

STATE OF MINNESOTA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AGRICULTURE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

THIRTY-NINTH MEETING
NINETY-SECOND SESSION

Representative Mike Sundin, Chair of the Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee, called the virtual meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. on Monday, March 21, 2022, pursuant to House rule 10.01. The meeting was broadcast via Zoom and House Public Information Services.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll. A quorum was present.

Members present:

SUNDIN, Mike, CHAIR
VANG, Samantha, Vice Chair
ANDERSON, Paul, Minority Lead
BURKEL, John
ECKLUND, Rob
HANSEN, Rick
HANSON, Jessica
KLEVORN, Ginny
LIPPERT, Todd
LUECK, Dale
MILLER, Tim
NELSON, Nathan
THOMPSON, John

Rep. Thompson moved to approve adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion prevailed. The minutes from the March 16, 2022 meeting were adopted.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture provided an update FY 21 Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Program Report

Presenting:

- Ashley Bress, MDA, Ag Marketing & Development Division, Grants Team Supervisor
- Emily Mehr, MDA, Ag Marketing & Development Division, Senior Program Administrator
- Paul Hugunin, MDA, Ag Marketing & Development Division Director

HF 4120 (Lippert) Farm-to-school grant funding increased, child care providers who purchase from local farmers reimbursement authorized, and money appropriated.

Rep. Lippert moved that HF 4120 be referred to the Committee on Early Childhood Finance and Policy.

Testifying:

Jami Rokala, Child Nutrition Services Manager, Tri-Valley Head Start, Crookston, MN
John Peterson, Farmer, Owner at Ferndale Market, Cannon Falls, MN
Rachel Doherty, Farm2School Coordinator, Mesabi East Environmental Education Center

Manager, Mesabi East Schools
Peter Skold, Waxwing Farm, Land Stewardship Project Member
Ashley Bress, MDA

Rep. Lippert renewed his motion that HF 4120 be recommended to be referred to the Committee on Early Childhood Finance and Policy.

AYES:
SUNDIN
VANG
ANDERSON
BURKEL
ECKLUND
HANSEN, R.
HANSON, J.
KLEVORN
LIPPERT
LUECK
MILLER
NELSON
THOMPSON

There beings 13 ayes and 0 nays, the motion prevailed and HF 4120 was re-referred to the Early Childhood Finance and Policy Committee.

HF 4166 (Anderson) Animal possession prohibition and requirement exemption modified.

Rep. Anderson moved that HF 4166 be laid over for future consideration.

Testifying:

Joan Hemker, Hemker Park & Zoo
Tammy Thies, Founder & Executive Director, The Wildcat Sanctuary
Christine Coughlin, Minnesota State Director, Humane Society of the United States
Tanya Smith, Founder, Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge
John Seyjagat, Executive Director, Zoological Association of America
Charlie Sammut, ZAA, Director, Monterey Zoological Society

Rep. Anderson renewed his motion and HF 4166 was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus Agriculture bill.

Chair Sundin adjourned the meeting at 2:11 P.M.

Representative Mike Sundin, Chair

Kyle Smith, Committee Legislative Assistant