

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By **VICE CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HARRIS**, on March 4, 2005 at 3:15 P.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jim Peterson, Chairman (R)
Rep. Christopher Harris, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Dee L. Brown (R)
Rep. Paul Clark (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. George Everett (R)
Rep. Kevin T. Furey (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert (R)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Rick Maedje (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Norma Bixby (D)
Rep. Gail Gutsche (D)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. David E. Wanzenried (D)

Staff Present: Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 44, 2/21/2005; SB 96, 2/22/2005;
SB 97, 2/22/2005; SB 142, 3/1/2005

Executive Action:

HEARING ON SB 142**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:37 **SEN. BILL TASH (R), SD 36**, opened the hearing on **SB 142**, Authorize leasing and licensing of state lands for timber and forestry purposes.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:46 Tom Schultz, Administrator, Department of Natural Resources

EXHIBIT (nah48a01)

00:09:21 Aidan Myhre, Plum Creek Timber Company

00:09:53 Kathy Bramer, representing State Superintendent of Public Instruction Linda McCulloch

00:11:16 Ted Dodge, Project Broker, National Carbon Offset Coalition, Inc. (NCOC)

EXHIBIT (nah48a02)

00:15:09 Mike Volesky, Policy Advisor, Governor's Office

Opponents' Testimony:

00:16:28 Ronald Buentemeier, Vice President and General Manager, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company, Columbia Falls

EXHIBIT (nah48a03)

00:19:37 Steve Flynn, Resource Manager, Sun Mountain Lumber Company, Deer Lodge

Informational Testimony:

00:22:10 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center

00:23:33 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:24:33 **REP. JOPEK**

EXHIBIT (nah48a04)

00:29:47 **REP. FUREY**

00:34:24 **REP. LAMBERT**

00:36:47 **CHAIRMAN PETERSON**

00:39:59 **REP. BROWN**

00:43:39 **REP. ROSS**

00:45:29 **REP. EVERETT**

00:50:42 **REP. CLARK**

01:00:48 **REP. HEINERT**

01:01:57 **REP. MAEDJE**

01:07:59 **REP. BARRETT**

Closing by Sponsor:

01:11:12 **SEN. BILL TASH (R), SD 3** closed the hearing on **SB 142**.

HEARING ON SB 97

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:13:34 **SEN. GREGORY BARKUS (R), SD 4**, opened the hearing on **SB 97**, Clarify authority to dispose specialized interests in state trust land.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:16:30 Kathy Bramer, representing State Superintendent of Public Instruction Linda McCulloch
01:19:12 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
01:22:34 Aidan Myhre, Plum Creek Timber Company
01:23:01 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:23:35 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center
01:24:16 Ronald Buentemeier, Vice President and General Manager, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company, Columbia Falls

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:25:58 **REP. LAMBERT**
01:27:41 **REP. HEINERT**
01:29:00 **REP. ROSS**
01:29:57 **REP. MAEDJE**
01:33:58 **REP. JOPEK**
01:35:38 **REP. BARRETT**
01:40:59 **REP. LAMBERT**
01:46:12 **REP. HEINERT**
01:47:25 **REP. FUREY**
01:48:26 **REP. MAEDJE**

Closing by Sponsor:

01:54:15 **SEN. GREGORY BARKUS (R)** closed the hearing on SB 97.

HEARING ON SB 96

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:55:05 **SEN. KELLY GEBHARDT (R), SD 23**, opened the hearing on **SB 96**, Authorize direct sale of logs from state land.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:57:11 Tom Schultz, Administrator, Department of Natural Resources

01:57:29 Kathy Bramer, representing State Superintendent of Public Instruction Linda McCulloch

Opponents' Testimony:

01:57:57 Ronald Buentemeier, Vice President and General Manager, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company, Columbia Falls

EXHIBIT (nah48a05)

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

None.

Closing by Sponsor:

01:58:38 **SEN. KELLY GEBHARDT (R)** closed the hearing on **SB 96**.

HEARING ON SB 44

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:59:00 **SEN. DAN MCGEE (R), SD 29**, opened the hearing on **SB 44**, Revise state water planning process.

EXHIBIT (nah48a06)

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

02:10:17 Rich Moy, Bureau Chief, Water Management Bureau, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:16:32 VICE CHAIR HARRIS
02:19:21 REP. BARRETT
02:23:28 CHAIRMAN PETERSON
02:28:26 REP. CLARK
02:37:44 REP. GUTSCHE
02:44:06 REP. LAMBERT
02:46:05 REP. FUREY
02:47:59 VICE CHAIR HARRIS

Closing by Sponsor:

02:49:54 SEN. DAN MCGEE (R) closed the hearing on SB 44.

02:52:41

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:15 P.M.

REP. JIM PETERSON, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

JP/dp

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nah48aad0.PDF](#))