

Minutes of the State Agricultural and Bioeconomy Committee

Thursday, March 4, 2010

9:00 a.m.

Room 110 Farnum Building

- Chairman Van Woerkom called the Committee to order at 9:06 a.m.
- Members Present: Van Woerkom, Gilbert, Birkholz, Gleason and Whitmer.
- Senator Gilbert moved to approve the minutes from February 25th, 2010. His motion was supported by Senator Birkholz and approved unanimously.
- Chairman Van Woerkom briefly introduced Donald Koivisto as the gubernatorial appointment to the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.
- Chairman Van Woerkom invited Mr. Koivisto to tell the Committee about himself.
- Mr. Koivisto briefly introduced himself to the Committee by upbringing and ties to the agricultural community
- Mr. Koivisto then spoke about the importance the Department of Agriculture specifically in the areas of food safety, handling animal & plant disease, and weights & measures.
- The Committee asked Mr. Koivisto questions pertaining to Agriculture in Michigan. Mr. Koivisto answered the Committee's questions.
- Senator Gilbert moved that the Committee on Agriculture and Bioeconomy recommend to the Government Operations Committee that they favorably report the appointment of Donald Koivisto to the Commission on Agriculture with a recommendation of advising and consenting to the appointment.
- His motion was supported by Senator Gleason and was approved by the following vote:
Yeas: Van Woerkom, Gilbert, Gleason and Whitmer
Neas: none
Pass: none
- With no more business before the committee Senator Gleason motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.