

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN ROSALIE (ROSIE) BUZZAS**, on January 5, 2005 at 2:00 P.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Rosalie (Rosie) Buzzas, Chairman (D)
Rep. Carol C. Juneau, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. John E. Witt, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Tim Callahan (D)
Rep. Eve Franklin (D)
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)
Rep. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Rep. Ralph L. Lenhart (D)
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)
Rep. Rick Ripley (R)
Rep. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Rep. John Sinrud (R)
Rep. Janna Taylor (R)
Rep. Jack Wells (R)

Members Excused: Rep. John L. Musgrove (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Marcy McLean, Committee Secretary
Jon Moe, Legislative Branch

Please Note. These are summary minutes. This was an organizational and orientation meeting. Legislative Fiscal Division presented "Global Fiscal Issues" report.

REP. ROSALIE BUZZAS introduced the staff: Marcy McLean, Jon Moe, Clayton Schenck and his staff. Announced sub-committees will begin meeting tomorrow and Appropriations Committee will begin meeting Monday, January 10, in the afternoons. The Chairman reviewed committee procedures and asked that we work together; that if votes are 10-10, then leadership will be making decisions for us. **CHAIRMAN BUZZAS** stated she will not tolerate disruptive behavior nor any racist, sexist, or derogatory comments during committee hearing proceedings. **REP. JOHN WITT** asked about length of witness testimony. **REP. CAROL JUNEAU** suggested public testimony should be given preference, especially when these constituents have traveled to Helena. **CHAIR ROSALIE BUZZAS** explained we cannot set testimony preference, but we can ask that courtesy be given to people who have traveled from out-of-town.

Committee members must use the yellow proxy forms, they should be filled out for each day and turned into a Vice Chair. Chair and Vice Chairs will decide how proxies will be used when session is very busy.

Jon Moe, Legislative Fiscal Division, presented "Global Fiscal Issues: LFC recommendations to the 2005 Legislature". Purpose is to provide House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Claims the recommendations of the Legislative Finance Committee for a procedural framework for the legislature in dealing with global fiscal issues, issues that impact all agency budgets.

[EXHIBIT \(aph03a010.PDF\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(aph03a020.PDF\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(aph03a030.PDF\)](#)

*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 17.4 - 30; Comments:
Tape malfunctioned during first 17.4 minutes}*

Motion/Vote: **REP. FRANKLIN** moved that Motion 1 TO DIRECT THE SUBCOMMITTEES TO ADOPT THE BASE BUDGET AND THE STATEWIDE PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS AS THE STARTING POINT OF BUDGET DELIBERATIONS FOR EACH AGENCY DO PASS.

Motion carried unanimously. **REP. MUSGROVE** voted by proxy.

Motion/Vote: **REP. JUNEAU** moved that Motion 2 TO SPECIFY THE ACTUAL FTE, AND ALLOW THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGETING SYSTEM TO CALCULATE THE TOTAL ADDITION OR REDUCTION IN FUNDING FOR THAT SPECIFIC FTE DO PASS.

Motion carried unanimously. **REP. MUSGROVE** voted by proxy.

Motion/Vote: **REP. FRANKLIN** moved Motion 3 THAT THE FULL APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES SHALL ADOPT A GLOBAL RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF PERSONAL SERVICE REDUCTIONS (VACANCY SAVINGS). SUBCOMMITTEES

WILL BE REQUESTED TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED LEVEL AS PART OF THEIR BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS DO PASS.

Motion carried unanimously. REP. MUSGROVE voted by proxy.

Discussion:

REP. EVE FRANKLIN stated concern about a 4% across-the-board reduction in budgets. REP. JACK WELLS explained that by adopting this recommendation it gives the Legislative Fiscal Committee a base to begin with and subcommittees can review it and still retain some flexibility.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 30 - 60}

Motion/Vote: REP. HAWK moved that Motion 4 TO DIRECT SUBCOMMITTEES TO CONSISTENTLY APPLY FIXED COSTS IN AGENCY BUDGETS AS INCLUDED BY THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST. ADJUSTMENTS TO FIXED COST RATES SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE EXAMINING THE SERVICE PROVIDER AND SHALL BE GLOBALLY ADJUSTED ON A CONSISTENT BASIS DO PASS.

Motion carried unanimously. REP. MUSGROVE voted by proxy.

Motion/Vote: REP. CALLAHAN moved Motion 5 THAT IF THE FULL COMMITTEE WISHES TO VARY FROM THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL INFLATION/DEFLATION FACTORS, IT SHOULD ESTABLISH APPROVED INFLATION/DEFLATION RATES BY INDIVIDUAL OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE AND DIRECT SUBCOMMITTEES TO APPLY THESE RATES TO ALL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS DO PASS.

Motion carried unanimously. REP. MUSGROVE voted by proxy.

Motion/Vote: REP. SINRUD moved Motion 6 THAT THE COMMITTEE MAKE NO RECOMMENDATIONS OR ADJUSTMENTS TO HB 2 UNTIL REQUIRED LEGISLATION PASSES DO PASS.

Motion carried unanimously. REP. MUSGROVE voted by proxy.

Motion/Vote: REP. FRANKLIN moved Motion 7 THAT APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP SHALL DIRECT THE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEES TO INCLUDE NEGATIVE NEW PROPOSALS IN THE PRESENT LAW LINE ITEM IN THE BUDGET, AS OPPOSED TO A SEPARATE NEGATIVE LINE ITEM APPROPRIATION DO PASS.

Motion carried unanimously. REP. MUSGROVE voted by proxy.

CHAIR ROSALIE BUZZAS announced a joint House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Claims training session on Thursday, January 6, 10:00 a.m. for new members. A training session for all members of these two committees will be held on Friday, January 7, 10:00 a.m. in Room 102.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:30 P.M.

REP. ROSALIE (ROSIE) BUZZAS, Chairman

MARCY MCLEAN, Secretary

RB/MM

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([aph03aad0.PDF](#))