

## MINUTES

Environment, Agriculture and Economic Development Budget Division  
Chair: Sen. Dallas Sams  
12:00 p.m. Room 107 Capitol  
Thursday March 31, 2005

### MEMBERS PRESENT

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

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Cohen

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

Senator Dibble presented SF1133, Extended employment services reimbursement rate and appropriation increases. An amendment was offered by Senator Dibble. Amendment was adopted. Barbara Arnold, AccessAbility, Minneapolis; Melina Petrasek, ProAct client; Martin Schimko, US Bank testified in support of the bill and responded to questions. The bill was laid over for consideration in the omnibus bill.

Senator Dibble presented SF1334, Deaf & Hard of hearing people employment center grants appropriation. Elise Knopf, Program Coordination, MEC; and Mary Cornell, Helgeson Enterprises testified in support of the bill. The bill was laid over for consideration in the omnibus bill.

Senator Sparks presented SF856, Mower & Freeborn counties future flood damages mitigation grant appropriation. Bonnie Rietz, Mayor of Austin,; John Erichson, City Engineer, Auystin; Bruce Schweitzer, Hormel Foods; Dave Mullenbach, Freeborn County board chair; Sue Miller, Freeborn County Engineer; Ron Gabrielsen, Freeborn County Administrator all testified in support of the bill. Kent Lokesmoe, DNR spoke in opposition of the bill. The bill was laid over for consideration in the omnibus bill.

Senator Sparks presented SF1637, Agriculture best management practices loan limit increases. Paul Burns, Department of Agriculture testified in support of the bill. Tom Peterson, Farmer's Union spoke in opposition to the bill. The bill was laid over for consideration in the omnibus bill.

Senator Foley presented SF1714, Northwest regional curfew center youth intervention program grant appropriation. David Schwarze, Champlin Chief of Police testified in support of the bill and responded to questions. The bill was laid over for consideration in the omnibus bill.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Environment, Agriculture & Economic Development Budget Division**  
**Senator Scott Dibble, Chair**  
**Thursday, March 31, 2005- Noon**  
**Room 107 State Capitol**

**A G E N D A**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. S.F. 856 (Sparks): Mower & Freeborn counties future flood damages mitigation grant appropriation**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) John Erichson, City Engineer, Austin
- b) Bonnie Rietz, Mayor of Austin
- c) Sue Miller, Engineer, Freeborn County
- d) Dave Mullenbach, Freeborn County
- e) Ron Gabrielsen, Freeborn County
- f) Bruce Schweitzer, Hormel Foods

**III. S.F. 1637 (Sparks): Agriculture best management practices loan limit increases**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Paul Burns, Department of Agriculture

**IV. S.F. 1714 (Foley): Northwest regional curfew center youth intervention program grant appropriation**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) David Schwarze, Champlin, Chief of Police

**V. S.F. 1761 (Vickerman): Sustainable agriculture demonstration grants appropriation**

**A. Author's Presentation**

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

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Bob Tomlinson, Department of Natural Resources

**VII. 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

**VIII. S.F. 1133 (Dibble): Extended employment services reimbursement rate and appropriation increases**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Barbara Arnold, AccessAbility (Minneapolis/St. Paul)
- b) Martin "Marty" Schimko, US Bank
- c) Melina Petrasek, ProAct client

**IX. S.F. 1334 (Dibble): Deaf & Hard of hearing people employment center grants appropriation**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Elise Knopf, Program Coordinator, MEC
- b) Mary Cornell, Helgeson Enterprises
- c) Mary Hartnett, MN Commission Serving Deaf & Hard of Hearing People

**X. S.F. 1120 (Sams): Blandin Foundation- broadband program**

**A. Author's Presentation**

**1. Testimony**

- a) Gary Fields, Blandin Foundation

**XI. Adjournment**

**Next Meeting:**

**Environment, Agriculture & Economic Development Budget Division**

**Tuesday, April 5, 2005**

**Noon, Room 107 Capitol**

**Agenda:**

**TBA**