



**State-Tribal Relations Committee**  
**65th Montana Legislature**

**SENATE MEMBERS**

JEN GROSS  
STEVE HINEBAUCH  
JASON SMALL  
LEA WHITFORD

**HOUSE MEMBERS**

ALAN DOANE  
JAMES O'HARA  
RAE PEPPERS  
JONATHAN WINDY BOY

**COMMITTEE STAFF**

HOPE STOCKWELL, Lead Staff  
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney  
LAURA SHERLEY, Secretary

## MINUTES LOG

September 19, 2017  
Billings, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <http://leg.mt.gov>. On the left-side menu of the home page, select Committees, then Interim. Once on the page for Interim Committees, scroll down to the appropriate committee. The written Minutes Log, along with the audio and video recordings, is listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page. Each of the Exhibits is linked and can be viewed by clicking on the Exhibit of interest. All Exhibits are public information and may be printed.

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### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

REP. ALAN DOANE, Vice Chair

SEN. JEN GROSS  
SEN. STEVE HINEBAUCH  
SEN. JASON SMALL

REP. JAMES O'HARA  
REP. RAE PEPPERS

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED**

REP. JONATHAN WINDY BOY, Chair

### **STAFF PRESENT**

HOPE STOCKWELL, Lead Staff  
RACHEL WEISS, Research Analyst  
LAURA SHERLEY, Secretary

**VISITORS' LIST** ([Attachment 1](#))

**AGENDA** ([Attachment 2](#))

**COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

- The committee set its next meeting for March 29 & 30 in Helena.

Montana Women's Prison, 701 S 27th Street

**TOUR THE MONTANA WOMEN'S PRISON**

The committee toured the Montana Women's Prison guided by Warden Bob Paul.

Billings Chamber of Commerce, 815 S 27th Street

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS OFFENDER RE-ENTRY SIMULATION**

The committee partook in a re-entry simulation provided by the Department of Corrections (DOC).

**BREAK** (Committee reconvenes in Chamber of Commerce Conference Room)

00:00:01 Rep. Doane reconvened the meeting at 10:48 a.m. The committee secretary took roll ([Attachment 3](#)).

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER NOT CONTAINED IN THIS AGENDA AND THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE STRC**

None

**SJ 3 STUDY OF TRIBAL RESOURCES FOR THE TRIBAL MEMBERS IN THE STATE'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM**

**Introduction -- Ms. Stockwell**

00:01:19 Ms. Stockwell gave a brief background on SJ 3: *Interim study of tribal resources for tribal members involved in criminal justice system.*

**Department of Corrections**

00:03:42 Harlan Trombley, Native American Liaison ([Exhibit 1](#))

00:17:44 Chris Evans, Parole and Probation Deputy Chief

00:23:05 Katie Weston, Probation Officer II

**Public comment**

00:25:46 Christina Lucero, Board of Pardons and Parole

**Questions/discussion -- STRC**

00:29:49 Rep. O'Hara asked the DOC whether relationships formed by inmates in prison are encouraged to continue when they are released.

00:32:03 Sen. Gross asked if it is state law or a DOC policy that a parole officer can grant or refuse association with possible problematic individuals.

00:32:28 Rep. Peppers asked Mr. Trombley if tribal ID is allowed for travel.

00:33:15 Rep. Peppers commented on the funding and resources available on the reservation and asked Mr. Trombley for direction finding funding sources.  
00:36:10 Sen. Gross asked Mr. Trombley how CSKT pays for its re-entry program and how long the program has been in place.  
00:36:57 Sen. Gross asked Ms. Lucero to respond to the same question as Mr. Trombley.  
00:38:22 Rep. Doane asked Ms. Lucero if a reservation could become overwhelmed with all the recommended services.  
00:40:33 Rep. Doane asked Mr. Trombley if there is a unified effort to combine the services instead of having multiple programs set up across the state.  
00:42:02 Sen. Gross commented on the closing of the Indian health centers in Billings.  
00:43:07 Rep. Peppers asked Mr. Trombley how the tribes will approach the issue of health care centers.  
00:45:04 Rep. Doane thanked the panel for their participation.

**BREAK** (Reconvened at 11:45)

**OTHER BUSINESS**

00:45:35 Rep. Peppers reminded the committee of the missing indigenous persons in Indian country study topic  
00:46:06 Sen. Gross commented on Sen. Whitford's resignation and asked if the position will be filled on the committee. The question was directed to Ms. Stockwell.  
00:47:02 Ms. Stockwell commented on the committee's meeting schedule and asked the committee to consider new meeting dates.

**Committee action**

**MOTION**

00:48:46 Sen. Gross moved to change meeting dates in the work plan.

**VOTE**

00:49:03 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**MOTION**

00:49:45 Sen. Gross moved to allow Ms. Stockwell flexibility to schedule meeting dates.

**VOTE**

00:49:53 The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO STAFF**

00:50:11 Ms. Stockwell thanked Rachel Weiss, Research Analyst, LSD, for her work in the SJ 3 study and asked the committee for further instruction to the staff.  
00:51:03 Sen. Gross reminded the committee that she serves on the Law & Justice Interim Committee and offered to transfer information.  
00:51:27 Rep. Doane commented on Ms. Stockwell's flexibility to allow her to pursue presenters and topics according to the work plan as she sees fit.  
00:52:25 Sen. Hinebauch thanked the committee staff for their work.

**ADJOURNMENT**

00:52:43 Rep. Doane adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

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