

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chairman Walter McNutt, on January 12, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Walter McNutt, Chairman (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch
Nancy Kraft, 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: HB 36, 1/9/2007; HB 55, 1/9/2007;
HB 73, 1/9/2007
Executive Action: HB 37

HEARING ON HB 73

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:16 Rep. Dave Gallik (D), HD 79, opened the hearing on HB 73, Increase fee caps for water quality act.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:33 Bonnie Lovelace, Department of Environmental Quality
EXHIBIT (nah08a01)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:08:34 Steve Wade, Montana Rural Water Systems
00:09:40 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association
00:12:40 Tim Ravndal, Montana Multiple-Use Association (MMUA)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:13:37 Rep. Cohenour
00:14:05 Ms. Lovelace
00:19:58 Rep. Erickson
00:20:45 Ms. Lovelace
00:24:20 Rep. Heinert
00:24:38 Ms. Lovelace
00:30:36 Rep. Ross
00:31:23 Steve Pilcher
00:31:55 Rep. Ross
00:32:00 Ms. Lovelace
00:32:09 Rep. Vincent
00:32:35 Ms. Lovelace
00:37:03 Rep. Ankney
00:37:15 Ms. Lovelace
00:37:49 Rep. Lambert
00:38:10 Ms. Lovelace
00:38:23 Rep. Hendrick
00:39:01 Mr. Allen
00:40:52 Rep. Barrett
00:41:05 Ms. Lovelace
00:43:27 Rep. Heinert
00:43:38 Ms. Lovelace
00:43:49 Rep. Ross
00:44:01 Ms. Lovelace

Closing by Sponsor:

00:44:57 Rep. Gallik

HEARING ON HB 36

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:50:00 Rep. John Musgrove (D), HD 34, opened the hearing on HB 36, Extend sunset for loans to water users.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:51:50 Ray Beck, Department of Natural Resources & Conservation

EXHIBIT (nah08a02)

00:54:31 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association
00:55:38 Steve Pilcher, Montana Stockgrowers' Association (MSA)
00:56:23 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau
00:56:48 Sara Carlson, Montana Association of Conservation Districts
00:57:07 Gary Amestoy, Amestoy Consulting
00:57:51 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
00:59:10 Ken Torgerson, Richland County Conservation District

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:59:46 Rep. Lambert
01:00:13 Mr. Beck
01:02:07 Rep. Lambert
01:02:34 Rep. Musgrove
01:02:58 Rep. Ross
01:03:16 Mr. Beck
01:03:36 Rep. Barrett
01:03:59 Mr. Tubbs

Closing by Sponsor:

01:04:48 Rep. Musgrove

HEARING ON HB 55**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:05:47 Rep. Kevin Furey (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on HB 55, Carbon sequestration - ecosystem services leasing or licensing.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:11:10 David Groeschl, Department of Natural Resources & Conservation

01:14:32 Mark Lambrecht, Pacific Power and Light, Montana **EXHIBIT (nah08a03)**

01:16:53 Bud Clinch, Montana Coal Council

01:20:02 Ellen Engstedt, Montana Wood Products Association

01:23:04 Eric Stern, Governor's Office

Opponents' Testimony:

01:23:49 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association

01:25:47 Dave Galt, Montana Petroleum Association

01:28:21 Steve Pilcher, (MSA)

01:33:05 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

01:34:41 Tim Ravndal, (MMUA)

01:37:15 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center

Informational Testimony: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:45:43 Rep. Ankney

01:46:11 Rep. Furey

01:47:27 Rep. Dickenson

01:48:10 Rep. Furey

01:49:48 Mr. Groeschl

01:51:44 Rep. Mendenhall

01:52:20 Mr. Groeschl

01:57:06 Rep. Erickson

01:57:52 Mr. Groeschl

01:59:10 Mr. Schultz, Department of Natural Resources & Conservation

02:02:45 Rep. Erickson

02:03:31 Mr. Groeschl

02:07:20 Rep. Cohenour

02:08:00 Mr. Groeschl

02:09:54 Rep. Lambert

02:10:28 Mr. Groeschl

02:11:51 Rep. Lambert
02:12:38 Mr. Schultz
02:13:09 Rep. Hands
02:13:37 Mr. Groeschl

Closing by Sponsor:

02:15:53 Rep. Furey

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 37

02:19:47 **Motion:** REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 37 **DO PASS**.
02:20:54 **Motion:** REP. ROSS moved that HB 37 **BE AMENDED**.

Discussion

02:21:12 Ms. Evans

EXHIBIT (nah08a04)

02:24:14 Rep. Van Dyk

02:24:52 Ms. Evans

02:25:08 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Small-Eastman voted by proxy.

02:25:30 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Erickson moved that HB 37 **DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion failed 7-9 by roll call vote with Reps. Erickson, Cohenour, Dickenson, Hands, Pomnichowski, Small-Eastman, and Van Dyk voting aye. Rep. Small-Eastman voted by proxy.

Discussion

02:27:09 Tom Schultz

02:27:55 **Motion:** Rep. Mendenhall moved that HB 37 **BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED**. Rep. Mendenhall retracted this Motion.

02:30:58 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Mendenhall moved that HB 37 **BE TABLED**. Motion carried 10-5 by roll call vote with Rep. Erickson, Rep. Dickenson, Rep. Hands, Rep. Pomnichowski, and Rep. Van Dyk voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

02:35:12 Adjournment: 5:40 P.M.

REP. WALTER MCNUTT, Chairman

NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

WM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nah08aad.pdf](#))