

COMMITTEE MINUTES for AGRICULTURE

Date: February 04, 2009 **Place:** Rm 102, Supreme Court Consult Rm

Convened: 2/4/2009 1:00 PM **Recessed:** **Reconvened:** **Adjourned:** 2/4/2009 1:45 PM

Present: Representatives Marek-VC, Drake-RM, Bailey, Beard, Bell, Bukta, De Boef, Dolecheck, Frevert, Gayman, Huseman, Olson, S., Rayhons, Reasoner, Sweeney, Wenthe, Worthan, Zirkelbach

Absent: None

Excused: Representatives Mertz-CH, Miller, H., Struyk

Vice-Chair Marek called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

The minutes of the February 2nd meeting were amended to change the signature line from Representative Dolores Mertz to Representative Larry Marek. As there were no additional corrections, deletions and/or amendments to the minutes, they were approved with the correction as indicated.

The following bills were assigned to subcommittee:
HSB 148 - Mertz, Chair; Bailey and Drake
HSB 143 - Marek, Chair; Bailey, Bell, Dolecheck and Drake
HSB 117 - Wenthe, Chair; Miller and Struyk

Vice-Chair Marek recognized Dr. John Thomson, Dean of the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Thomson introduced his colleagues Dr. Halbur, Executive Director of the Diagnostic Laboratory and Department Chair of the Veterinary Diagnostic and Production of Animal Medicine; Dr. Roger Main, Director of Operations for the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory; and Dr. Tom Johnson from the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association.

Dr. Thomson discussed the renovation and expansion of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. He indicated that the modernization and renovation of the medical center must be completed to meet minimum accreditation standards and provide a quality teaching, learning and service environment. He further stated that state funding was imperative in order to make this happen.

Dr. Halbur spoke on the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and how it works closely with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa veterinarians, and livestock producers to provide the first line of defense against livestock diseases through delivery of high quality diagnostic services, comprehensive surveillance testing programs, and applied research on diseases of high relevance to Iowa animal agriculture.

Thomson and Halbur answered questions presented by committee members including the programs budget needs.

As there was no further business to come before the Committee, Representative Bailey moved to arise.

Representative Larry Marek

Donna Downey, Committee Secretary