

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

January 16, 1997 Hearing Room HR D

8:30 AM Tapes 01 - 02

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Charles Starr, Chair

Rep. Dennis Luke

Rep. Ken Messerle

Rep. Kurt Schrader

Rep. Judith Uherbelau

Rep. Larry Wells

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Terry Thompson, Vice Chair

STAFF PRESENT:

Judith Gruber, Administrator

Linda Kowal, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

Adoption of Committee Rules

Member introduction

Agriculture video presentation

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

Tape/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 1, SIDE A		
001	Chair Starr	Convenes meeting at 08:34
<u>ADOPT RULES</u>		
003	Chair Starr	MOTION: Moves to ADOPT the proposed Committee Rules (EXHIBIT A).
003		

		VOTE: Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
	<u>MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS</u>	
	Chair Starr	Asks the committee members to introduce themselves and briefly describe their background.
018	Rep. Schrader	Veterinary practice and farmer.
023	Rep. Wells	Served on the Agriculture Committee last session, farmer for 30 some years.
028	Rep. Thompson	Commercial fishing from District 4, has been involved in fishery issues since foreign fleet started back in the McCall era
035	Rep. Messerle	Fourth generation family business in timber and cattle. Has also been involved in natural resource issues, water commission, water districts, water shed councils.
050	Rep. Luke	Has served on this Committee two sessions in a row. Recalls two issues from previous sessions regarding dairy farmers quota (1993) and last session, fishermen .
060	Rep. Uherbelau	From District 52 which encompasses urban Ashland in contrast with the rest of the District which is very timber dependent and natural resource based.
071	Rep. Starr	Representing rural Washington county, third term here, first time to serve on the Agriculture and Natural Resource Committee. Has worked in agriculture all his life, has a farm, served as general manager farmers cooperative, agricultural field, food processing.
081	Rep. Starr	Refers to staff, asks Judith to introduce the staff.
089	Rep. Starr	Calls the Department of Agriculture represented by Bruce Andrews,
094	Bruce Andrews	Introduces himself as the Director of the Department of Agriculture. With him is Phil Ward, Assistant Director; Lorna Young, Assistant Director; and Jack Jones from marketing.
106	Andrews	Introducing the video presentation
122	Andrews	Running equipment
127	Andrews	Begins presentation. Handout materials, (EXHIBIT B)
157	Andrews	Continues with presentation
207	Andrews	Continues with presentation
257	Andrews	Continues with presentation
262	Rep. Luke	States to Chair Starr the Health Division does the actual inspection.

265	Andrews	Responds to Rep. Luke's inquiry with a designation of what the Health Department does and what the Agriculture Department does with regard to inspections.
275	Andrews	Continues with presentation
325	Andrews	Continues with presentation
375	Andrews	Continues with presentation
400	Andrews	Continues with presentation
450	Andrews	Continues with presentation
TAPE 2, SIDE A		
000	Andrews	Continues with presentation
050	Andrews	Continues with presentation
074	Rep. Luke	Inquires if there is intention to let populations of exotic species expand.
076	Andrews	Responds with an overall statement regarding regulations and uncertainty of whether, or to what extent, the Department is involved.
086	Andrews	Continues with presentation
096	Andrews	Continues with presentation and states that one of the Department's goals is to increase commodity sales, increase value added sales, and double the value added production in this State in the next ten years.
121	Andrews	Continues with presentation and states facts regarding age, income return.
147	Andrews	End of presentation, offers to answer any questions.
149	Rep. Luke	Asks about gasoline quality and are there any results.
156	Andrews	Responds with findings.
170	Phil Ward	Assistant Director, Department of Agriculture. Offers more information on expectations on final numbers.
167	Rep. Luke	Asks about testing across the State and if there were violations in one area more than another.
173	Andrews	Responds that the testing was done across the whole state and does not recall particular geographical areas having a particular problem more than others.
178	Rep. Messerle	Asks question with regard to funding.
192	Rep. Wells	Asks question with regard to laws from last session on importation.
202	Lorna Youngs	Assistant Director, OR Dept. of Agriculture. Provides testimony updating importation of logs and wood products states there have not been any major infestations or problems.

218	Rep. Luke	Asks whether we are importing manufactured lumber or logs.
224	Lorna Youngs	Assistant Director, Department of Agriculture. Responds that the regulation laws were put in place to deal with the importation of raw wood. Raw wood imports come in under Federal regulations which require processing within thirty days of when it gets into the United States. The Department has assisted in the inspection process. There are no restrictions on kiln dried wood brought into the United States.
240	Rep. Wells	Refers to honey bee inspection and current problem with mites, asks whether they will get back into the business again.
248	Youngs	Responds the widespread and swift spread of mites influenced the end to most of the States regulatory programs on the inspection of honey bees. Most states now are using pesticides applied in the hive for control. The biggest impact is the pollination capability from small hobbyist and f wild honey bees which have been pretty much wiped out from these mites. Commercial bee keepers have adapted and continue to operate.
277	Rep. Luke	Asks question regarding field burning. Bruce Andrews responds they are finding different ways to sanitize the fields and are burning less than what is permissible.
299	Rep. Wells	Asks question regarding animal health.
318	Ward	Responds that they have much better communication with the professional veterinarian association.
324	Rep. Wells	Asks if they will talk about their budget, proposed Clean Streams initiative and 19 new citizen positions, his opinion of the future direction.
325	Andrews	Responds if the Chair request a more in depth discussion of the positions and where they will come in and how they will relate.
344	Chair Starr	Ask for more questions, no further questions. Adjourns Meeting

Submitted By, Reviewed By,
Linda Kowal, Judith Gruber,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - Committee Rules Agriculture & Natural Resources, Staff, 2pp.

B - Brochures provided by Bruce Andrews, Director of the Department of Agriculture:

Oregon Agriculture Facts and Figures, 2pp. The Oregon Department of Agriculture

and What it Does for You, 2pp. Water Quality and Agriculture in Oregon

Implementation of Senate Bill 1010, 2pp. Agriculture: Oregon's Leading Industry

A Closer Look At --- 24pp.