

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By Chairman John Sinrud, on February 27, 2007 at 8 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. John Sinrud, Chairman (R)
Rep. Eve Franklin, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Bill Beck (R)
Rep. Tim Callahan (D)
Rep. Edith Clark (R)
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)
Rep. John L. Musgrove (D)
Rep. Rick Ripley (R)
Rep. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Rep. Jack Wells (R)
Rep. Craig Witte (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Jon Moe, Legislative Branch

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 61, HB 80, HB 99, HB 4, HB 540,
2/23/2007

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 61

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:59 Rep. Ron Erickson (D), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB 61, Increase fire assessment rate.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:31 Bob Harrington, Forestry Division Supervisor,
Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT \(aph44a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(aph44a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(aph44a03\)](#)

00:04:30 Doug Martens, Rosebud County Fire Warden; President,
Eastern Montana Fire Alliance

[EXHIBIT \(aph44a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:05:32 Dwayne Halverson, Deep Creek area resident

00:13:19 Scott Waldron, Frenchtown Fire District

[EXHIBIT \(aph44a05\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:18:24 Rep. Sesso

00:18:51 Mr. Harrington

Closing by Sponsor:

00:19:34 Mr. Erickson

HEARING ON HB 99

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:20:50 Rep. Alan Olson (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 99, Increase fees for weighing device licenses.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:22:18 Jack Kane, Deputy Administrator Business Standards
Division, Weights and Measures Program

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:22:57 Rep. Olson

HEARING ON HB 540

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:23:35 Rep. George Groesbeck (D), HD 74, opened the hearing on
HB 540, Increase silicosis benefits.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:27:29 Sen. Debbie Shay, former legislator

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:28:12 Jerry Keck, Administrator, Employment Relations
Division, Labor and Industry

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:28:36 Rep. Kasten
00:29:03 Mr. Keck
00:29:10 Rep. Beck
00:29:47 Rep. Groesbeck
00:30:06 Rep. Franklin
00:30:23 Rep. Beck
00:30:47 Rep. Groesbeck
00:30:51 Mr. Keck
00:31:06 Rep. Taylor
00:31:28 Rep. Groesbeck

Closing by Sponsor:

00:32:22 Rep. Groesbeck

HEARING ON HB 80

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:33:25 Rep. Robin Hamilton (D), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 80, Revise laws governing interim committees and activities.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:34:18 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:35:29 Rep. Hamilton

HEARING ON HB 4

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:36:06 Rep. John Musgrove (D), HD 34, opened the hearing on HB 4, Appropriations normally made by budget amendment.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:36:56 Amy Sassano, Office of Budget and Program Planning

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:37:49 Rep. Taylor

00:38:01 Rep. Musgrove

Closing by Sponsor:

00:38:13 Rep. Musgrove

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 8:41 A.M.

REP. JOHN SINRUD, Chairman

LINDA KEIM, Secretary

JS/lk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([aph44aad.pdf](#))