

Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee

MINUTES

Representative Anderson, Chair of the Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, on February 12, 2025, in Room G3 of the Capitol Building. A quorum was present.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

Members present:

ANDERSON, Paul, Chair
HARDER, Bobbie, Vice Chair
HANSEN, Rick, DFL Lead
AGBAJE, Esther
BURKEL, John
FREDERICK, Luke
GANDER, Steve
JACOB, Steve
LAWRENCE, Bryan
LEE, Fue
NELSON, Nathan
SMITH, Andy
VANG, Samantha

Representative Nelson moved the minutes of February 10, 2025 be approved. **THE MOTION PREVAILED.**

Federico Tripodi, Agricultural Utilization Research Institute Chair, Board of Directors presented an overview of the mission and vision of AURI.

Shannon Schlect, AURI Executive Director, presented an overview of the AURI Fiscal Year 2024 Activity and Impacts

Dan Sparks, AURI Director of Government and Industry Relations was also present.

Bree Maki, Director, DEED Office of Broadband Development presented an overview and update of the work the Office of Broadband Development including cost analysis, “Border-to-Border” grant programs, and Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD.)

Nathan Ratner, Government Relations, DEED, was also present.

Kelly Asche, Center for Rural Policy and Development presented the State of Rural Report, including the demographic and economic highlights

Marnie Werner, Center for Rural Policy and Development also presented the State of Rural Report, including information about the changing population, and mental health concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 2:41 PM.

Representative Paul Anderson, Chair

Connie Edwards, Committee Legislative Assistant

