

## MINUTES

Environment, Agriculture and Economic Development Budget Division

Chair: Sen. Dallas Sams

12:00 p.m. Room 107 Capitol

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Anderson  
Bakk  
Bachmann  
Cohen  
Dibble  
Dille  
Frederickson  
Jungbauer  
Kubly  
Metzen  
Pariseau  
Rosen  
Sams  
Vickerman

### MEMBERS ABSENT

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

Senator Skoe presented SF1951, Agriculture Utilization Research Institute Vineyard production research project grant. Senator Frederickson moved to amend SF19512. Amendment was adopted. Dale Olmstead, Fosston grower and Tom Plocher, grape breeder testified in support of the bill and responded to members questions. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Senator Dean Johnson presented SF787, Willmar rail container load out facility. Craig Damstrom, Department of Agriculture and Bob Zelenka, Midwest Shipper Association testified in support of the bill and responded to members questions. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Senator Kierlin presented SF576, Lanesboro theater & arts center construction grant. Hal Cropp, Commonweal Theatre Company, Core Artist /Executive Director; Carla Noack, Commonweal Theatre Company, Board of Directors; Julie Kiehne, Lanesboro Chamber of Commerce; David Huisinga, Habberstad House Bed & Breakfast, proprietor; Adrienne Sweeney, Commonweal Resident Company member, actress testified in support of the bill and responded to members questions. Senator Pariseau moved the A1 amendment. The amendment was adopted. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Senator Kierlin presented SF134, Historic Forestville. Dave Foster, Friends of Forestville; George Coldenson, Friends of Forestville; Bill Keys, Minnesota Historical

Society all testified in support of the bill and responded to members questions. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Senator Vickerman presented SF1761, Sustainable agriculture demonstration grants. Paul Sobocinski, Land Stewardship Project; Mary Jo Forbord, Sustainable Farming Assoc of MN; Mary Hanks, Minnesota Department of Agriculture testified in support of the bill and responded to members questions. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Senator Bakk presented SF802, State timber lands regulation provisions modifications. Senator Bakk moved the A2 amendment. Amendment adopted. Bob Tomlinson, Department of Natural Resources testified in support of the bill and responded to members questions. Senator Bakk moved to delete section 10 and hold for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill and refer the bill to the full Finance Committee. Motion adopted.

Senator Anderson presented SF1429, Metropolitan Area Regional Parks maintenance and operation appropriation. Greg Mack, Ramsey County Park & Recreation Department Director and Steve Sullivan, Director of Parks in Dakota County testified in support of the bill. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Senator Higgins presented SF1580, Shade tree pest and disease control program expansion and appropriation. Jon Olson, Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board; Jim Vaughan, St. Louis Park, Forestry Division; Manuel Jordan, New Hope City Forester; Geir Friesoe, Minnesota Department of Agriculture and Lorrie Stromme, Minnesota Shade Tree Advisory Committee testified in support of the bill and responded to members questions. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Senator Anderson presented SF1393, Lifetrack Resources immigrant/refugee collaborative employment programs. John Mohr, Lifetrack Resources; Zemen Melesse, Abbott Northwestern Hospital testified in support of the bill. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Environment, Agriculture & Economic Development Budget Division**  
**Senator Dallas Sams, Chair**  
**Tuesday, April 5, 2005- Noon**  
**Room 107 State Capitol**  
**A G E N D A**

02:32:44

**I. Call to Order**

**II. S.F. 787 (Johnson, D.E.): Willmar rail container load out facility construction feasibility study**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Craig Damstrom, Department of Agriculture
- b) Bob Zelenka, Midwest Shippers Association

**III. S.F. 1951 (Skoe): Agriculture Utilization Research Institute vineyard production research project grant**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Tom Plocher, Grape breeder
- b) Dale Olmstead, Fosston, grower
- c) Leon Heathm Northwest Regional Development Commission, Director

**IV. S.F. 1257 (Solon): Foreign trade zones promotion**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Steve Anderson, Free Trade Zone Commission, Administrator
- b) Don Risk, Greater Metropolitan Foreign Trade Zone Commission, Chair

**V. S.F. 134 (Kierlin) Historic Forestville**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Dave Foster, Friends of Forestville
- b) George Coldenson, Friends of Forestville
- c) Jette Berken, Friends of Forestville

**VI. S.F. 576 (Kierlin): Lanesboro theater & arts center construction grant**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Carla Noack, Commonweal Theatre Company, Board of Directors
- b) Julie Kiehne, Lanesboro Chamber of Commerce, Executive Director
- c) Adrienne Sweeney, Commonweal Resident Company member, actress
- d) David Huisinga, Habberstad House Bed & Breakfast, proprietor

e) Hal Cropp, Commonweal Theatre Company, Core  
Artist/Executive Director

VII. S.F. 1761 (Vickerman): Sustainable agriculture demonstration grants

A. Author's Presentation

VIII. S.F. 802 (Bakk): State timber lands regulation provisions  
modifications

A. Author's Presentation

1. Testimony

a) Bob Tomlinson, Department of Natural Resources

IX. S.F. 1580 (Higgins): Shade tree pest and disease control program  
expansion and appropriation

A. Author's Presentation

1. Testimony

a) Jon Olson, Minneapolis, Parks & Recreation Board

b) Jim Vaughan, St. Louis Park, Forestry Division

c) Manuel Jordan, New Hope, City Forester

d) Geir Friesoe, MN Department of Agriculture

e) Lorrie Stromme, MN Shade Tree Advisory Committee

f) Ken Simons, MN Shade Tree Advisory Committee

X. S.F. 1429 (Anderson): Metropolitan Area Regional Parks maintenance  
and operation appropriation

A. Author's Presentation

1. Testimony

a) Greg Mack, Ramsey County Park & Recreation  
Department, Director

XI. S.F. 1393 (Anderson): Lifetrack Resources immigrant/refugee  
collaborative employment programs

A. Author's Presentation

1. Testimony

a) John Mohr, Lifetrack Resources

b) Stacy Swanson, Schroeder Company Inc.

c) Akua Boakye, Whole Foods

d) Zemen Melesse, Abbott Northwestern Hospital

XII. Adjournment

Next Meeting:

Environment, Agriculture & Economic Development Budget Division

Thursday, April 7, 2005

Noon, Room 107 Capitol

Agenda:

- S.F. 1754(Stumpf): Northern Minnesota forage turf seed advisory committee research grants appropriation
- S.F. 980 (Higgins): Metropolitan economic development association grants appropriation
- Discussion on renewable energy development funding