in one specific time in one category. **Mr. Kole** answered that the principle is one man, one vote. Additionally, they wanted to avoid the possibility that there could be one person appointed to three different commissions.

Senator Patrick stated that he recognized the need for further clarification in the rule and asked whether the Committee was going to first look at the RS and then make a decision on the rule on a different date. **Mr. Kole** stated that would be an appropriate way of proceeding with the rule.

Chairman Guthrie asked Mr. Kole if he could further explain the difference between the current rule and what the IPC is proposing to change with the rule. **Mr. Kole** answered that the existing rule states that only growers may be appointed as commissioner. The IPC is proposing they add in flexibility so that somebody could be involved in all three categories as either a grower, shipper, or processor.

TESTIMONY: **Keith Esplin**, Executive Director, Potato Growers of Idaho, gave a brief testimony of the need to adopt the changes to the rule and that it would correct a lot of the problems associated with the current rule.

DISCUSSION: **Vice Chairman Den Hartog** said that the Committee will leave the rule as is until further notice.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chairman Den Hartog passed the gavel back to Chairman Guthrie.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, **Chairman Guthrie** adjourned the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

Senator Guthrie
Chair

Jacob Garner
Secretary