

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

Date: *January 18, 2017*

Location: *RM 305*

Convened: *10:05 AM*

Adjourned: *10:40 AM*

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Senators Shipley-CH, Brown-VC, Kinney, Rozenboom; Representatives Mommensen-CH, Zumbach-VC, Ourth-RM, Hein, Isenhardt, Paustian, Prichard, Steckman

Absent:

Excused: Senator Hart-RM; Representative Bacon

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee was called to order by Senator Shipley in room 305. Roll was called with all legislators present except Senator Hart, Representative Bacon, and Representative Isenhardt.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

Senator Shipley introduced the guest speakers at the meeting. Present were Gretta Irwin with the Iowa Turkey Federation, Katie Olthoff with the Iowa Cattlemen's Association, and Tyler Bettin with the Iowa Pork Producers.

Tyler Bettin with the Iowa Pork Producers discussed how they recognized and understood the limitations and challenges in the budget this year. He also discussed that the IPP is dedicated to strong biosecurity, and they have put many things in place to improve this. Yet, there are many improvements to be made when addressing Foot and Mouth and foreign diseases. He stated that the Department of Agriculture will be a strong partner going forward, and that the \$500,000 request holds much interest. Tyler then asked the committee for questions.

Senator Rozenboom was recognized. He shared his experience in the swine industry, understanding the value of being prepared and the financial impact of something such as foot and mouth and how devastating it can be to Iowa's economy.

Katie Olthoff with the Iowa Cattlemen's Association discussed the importance of Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness. She shared that they had brought industry people together what weaknesses existed and what future preparedness could be expected. In the Association's animal policy meeting, it was discussed that infrastructure was needed. Katie opened up for questions.

Representative Steckman was recognized. She asked a question concerning the purpose of premise ID's and the context of how they would be used. Katie Olthoff answered that it helped with the location of animals on producers' property. Representative Paustian asked a question concerning the premise ID's whether it was a USDA program or not. Tyler answered that it has fallen to the state. Representative Paustian was recognized. He asked if, for instance, swine and cattle would have the same premise ID. Gretta shared that it would help assisting in locating where outbreaks started, and quarantine more quickly contaminated animals. She also shared that these premise ID's were very secure with the USDA. Tyler shared the need for these to be accurate, and Representative Steckman asked once these were reported, if it was updated.

Gretta Irwin discussed the sheet that outlined the information on the \$500,000 funding request. She shared that there was broad support for this. She stated that the industry was watching and prepared. She shared that a Birdbook containing information about how we will respond if there

is an outbreak could be found on the Iowa Department of Agriculture's website. She expressed a goal of recognizing the source and contaminated animals of an outbreak and euthanizing these birds within twenty-four hours. It was expressed that it is important for these plans to go into place quickly.

Representative Prichard was recognized. He asked for clarification as to whether federal support was given on helping with decontaminations and cleanup, and what that support looked like now. He also asked for clarification as to what the \$500,000 was going to help do. Greta shared that it was mostly on the responsibility of farmers now, there was no longer support from the USDA. Also, the \$500,000 was to ensure that there would be people in place to respond to plans.

Representative Isenhardt was recognized. He asked for clarification on qualifying for commodity checkoff funds, and if there would be industry support if the \$500,000 request could not be fully met?

Representative Mommsen was recognized. He asked for clarification as to whether the testing labs were reimbursed for the testing done during the 2015 outbreak. Greta shared that the farmers were the ones that had to pay for the testing, and the farmers were not reimbursed.

Senator Shipley was recognized. He asked for clarification on the probability of processors participating in the cost, and concerning the kind of federal plans. Katie shared that many of the major packers are multi-national, so they could source through other countries.

Senator Shipley called for further questions. As there was no further business, Senator Shipley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Senator Rozenboom.

Senator Tom Shipley

Cassie Bond, Committee Secretary