

Agriculture Finance & Policy Committee Minutes

Representative Samantha Vang, Chair of the Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM on March 19, 2024, in the Basement Hearing Room of the State Office Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

Members Present

VANG, Samantha, Chair
PURSELL, Kristi, Vice Chair
ANDERSON, Paul, Republican Lead
BURKEL, John
CHA, Ethan
HANSEN, Rick
HARDER, Bobbie
JACOB, Steven
NELSON, Nathan
REHM, Lucy
SENCER-MURA, Samantha
TABKE, Brad

Members Excused

FREDERICK, Luke

A quorum was present.

HF4989 (Pursell) Clean water, climate-start, and soil-healthy farming goals established; pilot program to provide financial incentives for farming practices in southeastern Minnesota created; fertilizer fee extended; data collection required; and money appropriated.

Representative Pursell moved that HF4989 be re-referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy.

Representatives Pursell, Olson, and Kraft presented HF4989.

Testifying on HF4989:

- Dr. Beth Fisher, Assistant Professor of Geology and Soil Science, Mankato State University
- Dr. Carrie Jennings, Public Policy Director, Freshwater
- Ariel Kagan, Climate and Working Lands Program Director, Minnesota Farmers Union
- Loren Dauer, Public Policy Specialist, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation
- Amanda Bilek, Senior Public Policy Director, Minnesota Corn Growers Association

Representative Pursell renewed the motion that HF4989 be re-referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF4163 (Norris) Farm to institutions funding provided, and money appropriated.

Chair Vang moved that HF4163 be laid over for possible inclusion in an Agriculture Omnibus bill.

Chair Vang moved the H4163DE1 amendment. THE MOTION PREVAILED. THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Representative Norris presented HF4163 as amended.

Testifying on HF4163 as amended:

- Erin McKee, Community Food Systems Program Director, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

HF4163 as amended was laid over.

HF4065 (Anderson) Live Cervidae importation to accredited facilities allowed.

Representative Anderson moved that HF4065 be laid over for possible inclusion in an Agriculture Omnibus bill.

Representative Anderson presented HF4065.

Testifying on HF4065:

- Jacqueline Poepping, Hemker Park and Zoo
- Kelly Straka, Wildlife Section Manager, Fish and Wildlife, DNR
- Jill Fritz, Senior Director of Wildlife Protection, Humane Society United States

HF4065 was laid over.

HF4044 (Jacob) Property tax credit established for acres certified under Minnesota agricultural water quality certification program, and money appropriated.

Representative Jacob moved that HF4044 as amended be recommended to pass and re-referred to the Committee on Taxes.

Representative Jacob presented HF4044.

Representative Jacob renewed the motion that HF4044 be recommended to pass and re-referred to the Committee on Taxes. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

Representative Pursell moved that the minutes from March 14, 2024, be approved. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 PM.

Representative Samantha Vang, Chair

Jared Margolis, Committee Legislative Assistant