



AGRICULTURE AND WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

Memorial Union, Ballroom B, North Dakota State University
Fargo, North Dakota

- 9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of the minutes of the March 31, 2026, meeting
- 9:05 a.m. Presentation by Dr. Marshall Stewart, President, North Dakota State University, regarding the university's role in the agriculture industry of the state
- 9:15 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Tom Bodine, Deputy Agriculture Commissioner, of a report regarding the findings and recommendations of the study to review the potential benefits of expanding irrigation throughout the state
- 9:35 a.m. Presentation by Dr. Greg Lardy, Board Member, State Board of Agricultural Research and Education, regarding the board's annual evaluation of research activities and expenditures
- 9:55 a.m. Presentation by Dr. Xinhua Jia, Professor, Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, North Dakota State University, regarding the mission and recent activities of the North Dakota Water Resources Research Institute, water use for data centers, and crop irrigation management
- 10:15 a.m. Presentation by a representative from ND AgTech regarding the mission and recent activities of North Dakota's National Science Foundation AgTech Engine
- 10:35 a.m. Public comment and committee discussion
- 10:45 a.m. Break

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS STUDY

- 10:55 a.m. Presentation by Dr. Duane Pool, Director, Planning and Education Division, Department of Water Resources, regarding the formula for conducting an economic analysis for assessment drain projects and the projected cost threshold for conducting economic analyses
- 11:15 a.m. Presentation by Ms. Dani Quissell, Executive Vice President, North Dakota Water Users Association, regarding the formula for conducting an economic analysis for assessment drain projects and the projected cost threshold for conducting economic analyses and discussion of potential legislative changes regarding assessment drains
- 11:35 a.m. Public comment and committee discussion

WETLANDS AND INUNDATED LANDS STUDY

- 11:45 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Aaron Birst, Executive Director, North Dakota Association of Counties, regarding the committee's study of water and wetlands regulations and the taxation of inundated lands in the state
- 12:05 p.m. Discussion of legislator proposals regarding the committee's study of water and wetlands regulations and the taxation of inundated lands in the state
- 12:15 p.m. Public comment and committee discussion

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 12:25 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives
- 12:30 p.m. Recess
- 2:00 p.m. Tour of the North Dakota State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, 4035
19th Ave North, Fargo
- 3:00 p.m. Adjourn

A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.

Committee Members

Representatives: Dori Hauck (Chairman), Karen A. Anderson, Mike Beltz, Mike Brandenburg, Lisa Finley-DeVile, Kathy Frelich, Jeff Hoverson, Keith Kempenich, Dwight Kiefert, David Monson, Dennis Nehring, Kathy Skroch

Senators: Cole Conley, Michael Dwyer, Robert Erbele, Randy D. Lemm, Larry Luick, Michelle Powers, Terry M. Wanzek, Mark F. Weber

Staff Contact: Dustin A. Richard, Counsel