

House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development

Minutes of Meeting
2016 First Extraordinary Session
March 2, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Clay Schexnayder, chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development, called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m. in Room 3, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Clay Schexnayder, chairman
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative John F. "Andy" Anders, vice chairman
Representative Terry R. Brown
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Phillip R. DeVillier
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Jerry Gisclair
Representative John E. Guinn
Representative Jeffrey "Jeff" Hall
Representative Dorothy Sue Hill
Representative Frank A. Howard
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Bob Hensgens
Representative H. Bernard LeBas
Representative Steve E. Pylant

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Zaren James, division director
Glenn Fleming, legislative analyst
Karen Stephens, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. OPENING REMARKS

Chairman

Representative Schexnayder welcomed everyone to the meeting.

IV. DISCUSSION OF ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Protocol and purpose of committee

Glenn Fleming, committee analyst, explained the use of the microphone at each member's place on the dais and their audio sensitivity, as well as how the cameras in the room work. He reminded the members that frequently the witnesses at the table are not lobbyists, but someone's constituents, and that all witnesses should be treated with respect and kindness.

Mr. Fleming explained that the purpose of the committee is to screen and filter legislation for the House both through the development of subject matter expertise, and by stopping bad or unnecessary legislation.

Zaren James, division director, explained that the committee hearing is the public's only access into the legislative process. He added that the committee's function is to lift part of the burden of hearing all of the bills on the floor of the House - a division of labor - as well as oversight over the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Jurisdiction, rules, and procedures

Glenn Fleming, committee analyst, explained that the committee's jurisdiction, as outlined in House Rule No. 6.6(B)(1) - (18), includes all legislative instruments, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects: agriculture generally; agricultural and industrial chemistry; agricultural economics and research; agricultural engineering; agricultural production on public lands; agricultural production, promotion, and marketing; agricultural services; animal industry and diseases of animals; aquacultural economics and research; aquacultural production, promotion, and marketing; dairy industry; production, promotion, harvesting, and marketing of forestry products; silviculture; human nutrition and home economics; inspection of livestock and meat products; plant industry and plant quarantine; rural development; soils and soil conservation.

Mr. Fleming, gave a general explanation of the committee rules and the procedures followed in the meeting. Zaren James, division director, explained the quorum and amendment rules, in particular.

Consideration and adoption of committee rules

Representative Guinn offered a motion to adopt the committee rules. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Amedée, Anders, Terry Brown, Chaney, DeVillier, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hall, Hill, Howard, Dustin Miller, and Reynolds voted yea.

Approval of 2015 Regular Session Meeting Minutes dated April 22, April 30, May 14, and May 28

Representative Amedée offered a motion to certify the committee acknowledges the minutes were prepared in accordance with house rules. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schexnayder, Amedee, Chaney, DeVillier, Emerson, Gisclair, Guinn, Hill, Howard, Dustin Miller, and Reynolds voted yea.

V. PRESENTATIONS

Introduction of departments:

Department of Agriculture and Forestry

Commissioner Mike Strain, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, 5825 Florida Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 342-7270, narrated a PowerPoint presentation and spoke for information only.

LSU AgCenter

Dr. William B. Richardson, LSU AgCenter, 101 Efferson Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70805, (225) 578-4161, spoke for information only.

VI. CLOSING REMARKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Representative Schexnayder thanked all in attendance for their contribution to the meeting. There were no announcements.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The committee adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Clay Schexnayder
House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development

Date adopted: