

**COMMITTEE MINUTES for
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: *January 27, 2015*

Location: *RM 305*

Convened: *10:05 AM*

Adjourned: *11:05 AM*

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Senators Wilhelm-CH, Kinney-VC, Rozenboom-RM, Schultz; Representatives Drake-CH, Mommsen-VC, Ourth-RM, Isenhardt, Jones, Miller, H., Paustian, Ruff, Wills

Absent:

Excused: Senator Dearden

Senator Wilhelm called the subcommittee to order at 10:05 AM. Roll was taken, with all Representatives and Senators present - excepting Senator Dearden, who was excused.

Representative Miller moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Senator Wilhelm introduced Bill Northey, Secretary of Agriculture, and invited him to begin his presentation on the Department of Agriculture's budgetary requests for FY2016 and FY2017. Secretary Northey requested a funding increase for the Water Quality Initiative - from \$4.4 million per year to \$7.5 million for FY2016 and FY2017. Furthermore, he requested a funding increase for Soil Conservation - from \$6.75 million to \$7.5 million per year for the same upcoming fiscal years. Lastly, he requested an increase in funding for Agriculture Drainage Wells - from \$0 to \$1.92 million per year for the same upcoming fiscal years.

During his presentation, questions were asked by Representative Isenhardt, Representative Drake, Representative Ourth, Senator Rozenboom, Representative Miller, and Representative Wills.

Senator Wilhelm thanked Secretary Northey for his presentation. Senator Kinney moved to arise, and the subcommittee adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Senator Mary Jo Wilhelm

Kevin Protzmann, Committee Secretary