

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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CLERK: Mr. President, the Agriculture Committee offers a confirmation report, found on page 375, involving five appointments to the Beginning Farmer Board.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Dierks, you're recognized to open on the confirmation report of the Agriculture Committee.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Agriculture a week ago today, as a matter of fact, had a hearing for appointing five members to the Beginning Farmers Board. Those five members that came for the hearing were Roy Frederick, Harry Knobbe, Roy Frederick, I think, ... I better not start down this path. Roy Frederick is from Lincoln; Harry Knobbe is from West Point; and Dale Pohlmann, Gerald Timmerman, and Bill Zutavern. They're all very qualified and they all spent quite a little time with us. We had some nice discussion, and then they were all...their names were all advanced by the committee for confirmation. And I would just ask your approval of that confirmation report. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. For discussion on the Agriculture confirmation report, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I must take up where I left off last session. When all these males are being appointed, I'm going to vote against them. But, as a member of the Agriculture Committee, I listened to the gentlemen whose confirmation you're asking...you're being asked to endorse, and I voted to send those names out here. As Senator Dierks pointed out, there was very productive discussion. I believe that each and every one of these men is interested in the goals of that board. But one thing some of us on the committee had talked about was the need to have young farmers, young people anyway, because the whole thrust is to try to get young, starting farmers, but there's not a young person among them. Now that just...that is not just compared to my age, because compared to my age, all things being relative, everybody is a youngster, and maybe that's what they were thinking. We also did not see any females, and there are women involved in agriculture, not just wives of farmers. So, in the future when appointments are made to this board, it would be good if age would be taken into consideration and gender. Now